Healthcare Administration

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Program Codes:
20FS4060MHA
2PFS5394MHAAU (EMHA)
2PFS5394NDEU (EMHA Nondegree)

The School of Public Health (SPH), with support from the College of Business Administration (CBA), offers a two-year graduate program leading to the Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA). The Master of Healthcare Administration is a program designed for students who have chosen a management career in health services organizations such as hospitals, community-based ambulatory care centers, managed-care plans, the health supply chain, and long-term care providers. These students will receive an educational program that combines competence in management with an in-depth knowledge of the healthcare sector and of the management issues it faces. Required core courses emphasize accounting, economics, finance, human resources, strategic population-based planning, informatics, marketing, and management. Courses in CBA are an integral component of the MHA program. The program coordinates practical experience through the MHA Preceptorship with medical centers, hospitals, long-term care organizations, and ambulatory care centers.

In addition, SPH offers a two-year graduate program composed of 48 semester hours leading to the Executive Master of Healthcare Administration (EMHA). The Executive Master of Healthcare Administration is a program designed for professionals with extensive clinical experience or managerial healthcare experience who would like to pursue upper-level management careers in health services organizations such as hospitals, community-based ambulatory care centers, managed care plans, the health supply chain, physician group practices, and long-term care providers.

Admission and Degree Requirements

- Master of Healthcare Administration (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/public-health/hc-admin/mha)
- Executive Master of Healthcare Administration (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/public-health/hc-admin/clin-exec-mha)

HPA 400. Principles of Management in Public Health. 3 hours.
A detailed discussion of the conceptual and theoretical foundations to the principles of management with an emphasis on public health and health care settings. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Enrollment restricted to public health students; other graduate, professional and advanced undergraduate students admitted by consent as space permits. To obtain consent, see the SPH registrar.

HPA 402. Social Ethics and Public Health. 3 hours.
Application of ideas from philosophy, law, political science and economics to analyze the ethical basis of public health policies and programs.

HPA 403. U.S. Health Care System. 3 hours.
Overview of the U.S. healthcare system, including its evolution, utilization patterns, providers - human, institutional and organizational - financing, regulating, evaluating, and reforming.

HPA 404. Ethical Issues in Healthcare Policy and Management. 3 hours.
Designed to provide students with an overview of some of the most debated and difficult ethical issues that arise in the healthcare industry. Course Information: This will be a blended course. Combined synchronous online delivery and on site classroom delivery. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the department.

HPA 405. Leadership in Public Health Practice. 3 hours.
Utilizing public health core functions, this course explores leadership style and practice through case studies and techniques which enhance leadership development. Course Information: Same as CHSC 405. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; or approval of the department.

Designed to provide the student with the core public health and emergency management practices and principles to prepare for and execute emergency management and business continuity planning and operations. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; or consent of the instructor.

HPA 408. Health Organizational Leadership. 3 hours.
Examines the roles, responsibilities, and impact of leaders of organizations in the health industry. Critical structures and techniques of effective organizational leaders are taught.

HPA 410. Health Organizational Leadership. 3 hours.
Examines the roles, responsibilities, and impact of leaders of organizations in the health industry. Critical structures and techniques of effective organizational leaders are taught.

HPA 412. Comparative Health Systems: Global Perspective. 3 hours.
International health care systems will be analyzed from the perspective of their operational, policy and local health delivery systems. A comparative analysis of these global health systems will then be made to the health care system within the US. Prerequisite(s): IHPS 410.

HPA 415. Introduction to Public Health Policy. 3 hours.
Provides an overview of all aspects of the public health policymaking process at the federal level with understanding, examples, and applications of topics at the state and local levels. Course Information: Credit is not given for HPA 415 if the student has credit in HPA 430. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

HPA 417. Quality Management in Health Services. 3 hours.
Surveys development of quality management and theoretical basics and diverse perspectives of quality management and regulation. Presents relevant research and management methodologies.

HPA 419. Public Health Foundations. 3 hours.
Students will be introduced to key public health concepts, the history of public health and how the core areas of public health can be integrated to promote health at population level. Prerequisite(s): BSTT 400.
HPA 420. US Health Care System for Public Health Practitioners. 3 hours.
Introduces students to characteristics of the U.S. health care systems; healthcare organizations, financing, and delivery of services. Course Information: Credit is not given for HPA 420 if student has credit in HPA 403. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

Develops the core human resources competencies needed to effectively manage and lead healthcare delivery organizations. Examines general human resources topics, applied within the healthcare delivery setting.

HPA 429. Introduction to Health Services Research. 2 hours.
Introduction to health services research using classic studies and current trends which examine access, cost, quality, and organization of health care. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 400.

