

MPH Context Certificate Roadmap:

Mental Health and Substance Use (MHSU)

For students matriculating in
Fall 2024/Spring 2025

Students must follow certificate requirements relative to the year/semester that they matriculated. Dual degree requirements differ from the roadmap. All Official requirements are in the Bulletin.

Integrated Core, Foundations, & Career Prep (16 units)

- Online course to be taken before classes begin:
- PH700 Foundations of Public Health (0)
- Develop a strong foundation in public health through the core courses:
- PH717 Quantitative Methods for Public Health (4)
 - PH718 Leadership and Management in Public Health (4)
 - PH719 Health Systems, Law, and Policy (4)
 - PH720 Individual, Community, and Population Health (4)
- Prepare for the Practicum and a career:
- PH746 Career PREP (0)

Functional Certificate Requirements (16 units)

- Students are required to complete one functional certificate (16 units unless otherwise indicated):
- Community Assessment, Program Design, Implementation, & Evaluation
 - Health Communication and Promotion
 - Environmental Health
 - Epidemiology and Biostatistics
 - Global Health Program Design, Monitoring, & Evaluation
 - Health Policy and Law
 - Healthcare Management (28)
 - Program Management
- A maximum of 4 units may fulfill requirements in any two certificates. These units do NOT count twice toward to the overall 48 units needed to graduate.

MHSU Certificate Requirements (12 units)

- Choose one required course*:
- SB780 Mental Health and Public Health: A Social and Behavioral Sciences Perspective (4)
 - SB785 Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use: People, Populations, and Policies (4)
- Note: Whichever option is not chosen can count as an elective
- Choose 8 credits of electives:
- SB730 Stress as a Public Health Problem (2)
 - SB832 Trauma, Trauma-Informed Care, Recovery & Resilience (4)
 - MC783 Substance Use Among Minoritized and Marginalized Populations (4) (4)
 - MC800 Preventing Mental Health Concerns: A Life Course Perspective (2)
 - LW854 Mental Health Law (4)
 - EP790 Mental Health Epidemiology (2)
 - PM758 Introduction to Mental Health Services (2)
 - PM785 Mental Health Advocacy (2)
 - PM795 Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Policy and Politics (4)
 - GH765 Global Mental Health (2)
- * There are no prerequisites for these courses beyond PH720.

Students must complete 48 units to earn an MPH degree.

Degree Progress via MyBU Student Portal is a useful tool to track your progress and plan your coursework.

MPH Practicum PH976 (240 hours; 0 units)

- Gain experience as a public health professional through a Practicum.
- Students can begin a Practicum after having completed at least 16 SPH units.
 - More information can be found at <https://www.bu.edu/sph/careers/for-students/practmenu/>
 - Questions? Contact sphpract@bu.edu

Integrated Learning Experience PH845 (0 units)

- Completed in final semester
- The ILE is tied to the functional certificate.
 - Students must be enrolled in, or have completed, the Practicum to be eligible for the ILE.
 - The Registrar will enroll a student in PH845 after their graduation application is reviewed.
 - One ILE is required per student.

Course Substitutions

There are no pre-approved Course Substitutions at this time.

Special Topics courses may count toward the MHSU Certificate at the discretion of the Certificate Director. Students will need to fill out a [Course Substitution Form](#).

Certificate Contacts

- Certificate Director:
Carol Dolan, cdolan@bu.edu
- Academic Program Administrator:
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