



**International Health
(IH)**

**Oregon State University
MPH - IH Track
Student Handbook**

2011-2012



**2011-2012 OMPH International Health Track
Student Handbook for Oregon State University
Table of Contents**

OSU International Health Track Specific Requirements	4
A. IH Track Competencies	4
B. IH Degree Requirements	4
C. IH Sample Course Sequence	8
D. Field Experience	9
E. IH Minimum Standards for Field Experience	9-13
F. IH Culminating Experience	13
International Health Track Student Advising Sheet	17-18



**2011-2012 OMPH Program Student Handbook
Oregon State University
International Health Track**

I. IMPORTANT: In addition to this handbook, OSU MPH IH track students *must reference* the Master of Public Health Oregon State University Student Handbook for information pertaining to ALL students.

II. OSU International Health (IH) Track Specific Requirements

A. IH Track Competencies

1. Design and manage health development programs considering health, social, political, cultural, and environmental factors.
2. Work in, and adapt to, any global context for health development.
3. Integrate global, political, economic, and cultural systems knowledge into health development.
4. Manage health development programs in global settings.
5. Develop a disciplinary subspecialty to be applied to international health.
6. Identify culturally sensitive and socio-economically appropriate strategies in health development.
7. Design and manage health development programs in accordance to universally and locally acceptable ethical standard.

B. IH Track Degree Requirements

Completing the MPH degree in the **International Health Track** at OSU requires:

1. A total of at least 62 approved credit hours. These credits include:

OMPH Core Courses	16
Required Track Courses	16
Area of Focus	24
Field Experience (Internship)	6
2. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 (B) grade point average in their graduate courses. Additionally, students may not receive lower than a B- in any required course (core or track required courses). If lower than a B- is received then the student will need to retake the course.
3. Successful completion of field experience.
4. Successful completion of final oral exam.

The following courses are required in the International Health Track:

Track Competency	Courses	Links to Program Learning Competencies (PLC)
<p>1. Design and manage health development programs considering health, social, political, cultural, and environmental factors.</p>	<p>H 510 Internship & Presentation H 512 Environmental and Occupational Health H 525 Principles & Practices of Epidemiology H 528 Global Health Issues H 529 International Health H 533 Health Systems Organization H 571 Principles of Health Behavior</p> <p><i>Two of the following:</i> H 515 Research Methods H 526 Epidemiologic Methods H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance H 599 Health Development for Displaced Population</p> <p>Oral Comprehensive Exam</p>	<p>PLC #1 PLC #2 PLC #3 PLC #6 PLC #7</p>
<p>2. Work in, and adapt to, any global context for health development.</p>	<p>H 510 Internship and Presentation H 528 Global Health Issues H 529 International Health H 571 Principles of Health Behavior</p> <p><i>One of the following:</i> ANTH 574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology</p> <p>Oral Comprehensive Exam</p>	<p>PLC #2 PLC #4 PLC #5 PLC #6</p>
<p>3. Integrate global, political, economic, and cultural systems knowledge into health development.</p>	<p>H 510 Internship and Presentation H 528 Global Health Issues H 529 International Health</p> <p><i>One of the following:</i> ANTH 574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology</p> <p>Oral Comprehensive Exam</p>	<p>PLC #1 PLC #2 PLC #3 PLC #6 PLC #7</p>

<p>4. Manage health development programs in global settings.</p>	<p>H 510 Internship and Presentation H 528 Global Health Issues H 533 Health Systems Organization</p> <p><i>One of the following:</i> ANTH 574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology</p> <p><i>Selective topics:</i> H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance H 599 Health Development for Displaced Population</p> <p>Oral Comprehensive Exam</p>	<p>PLC #2 PLC #3 PLC #4 PLC #7</p>
<p>5. Develop a disciplinary subspecialty to be applied to international health.</p>	<p>Area of Specialization (24 credits minimum) H 510 Internship and Presentation H 528 Global Health Issues H 529 International Health</p> <p>Oral Comprehensive Exam</p>	<p>PLC #1 PLC #2 PLC #5 PLC #7</p>
<p>6. Identify culturally sensitive and socio-economically appropriate strategies in health development.</p>	<p>Area of Specialization (24 credits minimum) H 510 Internship and Presentation H 528 Global Health Issues H 529 International Health H 533 Health Systems Organization H 571 Principles of Health Behavior</p> <p><i>One of the following:</i> ANTH 574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology</p> <p><i>Selective topics</i> H 599 Health Development for Displaced Populations H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance</p> <p>Oral Comprehensive Exam</p>	<p>PLC #2 PLC #3 PLC #5 PLC #6</p>
<p>7. Design and manage health development programs in accordance to universally and locally acceptable ethical standard.</p>	<p>H 528 Global Health Issues H 529 International Health</p> <p><i>Two of the following:</i> H 515 Research Methods H 526 Epidemiologic Methods H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance</p>	<p>PLC #5</p>

