



**International Health  
(IH)**

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

**2010-2011**





**2010-2011 OMPH International Health Track  
Student Handbook for Oregon State University  
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## 2010-2011 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 public 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 &amp; Presentation            H 512 Environmental and Occupational Health            H 525 Principles &amp; 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 public 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	
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Note: courses in **bold** are OMPH core courses.

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS International Health Track (62 credits)**

**MPH Core Courses (16 credits)**

- H525 Principles & Practices of Epidemiology (3 credits)
- H524 Introduction to Biostatistics (4 credits)
- H533 Health Systems Organization 3 credits)
- H512 Environmental and Occupational Health (3 credits)
- H571 Principles of Health Behavior (3 credits)

**International Health Track Required Courses (16 credits)**

*International Health Courses (6 credits)*

- H529 International Health (3 credits)
- H528 Global Health Issues (3 credits)

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

- ANTH574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing (4 credits)
- ANTH583 Medical Anthropology (4 credits)

*Two of the following selective international health topic (6 credits)*

- H515 Research Methods (3 credits)
- H526 Epidemiologic Methods (3 credits)
- H538 Public and Private Health Insurance (3 credits)
- H599 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)**

- H510 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	<b>H524</b> Introduction to Biostatistics <b>H525</b> Principles and Practice of Epidemiology <b>H533</b> Health Systems Organization  <i>Alternatives:</i> <b>H512</b> Environmental and Occupational Health <b>H571</b> Principles of Health Behavior ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology	H529 International Health H599 Health Development for Displaced Population (odd yrs) ANTH 574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing  <i>Highly recommend:</i> Elective courses in focus area	H528 Global Health Issues Elective courses in focus area	TBA
Second	<b>H512</b> Environmental and Occupational Health H515 Research Methodology in Health and Safety <b>H571</b> Principles of Health Behavior ANTH 583 Medical Anthropology		H510 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 Department for current course listings.*

**NOTE:**

1. This is not an exhaustive list of graduate courses in the Department of Public Health. Please check with your advisor about other elective courses in this department and in other departments.
2. If you plan to take your required internship during the Summer 2011, you must begin planning during Winter Term 2011.

## 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](mailto: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 for Health Promotion, Health Management and Policy, International Health, Environment, Safety & Health, Community & Public Health Nursing; Minimum 100 hours plus a practice-based report for Epidemiology/Biostatistics.

(Policy approved by OMPH Coordinating Council and Track Coordinators Committee 2-1-05; revision approved 6/11/08)

## E. IH Minimum Standards for Field Experience

### 1. Credit hours of field experience

- A minimum of 6 credit hours (200 field hours) is required.
- Students should undertake their field experience after they have completed a minimum of 32 credit hours of course work, including a minimum of 15 credit hours of course work from International Health Track core courses.
- International internship is strongly encouraged. If a student chooses to do her/his internship in domestic field, such 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 her/his internship, she/he 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 internship, understanding that the maximum she/he can put internship credit hours in the Graduate Program is 12. At the same time, there is no limit to how many credit hours a student can register for internship.

## **2. Type of organization for field experience**

Students may choose her/his field experience from the following organizations:

- International supra-governmental organizations (e.g., WHO, UNICEF, World Bank, IMF, WTO, UNISCO, PAHO, etc.).
- NGOs that have programs/projects related to international health development (e.g., Mercy Corp, Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières [MSF, Doctors without Borders], Oxfam, etc.).
- Governmental international health development agencies (e.g., USAID, CIDA, SIDA, JICA, etc.)
- Academic institutions' health development programs/projects (e.g., USFQ community health projects).
- U.S., 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 that are responsible for their domestic health development, such as the ministry of health in another nation.
- NGOs that focus on domestic minority population health development.
- Other organizations that are approved by the IH Track faculty.

## **3. Contents and focus of field experience**

Students' field experience must be community or population based, preferably in a foreign nation or in an international or global settings. If a student chooses to do her/his field experience in domestic settings, the focus of her/his tasks must be addressing a minority population, not the general population.

During the field experience, the students should be participating 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 taking on a field experience, a student must seek the approval of her/his academic advisor and the preceptor of the organization that is sponsoring the field experience.
- A Field Experience Approval form must be signed by the student's advisor, preceptor, and the student.

#### **5. Evaluation of field experience**

- Student's field experience and expected competencies will be evaluated by both preceptor and her/his three faculty committee members.
- The preceptor will be responsible for supervising and mentoring the student throughout her/his field experience.
- 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 her/his 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.
- At the completion of field experience, the student will present her/his experience to an open forum that includes other students, faculty members, and her/his three faculty committee members, followed by open questions. This open presentation is part of the evaluation for the student's competencies.

