

## Public Health at VCU

- offers innovative, rigorous educational offerings flexible to meet diverse student needs
- provides a thriving transdisciplinary research base in which students will participate
- works synergistically with state and local public health practitioners to provide opportunities for translating research to public health practice

Graduate public health programs include the MPH degree, with courses offered by the four public health departments. Dual MPH programs with medicine, pharmacy, and social work are available. VCU Public Health offers doctoral degrees in biostatistics, epidemiology, healthcare policy and research, and social and behavioral health.

For more information, please contact the academic department chairs:

### Biostatistics:

Shumei Sun, PhD, [ssun@vcu.edu](mailto:ssun@vcu.edu)

### Epidemiology and Community Health:

Anton Kuzel, MD, MHPE  
[akuzel@mcvh-vcu.edu](mailto:akuzel@mcvh-vcu.edu)

### Healthcare Policy and Research:

Cathy J. Bradley, PhD, [cjbradley@vcu.edu](mailto:cjbradley@vcu.edu)

### Social and Behavioral Health:

Cathy J. Bradley, PhD, [cjbradley@vcu.edu](mailto:cjbradley@vcu.edu)  
Interim Chair

### Located in the heart of Richmond

Richmond is located within two hours of Washington, D.C., the Blue Ridge mountains, the Chesapeake Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean beaches. The city has many museums, historical homes and sites, and a variety of cultural and educational centers.

## Visit these web sites for information on:

Graduate admissions:

<http://graduate.admissions.vcu.edu/apply/>

Graduate academic regulations:

<http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/Bulletins/graduate/>

Tuition and fees:

<http://www.enrollment.vcu.edu/accounting/>

VCU academic calendar:

<http://academiccalendars.vcu.edu/>

VCU courses:

<http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/vcucourses/>



### MPH Program Contacts:

#### Division of Epidemiology

Department of Epidemiology and Community Health  
P.O. Box 980212  
Richmond, VA 23298-0212  
Phone: (804) 828-9785  
Fax: (804) 828-9773  
[publichealth@vcu.edu](mailto:publichealth@vcu.edu)  
[www.epidemiology.vcu.edu](http://www.epidemiology.vcu.edu)

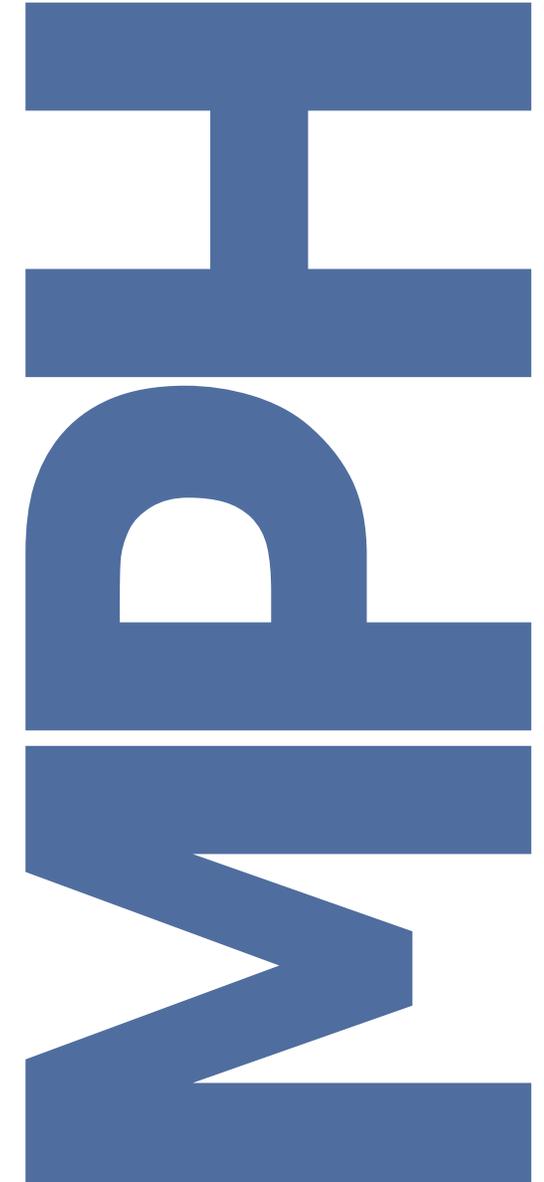
### Director of Educational Programs

**Lisa S. Anderson, MPH**

Phone: (804) 828-9785  
[lsanders@vcu.edu](mailto:lsanders@vcu.edu)

Virginia Commonwealth University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action university providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the department.

# Master of Public Health



# VCU

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

## Why Choose Public Health?

Public health is a multidisciplinary field dedicated to maintaining and improving the health of populations—in communities, regions, and around the world. Examples of public health careers include health department epidemiologist, community health program director, health policy analyst, and academic researcher. Public health professionals may be involved in activities such as conducting programs to reduce childhood obesity, leading initiatives to prevent cardiovascular disease, ensuring clean water supplies for communities, or lobbying for legislation to improve access to health care for underserved populations.



## Mission Statement

The mission of the Virginia Commonwealth University MPH program is to engage students in an experiential, learner-centered environment, collaborate with public health partners in central Virginia to promote health equity and community wellness, and foster life-long inquiry and discovery in interdisciplinary, translational research that improves human health.

## Program Curriculum

The MPH program provides a rigorous curriculum to help students develop the analytic and critical reasoning skills to improve population health. The MPH program boasts experiential learning, a highly interactive environment, accessible and approachable faculty, and student involvement in professional projects. This is achieved through a minimum of 45 credits of formal coursework, including:

- 15 credit hours of core courses in biostatistics, epidemiology, health services research and policy, social and behavioral health, and environmental health
- practica and seminars
- a public health internship
- a 20-hour community-based learning experience
- 15 credits of electives that allow students to individualize the course of study and focus on public health topics of particular interest, accommodating varying backgrounds and experiences
- a capstone project planned and implemented in the second year of the program

Included in program requirements is a two-semester course series that integrates biostatistics and data analysis, and a course in public health ethics.

## Dual Degrees

The MPH Program currently offers the following dual degrees: MD/MPH, MPH/MSW, and PharmD/MPH.

## How to Apply

Students are admitted to the program in the fall semester only. Applications for the MPH Program are strongly encouraged by January 1<sup>st</sup>. All elements of the application must be present by the application deadline for the application to be considered. Applicants must hold a Baccalaureate or a more advanced degree from an accredited institution and:

- provide Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores (taken within the past 5 years), with scores at or above the 75th percentile preferred
- provide official copies of undergraduate and any graduate transcripts (an undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale is required);
- provide 3 current letters of recommendation;
- provide a copy of a curriculum vitae or resume; and
- provide a personal statement of interest in the MPH program.

A background in the biological sciences and statistics is helpful but is not required.