	H 599 Health Development for Displaced Population	
--	---	--

Note: courses in **bold** are OMPH core courses.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS International Health Track (62 credits)

MPH Core Courses (16 credits)

H 525 Principles & Practices of Epidemiology (3 credits)

H 524 Introduction to Biostatistics (4 credits)

H 533 Health Systems Organization (3 credits)

H 512 Environmental and Occupational Health (3 credits)

H 571 Principles of Health Behavior (3 credits)

International Health Track Required Courses (16 credits)

International Health Courses (6 credits)

H 529 International Health (3 credits)

H 528 Global Health Issues (3 credits)

One of the following courses in medical anthropology (4 credits)

ANTH 574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing (4 credits)

ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology (4 credits)

Two of the following selective international health topics (6 credits)

H 515 Research Methods (3 credits)

H 526 Epidemiologic Methods (3 credits)

H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance (3 credits)

H 599 Health Development for Displaced Populations (3 credits)

Area of Focus in International Health (24 credits)

1. Health Promotion
2. Health Management and Policy
3. Environmental Health and Occupational Safety
4. Epidemiology
5. Other area of focus developed with advisor

Internship (6 credits)

H 510 Internship/Organizational Experience (6 credits)

C. IH Sample Course Sequence

It is recommended that OMPH courses be taken in a particular sequence to maximize the educational experience. Always consult your advisor regarding your program of study to determine the schedule that fits best for you. The following shows a typical recommended sequence of courses.

Recommended course schedule* for required classes taken at OSU in the International Health Track

Year	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
First	H 524 Introduction to Biostatistics H 525 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology H 533 Health Systems Organization <i>Alternatives:</i> H 512 Environmental and Occupational Health H 571 Principles of Health Behavior ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology	H 529 International Health ANTH 574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance (even yrs.) H 599 Health Development for Displaced Population (odd yrs) <i>Highly recommend:</i> Elective courses in focus area	H 528 Global Health Issues Elective courses in focus area	TBA
Second	H 512 Environmental and Occupational Health H 515 Research Methodology in Health and Safety H 571 Principles of Health Behavior ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology H 527 Case Studies in International Health	H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance (even yrs.) H 599 Health Development for Displaced Population (odd yrs) <i>Highly recommend:</i> Elective courses in focus area	H 510 Internship	TBA

Courses in **bold** are OMPH core courses.

* Some of these courses are not offered every year. Check the class schedules on-line and in the College for current course listings.

NOTE:

1. This is not an exhaustive list of graduate courses in Public Health. Please check with your advisor about other elective courses in the College and in other departments.
2. **If you plan to take your required internship during the Summer 2012, you must begin planning during Winter Term 2012.**

D. IH Track Field Experience

Field Experience Information and Orientation

The OMPH Program Office has a database that contains data on field experience sites utilized by students. The database contains information about field experience sites including: agency background information, contact information, specialty track(s) served, and the number of students placed each year. Students at all of the collaborative universities can request access to this database from the Program Office by contacting the Program Coordinator, Alison Schneiger at alison@oregonmph.org.

Links to the Field Experience guidelines and orientation presentations for both students and preceptors can be found on the OMPH website at:
<http://www.oregonmph.org/register/register.html#Field>

Program Minimum Standards for Field Experiences

In addition to meeting track field experience criteria, all OMPH field/organizational experiences must meet the following:

- Precepted experience: Preceptor may not be program faculty member or advisor; Preceptors must have public health credentials or appropriate health related credentials and experience to provide appropriate mentorship/supervision in your learning experience. All site preceptors and sites will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- Competency-based, meeting track and student-specified competencies
- Competencies and field experience site/work scope are pre-approved by advisor
- Evaluated by both student and preceptor, demonstrating competency mastery
- Community or population focus (e.g., public health agency, health care delivery, reimbursement, community organizing, health voluntary, population-based research, worksite setting)
- Minimum of 200 practice hours, 6 units

