Satisfactory academic progress is defined as follows: The Department expects students to maintain satisfactory academic progress for the duration of the degree program. In the Department, satisfactory academic progress is defined as follows:

- Maintaining a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75. Students falling below this minimum will have one term (or 12 additional units of coursework if part-time) to raise the GPA above 2.75.
- Earning a grade of "C" or higher in program specific core courses. Students earning lower grades must repeat the course.
- Adhering to the time frame for completion of degree, defined as four years for all program requirements (coursework, placement and written assignment). Extensions are possible but must be formally approved by the Department and Committee on Academic Standards.

Maintaining a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75. Failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by any of the criteria above may be grounds for dismissal from the program.

Course/Credit Load

The Department strongly encourages students to register for fewer than 19 credits (including special studies and thesis research) in any one academic term. While a credit registration of more than 18 credits is possible through the registration system, departmental faculty think that the additional course burden prohibits students from dedicating the appropriate time needed for the educational activities being undertaken. Any decision to register for more than 18 credits should be carefully considered and discussed with the student's adviser prior to registering. The Department encourages students to register for a minimum of 16 credits each term. The School requires a minimum of 12 credits to maintain full-time status and a maximum of 22 credits.

Course of Study

Students will complete a minimum of 96 total units of credit hours, in six to eight full-time terms, graduating at the end of the second year. Students must attend the MHS in Social Factors Seminar for all of the terms in which they are registered, including a minimum of two terms in their second year program. It is also expected that MHS students will attend HBS seminar series events.

Students planning to take online courses must first take the free, non-credit mini-course "Introduction to Online Learning (IOL)." Students are now required to take IOL before beginning their first term.

All students are required to complete the Academic and Research Ethics course (550.860) during their first term.

In the first year, the four full-time terms of study will consist of academic coursework in classroom and seminar settings. A total of 64 academic units must be completed prior to beginning the research practicum, typically within the first four terms of study. HBS students typically register for 16 credits or more each term in the first year to complete the required total of 64 credits and to be eligible for the Master's Tuition Scholarship in the second year (though enrollment may vary slightly from term to term, the 64 credit hour requirement cannot be changed). Audited courses may not be applied toward the full-time enrollment requirement or toward the required 64 credits. All required courses must be taken for a letter grade, unless the course is only offered for Pass/Fail. It is anticipated that students will complete a significant portion of their research practicum activities during the summer between first and second year.

In the second year, HBS students register for 16 credits each term for a course of study that will include remaining courses and thesis research hours with their adviser (or another JHU faculty member) as they work to complete their mentored research experience and compose their research thesis. Students may be eligible to complete all requirements for graduation by the end of second term or the beginning of the third term of their second year, depending on the timing of their research experience and final approval of their thesis.

The final requirement of the program is that the student must perform a public presentation of their placement and associated research. Typically,
this presentation will take place in the second and third quarters of the second year.

Students who have not completed both the mentored research experience and the final thesis by the May graduation deadline will be required to register for two credits in the summer term.

Course Waivers and Substitutions
Waiving or substituting a course that the faculty have determined essential to the program is a serious consideration. Students should discuss this thoroughly with their adviser well in advance of the start of the term in which the required course is offered. Course waivers are rare and are appropriate only when the student has completed the course or one very similar to it in prior graduate level training. Course substitutions may be appropriate if the student can provide a rationale for why an alternate course is preferred to the required one. (NB: The alternate course must cover much of the same content as the required course.) If the student and the adviser agree that a waiver or substitution is warranted, a memo from the student (co-signed by the adviser) to the program director, requesting the waiver should be submitted to the HBS Academic Office no later than the first day of the term of the course in question.

All requests for course substitutions must be submitted in writing to the program director and student's adviser prior to course enrollment and should include the following information:

- Proposed competency area for substitution;
- Proposed course name, number, number of credits, and description;
- Rationale for substitution, including demonstrated match between course objectives and relevant training competency.

