HEALTH PROMOTION & DISEASE PREVENTION RESEARCH (PHD)

Overview

Graduate Committee
Dr. Melissa Tibbits (Chair & Graduate Program Director), Dr. Armando De Alba Rosales, Dr. Lea Pounds, and Dr. Shireen Rajaram.

The PhD in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research provides students with the training necessary to become skilled research scientists who will have a significant impact on the health of the population by thinking critically and integratively about complex public health problems and applying scientific rigor to the design and evaluation of health promotion and disease prevention research and programs. The program is housed in the College of Public Health Department of Health Promotion, Social & Behavioral Health, where students have the opportunity to pursue research involving epidemiological, intervention, evaluation, and dissemination studies, using qualitative, quantitative, and/or systems tools. Graduates of the program will be prepared for careers as scientists in government and private research agencies, as faculty in colleges and universities, and as leaders in public health.

Admission

In addition to the standard admission requirements established by UNMC Graduate Studies, potential PhD students in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research must hold a master’s or other advanced degree, although exceptional students with a bachelor’s degree background will be considered. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.50 on a 4.00 scale GPA for all graduate coursework. At least two of the three letters of recommendation should be from faculty members in the applicant’s previous academic program. Applicants must also establish a potential faculty sponsor and should name the faculty sponsor in the statement of intent.

Curriculum

Coursework

Students pursuing the PhD degree in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research are required to complete the courses listed below. All coursework (except HPRO 999) must be completed prior to starting the dissertation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HPRO 901</td>
<td>ADVANCED THEORIES IN HEALTH PROMOTION &amp; DISEASE PREVENTION *</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPRO 902</td>
<td>COMPLEX SYSTEMS THINKING *</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPRO 915</td>
<td>APPLICATIONS OF THE CBPR APPROACH *</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPRO 916</td>
<td>IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE MODELS AND METHODS *</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPRO 917</td>
<td>ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTH PROMOTION DISEASE PREVENTION STUDY DESIGN</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPRO 996</td>
<td>DIRECTED READINGS AND RESEARCH *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPRO 970</td>
<td>SEMINAR</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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HPRO 925 SCIENTIFIC WRITING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH 3
BIOS 808 BIOSTATISTICS II * 3
Selectives (Minimum 6 Credits) 6
HPRO 910 HUMANISTIC TRADITIONS OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH * 3
HPRO 903 MIXED METHODS RESEARCH * 3
BIOS 835 DESIGN OF MEDICAL HEALTH STUDIES * 3
EPI 837 SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY * 3
Electives (15 credits) 15

At least 9 of these credits must be at the 900 level; HPRO 996 can be taken up to an additional 6 credit hours

Dissertation

HPRO 999 DOCTORAL DISSERTATION (12 credits) 12

College of Public Health Required Course

HPRO 830 FOUNDATIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH (Required for students who have not completed an MPH or taken a foundational course at a CEPH-accredited institution.) * 3

Each Student and his/her Supervisory Committee will determine the appropriate elective courses

Responsible Conduct in Research (RCR)/Ethics Training

*indicates course must be completed prior to Comprehensive Exam

Students entering the PhD program without a master’s degree must complete an additional 27 credit hours of coursework: HPRO 830, EPI 820, BIOS 806, HPRO 895, HPRO 814, HPRO 827, HPRO 860, HPRO 805, and HPRO 809.