E. IH Minimum Standards for Field Experience

1. Credit hours of field experience

- A minimum of 6 credit hours (200 field hours) are required.
- The field experience should be done after completion of a minimum of 27 credit hours of course work, including a minimum of 9 credit hours of course work from International Health Track core courses that include the two sequence courses H 529 and H 528, and one of the required electives.
- International internships are strongly encouraged. If a student chooses to do her/his internship in domestic field, such an internship should be focused on minority health, or related to the nature of international health.
- Certain international organizations and NGOs may require a longer period of internship in the field. If a student chooses to conduct their internship with such an organization, they must comply with the preceptor's minimum residence

requirement. In this case, it is up to the student whether she/he wants to register extra credit hours for the internship, understanding that the maximum number of internship credits allowed on the Program of Study is 12. **Note that regardless of the number of credits (minimum of 6), registration in H 510 for the duration of the actual field experience is required.**

2. Type of organization for field experience

The field experience must be community or population-based, preferably in a foreign nation or in an international or global setting. If the field experience site is domestic, the nature of the tasks must be either international, such as at a NGO headquarters, or address a minority population, such as native American or native Alaskan, or be in an immigrant community. Students may choose from the following types of organizations:

- International supra-governmental organizations (e.g., WHO, UNICEF, World Bank, IMF, WTO, UNICEF, UNISCO, PAHO, etc.)
- NGOs that have programs/projects related to international health development, for example: Mercy Corp, Medical Teams International, International Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF, Doctors without Borders), Oxfam, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Governmental official development agencies (ODA) (e.g., USAID, CIDA, SIDA, JICA, etc.)
- Academic institutions of health development programs/projects (e.g., USFQ community health projects)
- US, autonomous Native American governments, state, or county governmental agencies that address domestic minority population health issues (e.g., US Indian Health Service, Oregon Health Division, county health departments, etc.)
- Other nation's governmental agencies responsible for domestic health development, such as the ministry of health in another nation
- NGOs that focus on domestic minority population health development
- Partner agencies/institutions of OSU, such as MAMTA, NYMU (Taiwan), and University of Gondar (Ethiopia)
- Health-related internships provided through IE3
- Other organizations that are approved by the IH Track faculty

3. Contents and focus of field experience

The field experience must be community or population based, preferably in a foreign nation or in an international or global setting. If a student chooses to do the field experience in the USA, the focus of her/his tasks must be addressing a minority population, not the general population. Alternatively, a student could work with an international NGO's headquarter in the US. The student developed field experience learning objectives should reflect a majority of IH Track Competencies.

During the field experience, the student should participate in at least one of the following activities involving international health or minority health:

- a. planning of a health development program/project;

- b. implementing a health development program/project;
- c. marketing a health development program/project;
- d. evaluating a health development program/project;
- e. developing a grant proposal for a health development program/project;
- f. collecting and analyzing data/information of a health development program/project, or
- g. developing a tool, instrument, or computer software for health development program/project.

4. Approval of field experience

- Before beginning a field experience, a student must seek the approval of their academic advisor and the preceptor of the organization that is sponsoring the field experience.
- A H510 Internship/Organizational Experience Application and Learning Contract (See appendix in the OSU MPH Student General Handbook.) must be signed by the student's advisor, and the student. If the internship location is within the US, the form also needs to be signed by the preceptor.

5. Evaluation of field experience

- The field experience and expected competencies will be evaluated by both preceptor and the three faculty committee members.
- The preceptor will be responsible for supervising and mentoring the student throughout their field experience.
- The preceptor will submit a competency assessment form provided in the MPH Student General Handbook, evaluating the student's performance of stated competencies.
- During the field experience, the student will need to submit one copy of the mid-term report and one copy of the final report to their advisor. In these reports, the student will describe her/his tasks, competencies developed through the IH Track that had been applied in the experience, and new competencies acquired through the experience. In the case when the student's field experience is in a rural site of a low-income nation where internet access is unreliable, the mid-term report can be waived upon the approval of their advisor.
- At the completion of field experience, the student will present an oral report to an open forum that includes other students, faculty members, and the three faculty committee members. The presentation is followed by open questions. The student is responsible for providing the committee members with a copy of the written report one week in advance of the final oral exam. The presentation is part of the evaluation for the student's competencies.

6. Health and safety precautions

- Prior to an international internship, the student should contact the preceptor to inquire about any health or safety concerns, and assess any potential risks with their advisor.