Substitutions for coursework in "Epidemiology" and "Social Science Theory As Applied to Public Health" will only be considered with evidence of prior equivalent coursework. No substitutions can be made for coursework in "Public Health Core Competencies."

Course location and modality is found on the JHSPH website (https://www.jhsph.edu/courses/).

Methodologic and Research Training
Epidemiology
Students must take a minimum of five credit hours in epidemiology, starting with Epidemiological Inference in Public Health. This class should be taken in Term 1 of Year 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH.340.721</td>
<td>Epidemiologic Inference in Public Health I (Term 1)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 5

Biostatistics
MHS students must take all 4 of the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.621</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health I (Term 1)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.622</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health II (Term 2)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.140.623</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health III (Term 3)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.624</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health IV (Term 4)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 16

The more advanced Biostatistics series PH.140.651 Methods in Biostatistics I – PH.140.654 Methods in Biostatistics IV may be substituted.

Social Science Research Methods
Students must take:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.615</td>
<td>Research Design in the Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.631</td>
<td>Introduction to Community-Based Participatory Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.681</td>
<td>MHS Seminar in Social Factors in Health I (1st term of year)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.882</td>
<td>MHS Seminar in Social Factors in Health II (2nd term of year)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.883</td>
<td>MHS Seminar in Social Factors in Health Seminar III (3rd term of year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.884</td>
<td>MHS Seminar in Social Factors in Health IV (4th term of year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 12

Students must take the above courses. In addition, students must take at least 1 course in each of 2 areas: quantitative methods and qualitative methods. Students should carefully choose methods training considering both their previous training and future research goals. One course in each of the two areas is considered the minimum; students are encouraged to build their methodological expertise in all areas relevant to their proposed research activities and scientific areas of interest. It is valuable for students to seek both breadth and depth in methods training. Therefore, we strongly recommend that students elect an area of methodological focus and take multiple courses in this area.

Quantitative Methods Courses

Select at least two of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.686</td>
<td>Advanced Quantitative Methods in The Social and Behavioral Sciences: A Practical Introduction (Term 4)</td>
<td>6-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.330.657</td>
<td>Statistics for Psychosocial Research: Measurement (Term 1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.658</td>
<td>Statistics for Psychosocial Research: Structural Models (Term 2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.309.616</td>
<td>Introduction to Methods for Health Services Research and Evaluation I (Terms 3 &amp; 4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.733</td>
<td>Communication Network Analysis in Public Health Programs (Term 1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.698</td>
<td>Spatial Analysis III: Spatial Statistics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.699</td>
<td>Spatial Analysis IV: Spatial Design and Application</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.340.696</td>
<td>Spatial Analysis I: ArcGIS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.340.697</td>
<td>Spatial Analysis II: Spatial Data Technologies</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 18-22

Qualitative Methods Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH.550.604</td>
<td>Qualitative Reasoning in Public Health</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.710</td>
<td>Concepts in Qualitative Research for Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Requests for waivers should be addressed to Maryann Smith (mksmith@jhsph.edu).
PH.410.645 Applying the Social Ecological Model in Tobacco Control and Climate Change

PH.340.666 Foundations of Social Epidemiology (Term 4, Offered every other year)

PH.410.620 Program Planning for Health Behavior Change (Terms 1 & 4)

PH.306.660 Legal and Public Health Issues in the Regulation of Alcohol and Tobacco (Term 1)

PH.410.668 Policy Interventions for Health Behavior Change (Term 2)

PH.318.636 Urban Policy (Term 1)

PH.308.610 The Political Economy of Social inequalities and Its Consequences for Health and Quality of Life (Terms 2 & 4)

PH.410.679 Decolonization, Global Communication, and Public Health (Term 2)

