Public Health Field Experience

Master of Public Health Program
Indiana University–Bloomington
Faculty Coordinators/Instructors

- Dr. Sherwood-Laughlin
  - BSCH

- Dr. Macy
  - PHA

- Dr. Schmidt
  - Family Health

- Dr. Shimek
  - ENV HLTH

- Dr. Sayegh
  - EPI/BIO

- Dr. Kay
  - PHE

- Dr. Johnston
  - Physical Activity
Requirements

- GPA $\geq 3.00$
- Completed all Core and Required Course
- Qualified Preceptor
- In an agency that routinely provides “public health”
- No less than 20 hours per week
- 5.0 Credit Hours, 300 clock hours
- Grade: S/F
Prior to Starting the Field Experience

- Field Experience Handbook– READ IT!
- Faculty Coordinators: Individual meetings with students from January 2015 to December 2015
- MPH Academic Advisors, Faculty, other students: explore ideas
When selecting a field placement location, ask the following questions:

- Do I plan to remain with my current employer after graduation?
- Do I plan to relocate to a different city after graduation?
- What type of position do I aspire to after graduation?
- What type of public health agency do I wish to work in after graduation?
- What experience and/or skill gaps must I close in order to be promoted or hired into my desired career position?
- Where can I get the needed experience and skills to increase my chances of securing my desired career position?
- Does this agency offer opportunities to help me achieve my learning goals and objectives?
Will this agency expand my current skills and knowledge levels?

What types of projects will I be involved with?

Do I want to work directly with the clients or the community, or do I want to work behind the scenes?

Can I afford, financially and emotionally, to do this particular internship?

What are the opportunities for networking?

Is there a chance I will be hired at the agency or an affiliated agency once I have completed my internship?

Do they offer any stipends or salary during the internship?
When selecting a preceptor, ask the following questions:

- Does this person meet the professional qualifications?
- Does this person have the desire, time, and skills to adequately supervise and mentor me?
- In terms of personality, are the preceptor and I compatible?
- Does this person possess cutting-edge knowledge in areas of major interest to me?
- Is this person well known and respected in the public health community?
- Would this person be a good career sponsor (i.e., one who would be very helpful in assisting me with going to my next career level)?
All Preceptors must meet one of the following criteria:

- A doctoral degree in public health or in a closely related field and one year of experience in public health
- A master of public health degree or a master’s degree in a closely related field and at least two years of experience in public health
- A bachelor’s degree in public health or closely related field and at least three years of work experience in public health
- Eight years of work experience in public health
Second Semester (Spring), Year One

- Attend the mandatory MPH Field Experience Meeting during the spring semester.
- Obtain a current transcript and meet with your academic advisor to determine when the field experience will be conducted. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 and completed all core and required courses in order to begin field experience.
- Complete the Student Field Experience Information Form and submit to the Faculty Coordinator at least one to two weeks prior to the first scheduled meeting. This meeting should take place before the end of this semester or summer.
- Attend conferences and workshops to increase networking among public health professionals.
Second Semester (Fall), Year Two (Summer)

- Obtain a current transcript and meet with your academic advisor to determine when the field experience will be conducted. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.00, completed all core and required courses by the end of the fall semester of the second year in order to begin the field experience in the next semester.
- Meet with the Faculty Field experience Coordinator in August, September or October to discuss field experience progress and plans.
- Determine the agencies/preceptors to interview for field experience.
- Determine the agency/preceptor of choice.
- Complete the Field Experience Agreement Form with the Preceptor.
- Complete the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Preceptor.
- Meet with Academic Advisor to get his/her signature on the SPH Advising Form.
- Meet with the Faculty Coordinator before December 1st to register for the field experience course. Bring the MOU and Field Experience Agreement Form to this meeting. Students will not be able to register for the field experience course when classes are not in session.
- Complete the Graduate Field Experience Authorization form with your Faculty Coordinator.
- Take Authorization form to PH 123 for authorization to register for field experience.
- Register for your concentration specific course number and section OneStart for 5 credits.
Second Semester (Spring), Year Two

• Begin field experience in early January
• Submit weekly journal entries
• Submit the Student Mid-Term Status Report at the completion of 150 hours
• Preceptor submits the Mid-Term Evaluation at the completion of 150 hours
• Complete all field experience hours by the end of April
• Complete the final paper and document of field experience activities and post in Drop Box on Oncourse by 12 noon on the Monday of spring finals week.
• Complete the Final Evaluation with Preceptor and submit by 12 noon on the Monday of spring finals week.
Must be registered for 696 when actively working at your site
MOU

- Must be on Agency Letterhead
- Outlines the objectives
- Indicates the number of hours per week, start and end date
- Major Independent Project
- 2 Concentration Specific Competencies
- Signed by the Preceptor and Student Intern
Example of BSCH MOU

Internship Agreement Form
Cannot register for the field experience until you have submitted to the Faculty Coordinator:

1. MOU
2. Field Experience Agreement Form
3. Release of Risk and Liability Form
During: Accountability

- Email Letter to Preceptor and Interns: MPH Faculty Coordinator
- Weekly Journal Entries: Student
- Mid-Term Status Report: Student
- Mid-Term Evaluation: Preceptor
- Site Visits: Faculty Coordinator
  - Dependent upon schedules and geographic location
After

- Final Evaluation—Preceptor
  - 10 Essential Services in Public Health
  - 2 Concentration Specific Competencies

- Internship Binder (Paper or Drop Box on Oncourse)
  - Reflection Paper
  - Major Independent Project
  - Activities, Presentations, Written Materials
Example Sites

- Kenya - IU School of Medicine
- Botswana - IU School of Medicine
- Belize - Planned Parenthood International
- Mexico - School Health Program
- World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
- University of Tampere, Finland

- IU Health Bloomington Hospital: Community Health Education, WIC, GOAL, Positive Link
- Riley Hospital for Children
- Peyton Manning’s Children’s Hospital, St. Vincent
- Indiana State Department of Health, HIV/STD, Epidemiology, Maternal and Child Health, Office of the Commissioner
- Columbus Regional Hospital, Healthy Communities
Sites

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, DASH, Health Communications
- National Institutes for Health, National Cancer Institute
- Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Women’s Health
- Advocates for Youth, NYC
- SEICUS, NYC and DC
- Planned Parenthood, Indiana, Wisconsin, Oregon
- Migrant Farm Workers
- Pan American Health Organization
- Indiana University: Health Center, Kinsey Institute, Indiana Prevention Resource Center, Office of Communications, OAISIS
- Bell Flower Clinic, Indianapolis
- Stone Belt- Milestones
- Volunteers in Medicine
- Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie
- IU Health Community Health Engagement Program
- Area 10 Agency on Aging
- YMCA
- Centerstone, Behavioral Health
- Ruth Lily Health Education Center
SPH Internship Portal

- [http://www.publichealth.indiana.edu/careers/internshipportal.shtml](http://www.publichealth.indiana.edu/careers/internshipportal.shtml)
- Mid–Term Status Report for Students – [https://www.indiana.edu/~hperweb/internships/evaluationMPH](https://www.indiana.edu/~hperweb/internships/evaluationMPH)
- Preceptor Final Evaluation: [http://www.publichealth.indiana.edu/departments/applied-health-science/career/sitesupervisor.shtml](http://www.publichealth.indiana.edu/departments/applied-health-science/career/sitesupervisor.shtml)
Questions???