- Prior to international internship, the student should acquire all necessary immunizations and prophylactics. Immunizations and prophylactics, including cost, are entirely the student's responsibility. All students are encouraged to attend the OSU Student Health Center Travel Clinic.
- It is the student's responsibility to apply for the necessary visa and other documents required by the host nation prior to departure.
- The student is strongly encouraged to report to the US Embassy or consulate in the host country shortly after arrival. This is to ensure that in case of natural or human-caused disaster or risk, the US. Embassy may inform the student, or assist in evacuation.
- All students are required to obey the host nation's laws, and to be respectful of local culture.
- All students are encouraged to purchase travel insurance and medical evacuation insurance if necessary, or make arrangements with their health insurance providers prior to departure.
- During internship in the field, if there are reliable internet services, the student should maintain regular contact with their advisor.
- Should an emergency occur, the student should contact the US Embassy or consulate as soon as possible to seek assistance, and should also inform the preceptor, advisor, and OSU Office of International Education.

7. Expenses of field experience

- All expenses incurred by the student related to the field experience, from tuition, travel costs, living expenses, insurance, including any other expenses incurred as a result of the field experience, are the sole responsibility of the student.

8. Minimum standards for oral presentation and oral examination

- Regarding demonstration of competency in the seven IH Track competencies, the three faculty committee members will evaluate the student during the oral presentation and the MPH final oral examination to determine if the student meets or does not meet the competencies.
- The oral presentation and oral examination include the following components:
 - (1) an internship presentation in which the student presents their internship experience, learning objectives, any project in which they participated, and how they accomplished their internship learning objectives;
 - (2) how the student accomplished the seven IH Track competencies through a combination of course work, field experience, and other professional activities during the time they were enrolled in the MPH program;
 - (3) an open question and answer period; and
 - (4) a closed session during which the three committee members ask follow-up questions related to the student's internship experience, learning objectives, and IH Track competencies.

The first two parts of the oral presentation should last between 30 minutes to 40 minutes.

- The minimum standard for passing is six (6) competencies in “Meet” level. In other words, students will pass the final examination with no more than one (1) competency falling into “Not Meet” level.

NOTE: In addition to meeting the OMPH Program Minimum Standards for field experiences, organizational experiences for **students in the International Health Track must meet the following requirements:**

- The internship contract must include:
 - Student developed individual learning competencies for the internship. These learning competencies should reflect at least four (4) of the seven (7) IH Track competencies, but should not be written using the same words as original competencies.
 - Description of how the area of specialization, internship, and career objectives are connected.
- See section E2 of this document for the type of organization suitable for an IH field experience.
- Student must submit one copy of a mid-term report and one copy of a final report to their advisor for approval.
 - The brief mid-term report (approximately 1 page) must summarize field experience activities to date, and most importantly, whether or not the student has been able to carry out work as planned. For those working in low-income nations and encountering limited access to internet, the mid-term report may be waived.
 - The final summary report must describe and evaluate the degree to which the student accomplished the individual and IH Track learning competencies during their field experience.
 - The student must be prepared to make a formal presentation of their internship experience to the public, to respond to questions raised by the audience and committee members, and to participate in an oral exam by committee members. The faculty committee members will evaluate the student’s demonstration of IH competencies.

F. IH Culminating Experience - Final Oral Exam

The culminating experience for IH track students will include the following:

1. field experience (minimum 200 hours, 6 credit hours),
2. an oral presentation of the field experience that includes how the student accomplished the IH Track competencies through a combination of academic and professional activities, and
3. an oral examination at the end of the oral presentation, which is scheduled during the last term of study.

The student will complete a field experience (internship) either after they completed the minimum requirement stated above, or toward the end of their study, by working in a population-based program or project, preferably in an overseas site. During the field experience, the student will integrate their knowledge and skills learned and developed through the program, and apply them to the planning, implementation, or evaluation of health development program/project in any nation outside of USA or in an international settings (such as an international, regional or global program/project, which might include working for an NGO or ODA headquartered in the US), or for a minority population in the United States.

Upon completion of a field experience and all required course work, the student will participate in an integrated oral presentation/final oral examination. In the oral presentation/oral examination, the student will present her/his works accomplished during the field experience, how they accomplished the IH Track competencies through course works and various academic or professional activities. The presentation is followed by questions from an open audience (mainly faculty and students from IH Track) on the field experience. Following questions, the open session will move to a closed oral examination in which the three committee members will test the student on their comprehensive knowledge and skills relevant to the field experience and track competencies. The total time for oral presentation and oral examination will be 2 hours.

IH Track Competencies Measured in Field Experience

IH Track Competency No.1:

Identify, and relate knowledge of health, social, political, cultural, and environmental factors to the design and management of health and development programs.

