DrPH Competencies
Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences

Core Competencies:

1. Explain the contributions of behavioral and social sciences to public health.
2. Describe health problems including their social, cultural, environmental and behavioral causes.
3. Assure that behavioral and social science theories and concepts are used in planning and evaluating public health programs.
4. Use behavioral science and health promotion methods in planning and evaluating public health programs.
5. Identify basic theories, concepts and models from a range of disciplines of social and behavioral sciences that are used in public health research and practice.
6. Identify the role of social and community factors in both the onset and solution of public health problems.
7. Recognize the causes of social and behavioral factors that affect the health of individuals and populations, including social justice and social inequalities.
8. Describe steps and procedures of planning social and behavioral interventions and policies.
9. Apply ethical principles to public health program planning, implementation, and evaluation.
10. Identify multiple targets and levels of intervention for social and behavioral science programs and/or policies (individual, family, network, organizational, community, policy, physical environment, and culture).
11. Identify individual, organizational, and community concerns, assets, resources, and deficits for social and behavioral science interventions.
12. Apply evidence-based approaches to develop and evaluate social and behavioral science interventions.
13. Advocate for social and behavioral science interventions and policies.
14. Identify critical stakeholders for planning, implementing and evaluating health promotion programs.
DrPH Competencies (Continued)
Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences

In addition to core competencies:

1. Involve the community in planning and executing research relevant to their needs and concerns.
2. Collect and analyze data regarding health and quality of life problems and concerns and factors that cause or contribute to the problems (behavioral, psychological, social, cultural, developmental and environmental factors).
3. Collect and analyze data regarding community resources and strengths.
4. Develop recommendations regarding community needs and resources pertaining to health programs.
5. Work with community stakeholders to evaluate programs and policy in terms of process, outcomes and cost effectiveness.
6. Conduct behavioral science, social science, and/or health promotion research using both qualitative and quantitative methods.
7. Recruit and collaborate with community members, organizations, resource persons and potential program participants in intervention planning and evaluation.
9. Develop program implementation and dissemination plans.
10. Diffuse effective programs through scientific publications, presentation and lay publications.
11. Manage and provide leadership for health promotion programs and wider public health activities.
12. Contribute to capacity in health promotion of students, staff and colleagues through training, consultation, mentoring and teamwork.