HPA 430. Introduction to Health Policy. 3 hours.
Explores the multiple influences on public health policy, such as politics and cultural and societal norms, and the impact that policy has had on population health. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department. Credit will not be given for HPA 430 if student has credit in HPA 415.

HPA 431. Public Health Law and Ethics. 3 hours.
Provides a dynamic approach to learning about public health law, the relationship between law and the public’s health, and will examine the ethical underpinnings and context of public health practice. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

HPA 432. Public Health Policy and Practice. 3 hours.
Designed to provide prospective public health policy professionals strategies for collecting, analyzing, assimilating and delivering pertinent health policy information to policy makers, stakeholders, and other interested parties. Course Information: Credit is not given for HPA 432 if the student has credit for HPA 430 prior to Spring 2015. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

HPA 434. Law and the Health Care System. 3 hours.
Survey of legal topics important to the management of health care organizations. They include: relationships among the parties involved in the delivery of health care and the law of business organizations. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing and approval of the department.

HPA 435. Argumentation and Negotiation in Public Health. 3 hours.
Equips the graduate student in public health who is studying leadership and policy development with the knowledge and practical skills to be an effective advocate, through concentration on critical reasoning, argumentation and negotiation.

HPA 436. GIS for Environmental and Public Health Professionals. 4 hours.
Aims to promote a critical understanding of the basic practices and techniques associated with GIS applications in the environmental and public health areas. Course Information: Same as EOHS 436. Online course. Prerequisite(s): Students outside of EOHS must seek consent of the instructor. Corequisites: EOHS 475 / HPA 480. Recommended background: Computer skills (knowledge of Excel is a minimum) and a strong quantitative background. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture-Discussion and one Practice.

HPA 437. Health Policy and Politics. 3 hours.
Health policy including economic implications is analyzed, applied, and evaluated from a comprehensive understanding of the state of the US healthcare system. Course Information: This is a blended course. Combined synchronous online delivery and on site classroom delivery. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the department.

HPA 443. Health Planning Concepts and Practice. 3 hours.
Explores models of health planning used in assessing community health and within public health organizations. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 400. Recommended background: Credit or concurrent registration in EPID 400 or EPID 403.

HPA 444. Strategic Planning and Budgeting. 3 hours.
Strategic planning within organizations, with constituencies and stakeholders. Introduces management control function, its activities, structure, process, and consequences, including quality measures and performance evaluation. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 400.

HPA 445. Organizational Leadership in Public Health. 3 hours.
Examines classic and contemporary leadership theory and practice as applied to the diverse organizational, systems and community settings in which public health leaders function. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 400.

HPA 446. Public Health Resource Management: Methods, Ethics and Policy. 3 hours.
Equips students to analyze, evaluate and address the relationships among budgets, resources, forces of change, and organizational and professional values as they pertain to managerial choices and decisions. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 400.

HPA 4450. Public Health Informatics Certificate Integrative Paper. 0 hours.
Student will develop an integrative paper that will synthesize and apply the knowledge acquired from the program to address a public health informatics problem. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465 and HPA 481 and HPA 563 and HPA 564 and HPA 565. Students must register for the integrative paper during the last semester of enrollment in the campus certificate program.

HPA 451. Health Care Finance I. 3 hours.
Examines practical aspects of finance in health care and recent developments in financial management of health care organizations, and applications of financial management techniques to specific problems facing health care managers. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing and approval of the department.

HPA 455. Geographic Information Systems Integrative Project. 2 hours.
The integrative project aims to demonstrate a comprehensive mastery of the course materials, database theories, and GIS techniques by pursuing a project resembling those encountered by public health. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Taught Online. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.
HPA 458. Managerial Epidemiology. 3 hours.
Applies principles and tools of epidemiology, explore distribution and determinants of disease, and synthesize this knowledge with the management of health service organizations, hospitals, health care plans and physicians practices. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Approval of the department.

HPA 459. Introduction to Health Inequities in the United States. 3 hours.
Introduction to the origins, evolution and debates surrounding “disparities” in health. Through readings, discussions and lectures participants will be exposed to debates about health inequities in the US and how they might be eliminated. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and consent of the instructor. Students in the Health Disparities Research Certificate will be given first priority for the online section of this course.

HPA 460. Introduction to the Economics of Health and Healthcare. 3 hours.
Examines health, the health care sector, and healthy policy issues using economic theoretical frameworks and empirical evidence. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

HPA 461. Information and Decision Support Systems for Healthcare Administration. 3 hours.
Introduces students to the role of information systems in healthcare and public health practices, the use of information systems for management control; information systems project evaluation, information technology personnel.

