

Public Health at VCU:

- Offers innovative, rigorous educational offerings flexible enough 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 VCU public health departments. Dual MPH programs with medicine, pharmacy, and social work are available. VCU public health departments offer doctoral degrees in biostatistics, epidemiology, healthcare policy and research, and social and behavioral health.

For more information, please contact the public health chairs:

Biostatistics:

Shumei Sun, PhD
shumei.sun@vcuhealth.org

Division of Epidemiology Family Medicine and Population Health:

Anton Kuzel, MD, MHPE
anton.kuzel@vcuhealth.org

Health Behavior and Policy:

Vanessa B. Sheppard, PhD
vanessa.sheppard@vcuhealth.org

Located in the heart of Richmond

Named one of Frommer's Top Destinations for 2014, 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, a variety of cultural and educational centers, and sports activities.

Visit these web sites for information on:

Graduate admissions:

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

Graduate program information:

<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/>

Tuition and fees:

<http://accounting.vcu.edu/tuition/>

VCU academic calendar:

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

VCU courses:

<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/azcourses>



Division of Epidemiology Department of Family Medicine and Population Health

Virginia Commonwealth University
Box 980212
Richmond, VA 23298-0212
Phone: 804.828.9785
Fax: 804.828.9773
E-mail: publichealth@vcuhealth.org
www.epidemiology.vcu.edu

Lisa S. Anderson, MPH
Director of Educational Programs
publichealth@vcuhealth.org

School of Social Work Virginia Commonwealth University

Box 842027
Richmond, VA 23284-2027
Phone: 804.828-1030
Fax: 804.828.0716
E-mail: ssw-info@vcu.edu

Sarah Kye Price, PhD
Professor
skprice@vcu.edu

MSW MPH



Dual Degree in Social Work & Public Health



Dual degree in Social Work & Public Health

Public Health and Social Work

share a passion for health equity and social justice. Public health social work focuses on social health—solving problems and promoting healthy communities, engaging efforts across the human spectrum, from the individual to the community level. The discipline requires a skill set that includes research techniques, advocacy skills, knowledge of policy, and applied clinical and macro approaches.

Focus areas include substance abuse, successful child development, suicide prevention, maternal and child health, violence and injury prevention, immigrant and refugee issues, and hospital-based patient care coordination.

The dual MSW/MPH degree Program prepares graduates to advocate for social and economic justice in a diverse and multicultural society and to promote physical and mental health across the life course, working with individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations.

MPH Program Mission

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 of Study

This program requires 3 years of full-time study and a minimum of 81 semester credits leading to the Master of Social Work and the Master of Public Health degrees. Advisers guide the students in completing the structured curriculum and identifying combined social work and public health career opportunities. Year 1 focuses exclusively on MSW foundation level coursework; year 2 focuses primarily on the public health curriculum. During year 3, students complete a social work field instruction placement focused on public health and approved by the MPH program director. Students also complete community service hours and a community-based MPH capstone project, working with a faculty adviser and a mentor from a professional public health organization.

Social Work Requirements: Students complete 45 credits, including all 30 MSW foundation credits and 15 of the 30 MSW concentration credits. Students may select the Clinical or the Social Work Administration, Planning and Policy Practice concentration. Public Health courses satisfy 15 credits that are normally required in either concentration.

Public Health Requirements: Students complete a total of 36 credits, focusing on courses including epidemiology, biostatistics, public health policy, environmental health, social and behavioral health, and public health ethics.

Application

Prospective students must apply to both programs separately, meeting the admission criteria for each program. Note that MPH applications are through www.sophas.org with a supplemental application to VCU Graduate Admissions. MSW applications are through VCU Graduate Admissions. The MPH Program requires that applicants submit GRE scores. Students may apply to both programs simultaneously, but also may apply to the MPH Program during the first semester of the MSW Program.

Additional Information

Detailed curriculum requirements are in the VCU Graduate Bulletin, available at bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/. For more information on the MSW/MPH program, including detailed admissions requirements, visit: <http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-medicine/public-health-mph-social-work-msw-combined/>