Total Credits 12

**Public Health Priority Populations, Issues, and Solutions**

MHS in Social Factors students must take at least 12 credit hours from the following list. Alternate courses may be substituted with permission from the program director.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.604</td>
<td>Harm Reduction: A Framework for Evidence-Based Policy and Practice (Term 2)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.410.610</td>
<td>Health and Homelessness (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.640</td>
<td>Global Tobacco Control (Term 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.660</td>
<td>Latino Health: Measures and Predictors (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.663</td>
<td>Media Advocacy and Public Health: Theory and Practice (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.677</td>
<td>Theory and Practice in Campaigning and Organizing for Public Health I (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.680</td>
<td>Social Ecological Approaches to Health Regimen Adherence in Chronic Conditions (Term 4)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.681</td>
<td>Gay, Bisexual and Other Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM) and HIV: Theoretical Perspectives on the Us Epidemic (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.683</td>
<td>Global Perspectives on LGBT Health (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.410.752</td>
<td>Children, Media, and Health (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.188.682</td>
<td>A Built Environment for A Healthy and Sustainable Future</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.221.643</td>
<td>Armed Conflict and Health (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.221.645</td>
<td>Large-scale Effectiveness Evaluations of Health Programs (Terms 2 &amp; 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.222.654</td>
<td>Food, Culture, and Nutrition (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.222.657</td>
<td>Food and Nutrition Policy (Term 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.300.615</td>
<td>The Tools of Public Health Practice (Term 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.301.615</td>
<td>Seminar in Health Disparities</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.301.627</td>
<td>Understanding and Preventing Violence (Term 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.301.645</td>
<td>Health Advocacy (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.305.684</td>
<td>Health Impact Assessment (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.306.625</td>
<td>Ethical Issues in Health Policy: Public Health and Health Care (Term 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.306.663</td>
<td>Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Services Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.306.665</td>
<td>Research Ethics and integrity: U.S. and International Issues (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.308.615</td>
<td>The Opioid Crisis: Problem Solving Seminar (Term 3)</td>
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<td>PH.309.605</td>
<td>Health Issues for Aging Populations (Term 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.317.600</td>
<td>Introduction to the Risk Sciences and Public Policy (Terms 1 &amp; 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.330.607</td>
<td>PREVENTION of MENTAL DISORDERS: PUBLIC HEALTH InterVENTIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.330.623</td>
<td>Brain and Behavior in Mental Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.330.639</td>
<td>The Intersection of Mental and Physical Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.330.664</td>
<td>Introduction to Mental Health Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.330.667</td>
<td>Mental Health and the Law (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.330.680</td>
<td>Promoting Mental Health and Preventing Mental Disorders in Low- and Middle-income Countries (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.340.629</td>
<td>The Epidemiology of LGBTQ Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.330.674</td>
<td>Suicide As A Public Health Problem (Terms 3 &amp; 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.624</td>
<td>Maternal and Child Health Legislation and Programs (Term 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.340.692</td>
<td>Prisons, Public Health, and Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.635</td>
<td>Urban Health in Contemporary America (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.640</td>
<td>Children in Crisis: An Asset-Based Approach to Working With Vulnerable Youth (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.665</td>
<td>Family Planning Policies and Programs (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.666</td>
<td>Women's Health (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.667</td>
<td>Women's Health Policy (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.720</td>
<td>Masculinity, Sexual Behavior &amp; Health: Adolescence &amp; Beyond (Term 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.721</td>
<td>Schools and Health (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.725</td>
<td>The Social Context of Adolescent Health and Development (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.744</td>
<td>Nutrition and Growth in Maternal and Child Health (Term 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.750</td>
<td>Migration and Health: Concepts, Rates, and Relationships (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.762</td>
<td>HIV Infection in Women, Children, and Adolescents (Term 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.767</td>
<td>Couples and Reproductive Health (Variable credits, Term 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.768</td>
<td>Selected Topics in Women’s Health and Women’s Health Policy (Term 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.380.663</td>
<td>Gender-Based Research, Practice and Policy: Issues and Current Controversies (Term 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.550.609</td>
<td>Life and Death in Charm City: Histories of Public Health in Baltimore, 1750 to the Present (Term 1)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 12