HPA 462. Quantitative Methods in Health Disparities Research. 4 hours.
Students will learn concepts and quantitative research methods in US health disparities with a focus on local Chicago data. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): At least one graduate level course in biostatistics or equivalent experience and graduate or professional standing or consent of the instructor. Students in the Health Disparities Research Certificate will be given first priority for the online section of this course. Recommended background: Knowledge of a statistical program. Priority will be given to students enrolled in the Health Disparities Research Certificate Program.

HPA 463. Managerial Health Economics. 3 hours.
Uses managerial economics to study health care system; demand for medical services; role of health insurance; productivity/cost measurement; labor markets and competition. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 400 or consent of the instructor.

HPA 464. Sociocultural Dimensions of Health Disparities Research. 3 hours.
Addresses a range of measurement issues and additional concepts that are important when conceptualizing, planning, and conducting health disparities research. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and consent of the instructor. Students in the Health Disparities Research Campus Certificate will be given first priority for the online section of this course. Recommended background: HPA 459.

HPA 465. Health Information and Decision Support Systems. 4 hours.
Introduction to computer assisted management information and decision systems in health organizations: analysis and design of databases; data and information flow; reports; and uses microcomputers. This is an online course.

HPA 466. Critical Infrastructure and Resource Protection Planning. 3 hours.
Introduces students to analysis and tools to identify critical private and public sector infrastructure and optimal protection strategies. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the department.

HPA 468. HPA MPH Capstone Experience. 1 hour.
An individual project in public health directed toward the MPH capstone experience which is required for the degree in health policy and administration.

HPA 469. Evidence Based Policy Development and Implementation: Health Disparity Case Studies. 3 hours.
This case study based course focuses on the development, implementation and evaluation of health policy that aims to reduce health disparities in the US. Emphasizes systematic public policy approaches to address health disparity issues. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and consent of the instructor and completion of at least one graduate level course in health disparities. Students in the Health Disparities Research Campus Certificate will be given first priority for the online section of this course. Recommended background: Advanced master's level or concurrent doctoral level work in health policy, policy analysis and health disparity course work offered in the Health Disparities Research Certificate.

HPA 470. Quantitative Methods for Healthcare Managers. 3 hours.
Provides an understanding of how to use data analytics and other quantitative methods to facilitate healthcare decision making. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): BSTT 400; and approval of the department.

HPA 472. Clinical Research Methods I. 4 hours.
Introduces experimental and quasi-experimental study designs and descriptive statistics. Course Information: Online course. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department.

HPA 473. Clinical Research Methods II. 4 hours.
Introduces OLS multivariate regression models, its assumptions, interpretation of outputs and departures, and surveys more advanced multivariate regression models. Course Information: Online course. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): HPA 472; and graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department.

HPA 475. Contexts for Clinical Research. 3 hours.
Provides an overview of the healthcare system, epidemiological and research subject protections contexts for clinical research. Course Information: Online course. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department.

HPA 477. Data Collection and Management for Clinical Research. 3 hours.
Provides basic statistical computing and data management concepts, an overview of qualitative research techniques, and a survey of survey design from sampling strategies to data collection, item and measure development and survey analysis. Course Information: Online course. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): HPA 472; and graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department.

HPA 479. Evaluating Clinical Interventions. 3 hours.
Introduces the major approaches used to evaluate clinical interventions. Course Information: Online course. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): HPA 472; and graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department.
HPA 480. Health Related Database Design and Analysis. 4 hours.
Introduces students to the design and analysis of health related relational and spatial databases. Course Information: Same as EOHS 475. Extensive computer use required. Taught online only. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Recommended Background: Strong quantitative background recommended.

HPA 481. Development of Public Health Surveillance Information Systems. 3 hours.
Examination of the process and methods of designing and evaluating public health information surveillance systems. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465.

HPA 483. Management of Communication Systems for Public Health Informatics Applications. 4 hours.
Focuses on the examination and management of current information communication systems and their applications in public health informatics. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465.

HPA 485. Legal and Ethical Issues in Public Health Informatics. 3 hours.
Examination of the legal and ethical issues involved in the use of health related information in public health. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465.

HPA 486. Survey of Public Health Information Systems. 4 hours.
Focuses on survey of various public health information systems with respect to their functionalities, planning, design, development, sustainability, interoperability, and management. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465; and consent of the instructor.

HPA 487. Public Health Informatics Methods. 3 hours.
Course summarizes the three major methodological approaches for accessing and managing health information: Web-based information systems, data mining, and geographic information systems (GIS). Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465; and consent of the instructor.

