CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

CPH 529 - Capstone Experience:

The capstone addresses a topic of public health significance and is evidence that the student can integrate skills and competencies from across the curriculum to conduct public health research and/or practice. Approval of the final capstone report constitutes an assessment that the student is prepared to enter public health practice.

Students work with a faculty advisor (Capstone Chair) and committee to select foundational and concentration competencies to design a capstone experience appropriate to their educational and professional goals. Capstone planning typically begins halfway through the program of study as the capstone proposal must be approved prior to registering for CPH 529 Capstone Experience (3 credit hours).

Requirements for completion of the capstone experience include: (1) a formal written proposal, (2) a written report, and (3) an oral presentation and defense of the completed project. Students complete the written report and presentation as part of CPH 529 Capstone Experience for MPH Students in the final term of enrollment.

Examples of types of capstone projects include: systematic literature review, research report, program planning report, program evaluation report, training manual, policy statement, and legislative testimony with accompanying supporting research. Other written formats are acceptable with the approval of the student’s advisory committee and the Director of Masters Programs. Students who work full-time can conduct a project in addition to their regular employment role and responsibilities at their place of employment to satisfy capstone requirements.

The capstone is the culminating experience of the MPH degree and meets requirements of the national accrediting body in public health, the Council on Education for Public Health for an integrative learning experience.