

UNTHSC School of Public Health

MS in Public Health Sciences – Health Behavior Research concentration

The Master of Science (MS) concentration in Health Behavior Research (36 credit hours) is designed for students who wish to pursue research careers in public health or other health related fields. By the end of the program, students will have a foundational understanding of multi-level health behavior theory, data analysis, quantitative and qualitative research methods, community needs assessment, program planning and evaluation, and the ability to communicate scientific information to lay and professional audiences. As the culminating experience of the program, students will write a discovery-based paper that meets current standards for publication in refereed journals. Graduates of the program will be prepared to apply to doctoral degree programs in health behavior research or to pursue research staff positions in health and medical centers, public health departments, governmental agencies, and the private sector.

Students in the M.S. degree program in Public Health Sciences are admitted in Fall Semesters as a cohort. Full-time enrollment is required and students are expected to graduate in five consecutive semesters. Students follow a weekly calendar of curricular and co-curricular activity that occupies 8-hour blocks of time, Monday through Friday.

MS – Health Behavior Research Concentration (cohort program completed in 5 consecutive semesters)

Courses	Credit Hours	Total Hours
Fall Semester		
BIOS 5300: Principles of Biostatistics	3	3
EPID 5300: Principles of Epidemiology	3	6
BACH 5300: Theoretical Foundations of Individual and Community Health	3	9
Spring Semester		
EPID 5313: Introduction to Data Management and Statistical Computing	3	12
EPID 5310: Intermediate Epidemiology	3	15
PHED 5391: Topics in Public Health – Public Health Concepts	3	18
Summer Semester		
Thesis Proposal Development	0	18
Fall Semester		
BACH 5340: Community Assessment and Program Planning	3	21
BACH 5324: Introduction to Health Disparities	3	24
BIOS 5310: Intermediate Biostatistics	3	27
Spring Semester		
BACH 5350: Community Health Program Evaluation	3	30
BACH 6310: Qualitative Research Methods	3	33
BACH 5395: Thesis (discovery-based paper)	3	36