#### **6. Health and safety precautions**

- Prior to international internship, students should contact the preceptor to inquire about any health or safety concerns, and assess any potential risks with her/his advisor.
- Prior to international internship, students should acquire all necessary immunizations and prophylactics.
- It is the student's responsibility to apply for the necessary visa and other documents required by the host nation prior to departure.
- Students are strongly recommended to report to the U.S. Embassy or consulate in the host country shortly after arrival. This is to ensure that in case of natural or human-made disasters or risks, the U.S. Embassy may inform the student, or assist in evacuation.
- Students are required to obey the host nation's law, and be respectful to local culture.
- Students are encouraged to purchase travel insurance or make necessary arrangements with their health insurance providers prior to departure.
- During internship in the field, students should maintain a regular contact with their advisor.
- Should any emergency occur, students should contact the U.S. Embassy or consulate as soon as possible to seek assistance, and also inform the preceptor, advisor, and OSU Office of International Education.

## 7. Expenses of field experience

- All expenses of the student's field experience, from tuition, travel costs, living expenses, insurance, to 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

- For the 6 IH Track competencies, 3 faculty committee members will use a 3-level scale of "Exceed – Meet – Below" competency to evaluate the students during her/his internship, oral presentation and MPH final oral examination.
- The minimum standard that all IH Track students must meet is to have at least 6 competencies in "Meet" level. In other words, students will be allowed to pass her/his MPH final examination with no more than one competency falling into "Below" 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:**

- Students should take their field experience after they have completed a minimum of 32 credit hours of coursework, including a minimum of 15 credit hours of International Health Track required courses.
- Students must submit a field experience approval form signed by the students' advisors.
- As part of their internship applications:
  - Students must develop individual learning competencies for the internship.
  - Students must describe how their area of specialization, internship, and career objectives are connected.
  - Students must describe how the practicum will offer opportunities to demonstrate International Health track competencies 1-7.
- 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 student's tasks must address a minority population.
- Students may choose from the following types of organization: International supra-governmental organizations, NGO's with programs related to international health development, governmental international health development agencies, academic institutions' health development programs or projects, domestic governmental agencies that address domestic minority population health, other nations' governmental agencies (e.g., Ministry of Health), or NGOs focusing on domestic minority population health development.
- Students must submit one copy of a mid-term report and one copy of a final report to their advisors for approval.

- In this final summary report, students must describe and evaluate the degree to which they accomplished their individual and Track learning competencies during their practica.
- Students will orally present their activities and respond to questions in an open forum, including three faculty members who will evaluate the student's demonstration of stated competencies.
- Preceptors will submit a competency assessment instrument provided in the field experience handbook, evaluating the student's performance of stated 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 field experience, and**
- 3. a comprehensive oral examination at the end of study.**

Students will complete a field experience (internship) toward the end of their study, by working in a population-based program or project, preferably in an overseas site. During this field experience, students 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 middle-income or low-income nation, or in a cross national settings (such as a cross-national, regional or global program/project), or for a minority population in the United States.

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

#### **IH Track Competencies Measured in Field Experience**

*NOTE: All IH Track Competency evaluations will be based on a 3-level scale: Exceed the competency, Meet the competency, and Below the competency.*

#### **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. Further, the IH Track will provide an evaluation form 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 area 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 IH Track, 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 IH Track.
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 with public health principles that can be applied in international public health**

***[Measurement]***

1. During the student's 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 student's MPH final oral examination, 3 faculty committee members will test the student's knowledge and skill of her/his chosen discipline through comprehensive international health development questions.

**IH Track Competency No. 5:  
Manage health development programs in global settings.**

**[Measurement]**

1. Field experience preceptor will evaluate the student's competency level in managing health development program/project.
2. During the student's field experience oral presentation and the final MPH oral examination, 3 faculty committee members will evaluate the student's competency in managing development program/project through her/his presentation and her/his responses to questions.

**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 student's field experience oral presentation and the final MPH oral examination, 3 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 Internship oral presentation and the MPH final oral examination, 3 faculty committee members will evaluate the student's knowledge, attitude, and practice in health program/project management or evaluation 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**

<b>MPH Core Requirements (16)</b>		Term	Grade
H512	Environmental and Occupational Health (3 credits)		
H525	Principles and Practices of Epidemiology (3 credits)		
H524	Introduction to Biostatistics (4 credits)		
H533	Health Systems Organization (3 credits)		
H571	Principles of Health Behavior (3 credits)		
		<b>Total</b>	_____

<b>Required International Health Track Core Courses (16 credits)</b>		Term	Grade
<b>International Health Courses (6 credits)</b>			
H529	International Health (3 credits)		
H528	Global Health Issues (3 credits)		
<b>Two of the following selective international health topics (6 credits)</b>			
H515	Research Methods (3 credits)		
H526	Epidemiologic Methods (3 credits)		
H538	Public and Private Health Insurance (3 credits)		
H599	Health Development for Displaced Populations (3 credits)		

<b>One of the following two courses in medical anthropology (4 credits)</b>	
ANTH574 Cross Cultural Health and Healing (4 credits)	
ANTH583 Medical Anthropology (4 credits)	
<b>Total</b> _____	
<b>Area of Focus in International Health (24 credits)</b>	
	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	
<b>Total</b> _____	
<b>H510 Internship/Field Experience (6 credits)</b>	
<b>Total</b> _____	

List Area of Focus courses:

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

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## NOTES