

# **PhD in Health Behavior**

## **“Required” Exit Competencies**

**Approved by the AHS Graduate Faculty, Indiana University, April 28, 2006**

The exit competencies listed below are required of all students completing a PhD in Health Behavior. Opportunities to acquire these competencies are provided through required course work and independent scholarly activities. The ability to satisfactorily demonstrate command of these competencies will be assessed via a qualifying examination, a dissertation, and any other assessment activities deemed appropriate by the faculty.

### **Individuals completing a PhD in Health Behavior must be able to:**

- Demonstrate command of core content in health behavior and, as applicable, other area(s) of specialization.
- Adhere to ethical principles in designing and conducting research and presenting and publishing findings.
- Use theories and conceptual frameworks to inform research.
- Critically synthesize scientific literature and assess contextual issues to identify research needs.
- Design and conduct rigorous health behavior research through completion of a minimum of one independent research project followed by the dissertation.
- Select, apply and interpret appropriate analytical methods.
- Disseminate research findings through refereed publications and scientific presentations.
- Prepare proposals and applications for research funding.
- Incorporate culturally appropriate techniques in professional practice\*.

\* Based on a common understanding arrived at during faculty deliberations, the term “professional practice” is understood to include research

# **PhD in Health Behavior**

## **“Recommended” Exit Competencies**

**Approved by the AHS Graduate Faculty, Indiana University, April 28, 2006**

The competencies listed below are recommended to all students completing a PhD in Health Behavior, especially those intending to pursue a career in higher education. These competencies can be accrued via elective course work, independent scholarly activities, Associate Instructor teaching assignments, voluntary participation in professional associations, community service, and other academic activities. Students are responsible for documenting acquisition of these competencies.

**Regarding teaching, individuals completing a PhD in Health Behavior are highly encouraged to be able to:**

- Express a professional philosophy of instruction/teaching.
- Develop courses/events, including syllabi, lessons, materials, and resources, based on appropriate instructional theory and recognized best practice.
- Employ effective instructional skills and abilities that actively involve learners.
- Assess learner achievement in a variety of ways based on explicit objectives and criteria.
- Utilize state-of-the-art technology in delivering, and managing courses/events, including routine use of technology by learners.
- Administer and manage classes/sessions in multiple types of courses/events involving diverse learners.
- Critically evaluate their instruction for the purpose of continuous quality improvement.

**Regarding professional service, individuals completing a PhD in Health Behavior are highly encouraged to be able to:**

- Recognize and describe the essential role of faculty service in the governance of institutions of higher education.
- Distinguish between expected institutional service and other types of service such as that provided to a profession or a community.

**Regarding diversity, individuals completing a PhD in Health Behavior are highly encouraged to be able to:**

- Use culturally sensitive approaches to assess individual and/or community assets/needs.
- Select and use culturally relevant theories and conceptual frameworks to guide teaching and service.
- Select, apply, and interpret cross cultural resources for conducting research, teaching, and service with diverse populations.
- Critically analyze and synthesize the cross-cultural literature to inform research, teaching, and service needs of diverse populations.
- Design and conduct cross-cultural health behavioral research.
- Prepare proposals and applications for ethnic, cultural, and/or vulnerable population research and/or funding.
- Deliver culturally competent programs and/or services to diverse populations

**Regarding ethics, individuals completing a PhD in Health Behavior are highly encouraged to be able to:**

- Demonstrate the same ethical standards in teaching and other interactions with students as those maintained for university faculty.
- Demonstrate respect for the beliefs, values and standards held by the community to which they provide service.
- Abide by the Code of Ethics of their professional organization.