MHS Degree PPM:

https://my.jhsph.edu/Resources/PoliciesProcedures/ppm/PolicyProcedureMemoranda/Academic_Programs_08
### Milestones for the MHS in Social Factors in Health Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Dates</th>
<th>Task/Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Adviser Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Course Selections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory academic progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Adviser Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Course Selections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory academic progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Adviser Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Course Selections</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory academic progress</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Practicum Options</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Adviser Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Course Selections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory academic progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Practicum Options/Selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Completed 64 credits (minimum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Master Tuition Scholarship Certification</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Second Year</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Term</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Adviser Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Course Selections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory academic progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory progress in research practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory progress in Final Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Adviser Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Drop/Add</td>
<td>Course Selections</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory academic progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term of completion</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Completion of Final Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Successful Presentation of Work in Seminar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Timetable for Completion of Degree Requirements

Please direct questions regarding the timetable for completion of degree requirements to Office of Records & Registration (JHSPH.Registra@jhu.edu).

### MHS Program Policies

#### MHS Program Prerequisites

#### Satisfactory Academic Progress

The Department expects students to maintain satisfactory academic progress for the duration of the degree program. In the Department, satisfactory academic progress is defined as follows:

- A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75. Students falling below this minimum will have one term (or 12 additional units of coursework if part-time) to raise the GPA above 2.75.
- Earning a grade of "C" or higher in program specific core courses. (Students earning lower grades must repeat the course.)
- Adhering to timeframe for completion of degree, defined as four years for all program requirements (coursework, placement and written assignment). Extensions are possible but must be formally approved by the Department and Committee on Academic Standards.

Maintaining a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75. Failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by any of the criteria above may be grounds for dismissal from the program.

### HBS Policy on Course Waivers

Waiving or substituting a course that the faculty have determined essential to the program is a serious consideration. Students should discuss this thoroughly with their adviser well in advance of the start of the term in which the required course is offered. Course waivers are rare and are appropriate only when the student has completed the course or one very similar to it in prior graduate level training. Course substitutions may be appropriate if the student can provide a rationale for why an alternate course is preferred to the required one. (NB: The alternate course must cover much of the same content as the required course.) If the student and the adviser agree that a waiver or substitution is warranted, a memo from the student (co-signed by the adviser) to the program directors, requesting the waiver should be submitted to the HBS Academic Office no later than the first day of the term of the course in question.

All requests for course substitutions must be submitted in writing using the required form to the program directors and student’s adviser prior to course enrollment and should include the following information: Proposed competency area for substitution; Proposed course name, number, number of credits, and description; Rationale for substitution, including demonstrated match between course objectives and relevant training competency. Substitutions for coursework in Methodologic and Research Training will only be considered with evidence of prior equivalent coursework. No substitutions can be made for coursework in Section 1d (Public Health Core Competencies).

### Program Competencies

1. Articulate the influences of social context and behavior on health with the aim of developing, evaluating and implementing solutions to pressing public health challenges in Baltimore, the United States and around the globe
2. Describe relationships and potential pathways between social factors, behaviors, and health and related contributions to health disparities
3. Critically evaluate literature related to individual and social influences on health behaviors and health
4. Apply interdisciplinary, ecological, and other multi-level theoretical models of health and health behavior to identify relevant social and structural factors and effective social and behavioral intervention strategies to address public health challenges in diverse populations and settings.

5. Design and critically assess interventions and community-based programs to prevent disease and injury, alleviate illness and disability, improve quality of life, and reduce health disparities.

6. Translate research on effective social and structural interventions with implications for public health related practice and policy.

7. Apply a variety of study designs, methods and analytic techniques to appropriately address key questions about social and structural influences on health.

8. Apply appropriate ethical standards in the conduct of public health research and practice.