[Measurement]

1. Field experience preceptor will evaluate the student's performance in program/project. The student will provide an evaluation form (See the OSU MPH Student General Handbook) to the preceptor. In the evaluation form, the student's ability to consider relevant health, social, political, cultural, and environmental factors in her/his tasks will be identified and evaluated by the preceptor.
2. During the oral presentation of the student's field experience and the final MPH oral examination, three faculty committee members will evaluate whether the student was competent in integrating these areas of knowledge in her/his field experience.

IH Track Competency No. 2:

Work in, and adapt to, any global context for health development.

[Measurement]

The preceptor will evaluate, using the evaluation form provided by the student, how well the student is adapting to the local context in her/his field experience.

IH Track Competency No. 3:

Integrate global, political, economic, and cultural systems knowledge into health development.

[Measurement]

1. Field experience preceptor will evaluate the student's performance in integrating global, political, economic, and cultural systems knowledge into her/his tasks, by using the evaluation form provided by the student.
2. During the oral presentation of the student's field experience and the final MPH oral examination, three faculty committee members will evaluate whether the student was competent in integrating these area of knowledge in her/his field experience. This evaluation will be carried out on both the internship presentation and internship written report.

IH Track Competency No. 4:

Develop a disciplinary specialty and integrate public health principles that can be applied in international health

[Measurement]

1. During the field experience, the preceptor will evaluate how well the student was able to use her/his chosen disciplinary knowledge and skills (e.g., epidemiology, or project management and evaluation) in her/his tasks.
2. During the MPH final oral examination, the three faculty committee members will test the student's knowledge and skill of her/his chosen discipline through comprehensive international health development questions that are related to the student's field experience.

IH Track Competency No. 5:

Manage health development programs in global settings.

[Measurement]

Field experience preceptor will evaluate the student's competency level in managing health development program/project.

IH Track Competency No. 6:

Develop knowledge and skills to identify culturally sensitive and social-economically appropriate strategies and programs in health development for any society.

[Measurement]

1. The preceptor will evaluate how well the student was able to identify culturally sensitive and social-economically appropriate strategies and programs in health development in her/his tasks.
2. During the oral presentation and the final MPH oral examination, the three faculty committee members will evaluate the student's knowledge and skills in identifying culturally sensitive and social-economically appropriate strategies and programs in health development through her/his presentation, her/his responses to questions, and the internship written report.

IH Track Competency No. 7:

Design and manage health development programs in accordance with international and local ethical standards.

[Measurement]

1. The preceptor will evaluate how well the student was able to design, manage, or evaluate health development program/project in accordance with international and local ethical standards.
2. During the field experience oral presentation and the MPH final oral examination, the three faculty committee members will evaluate the student's knowledge, attitude, and practice in health program/project management or evaluation, and whether the student meet the international and local ethical standards.



III. International Health Track Student Advising Sheet

**OSU Student Advising Sheet
International Health Track**

Student _____ **Today's Date** _____

Date Entered School _____ **Expected Graduation** _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

ID# _____

Oregon MPH Core Courses (16 credits)
Required Track Core Courses (16 credits)
Area of Focus in International Health (24 credits)
Total: 62 Credits

MPH Core Requirements (16)	Term	Grade
H 512 Environmental and Occupational Health (3 credits)		
H 525 Principles and Practices of Epidemiology (3 credits)		
H 524 Introduction to Biostatistics (4 credits)		
H 533 Health Systems Organization (3 credits)		
H 571 Principles of Health Behavior (3 credits)		
	Total	_____

Required International Health Track Core Courses (16 credits)	Term	Grade
International Health Courses (6 credits)		
H 529 International Health (3 credits)		
H 528 Global Health Issues (3 credits)		
Two of the following selective international health topics (6 credits)		
H 515 Research Methods (3 credits)		
H 526 Epidemiologic Methods (3 credits)		
H 538 Public and Private Health Insurance (3 credits)		
H 599 Health Development for Displaced Populations (3 credits)		

	Term	Grade
One of the following two courses in medical anthropology (4 credits)		
ANTH 574	Cross Cultural Health and Healing (4 credits)	
ANTH 583	Medical Anthropology (4 credits)	
		Total _____
Area of Focus in International Health (24 credits)		
	Term	Grade
1. Health Promotion		
2. Health Management and Policy		
3. Environmental Health and Occupational Safety		
4. Epidemiology		
5. Other area of focus developed with assistance of advisor		
		Total _____
H 510 Internship/Field Experience (6 credits)		
		Total _____
Program Total _____		

List Area of Focus courses:

Please note any special arrangements where course substitutes have been approved.
Provide details:



NOTES