HPA 488. Public Health Information Systems Evaluation and Project Management. 3 hours.
Introduces students to the fundamental principles of information systems project evaluation and project management, with specific references to public health practice. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. This is an online course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465; and consent of the instructor.

HPA 490. Topics in Healthcare Leadership. 1 hour.
Provides students with a series of explorations of various leadership specialty areas within the delivery of healthcare. The specific demands and skill of each will be covered. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

HPA 491. Professional Development. 1 hour.
Students will be taught the professional skills and develop the emotional intelligence necessary to work effectively in a team-based business environment.

HPA 494. Introductory Special Topics in Health Policy and Administration. 1-4 hours.
Introductory topics in health administration, policy analysis, health care financing, cost-effectiveness evaluation. Topics vary by semesters.
HPA 516. Health Personnel Management. 3 hours.
Health personnel policies and programs, human resources requirements, recruitment, development, performance appraisal, salary and wage administration, and management/labor relations in the health industry. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 400 and consent of the instructor.

HPA 522. Public Health Research Design and Methods. 3 hours.
Graduate level quantitative research methods course. Utilizes social science research methods with an emphasis on experimental and quasi-experimental research designs in the study of methodologically sound public health research investigations. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): BSTT 400.

HPA 525. Population Based Healthcare Services Planning. 3 hours.
Examines the roles that health care delivery organizations can play, and methodologies used, in developing programs specific to the needs of the community they serve. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 403 and HPA 410 and HPA 495.

HPA 526. Leadership and Diversity in Clinical Research. 2 hours.
Graduate level course designed to provide researchers with the leadership and team science skills and knowledge needed to conduct culturally competent and sensitive research and to effectively consider and engage communities in research. Course Information: Taught online. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the department.

HPA 527. Critical Issues in Long Term Care Policy. 3 hours.
Examines the policy process and policy implications affecting the organization, financing, delivery, and utilization of long-term care services. Course Information: Same as CHSC 527. Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in CHSC 400 and CHSC 425; and graduate or professional standing; or consent of the instructor.

HPA 534. Research Design and Grant Writing. 2 hours.
Introduction to the skills necessary to plan a research project and write a research grant proposal using a systematic approach. Course Information: Same as MHPE 534. Previously listed as MHPE 431. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department.

HPA 535. Translating Research into Practice. 3 hours.
Current theory and practical reality related to the adoption and use of new scientific findings in patient care. The influence of research on public policy. Course Information: Same as MHPE 535. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Graduate or professional standing; and approval of the department.

HPA 541. Strategic Management of Healthcare Organizations. 3 hours.
Introduction to strategic analysis for healthcare organizations. Topics include: Health care competition, entrepreneurship, technology and innovation, multi-constituent environment, and human resources. Course Information: Previously listed as HPA 441. Prerequisite(s): HPA 551; graduate standing and approval of the department.

HPA 551. Marketing Health Programs. 3 hours.
Concepts of marketing as a management tool; application of marketing to health care: the marketing process, marketing resources, and strategies for accomplishing marketing objectives. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 400 or MKTG 563 or consent of the instructor.

HPA 552. Healthcare Finance II. 3 hours.
Builds on the topics introduced in HPA 451. Specific emphasis will be placed on understanding project risk assessment, capital investments, debt, equity and lease financing and developing a long range strategic plan. Course Information: Previously listed as HPA 452. Prerequisite(s): HPA 451 and ACTG 510.

HPA 556. U.S. Mental Health Policy. 2 hours.
Public policies which have supported the U.S. mental health service system from 1946 to the present. Theory, development, and evaluation of mental health policy in the US. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 400 and HPA 430 and either EPID 400 or BSTT 400.

HPA 557. Measurement in Health Services Research. 3 hours.
Presents measurement, reliability and validity theory and assessment using correlation, internal consistency, factor analysis and others. Application in developing, analyzing, and reporting behavioral and/or organizational measures. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): BSTT 400 and BSTT 401; or consent of the instructor.

HPA 563. Web-Based Public Health Information Systems. 4 hours.
Examination of web based applications in public health practice and factors in the design of web based public health education and database systems. This is an on-line course. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): HPA 465; and consent of the instructor. Unless otherwise permitted, limited to students in the public health informatics track of HPA.

HPA 564. Geographic Information System Application in Public Health. 3 hours.
Advanced level GIS course to promote critical understanding of the major practices associated with GIS in the many applications areas found in public health. Course Information: Same as HPA 564. Extensive computer use required. This is an on-line course. Prerequisite(s): HPA 465 or HPA 436 or EOHS 436; and consent of the instructor.

HPA 565. Datamining Applications in Public Health. 3 hours.
Presents the key public health information system sources, describes the process of datamining and introduces the student to a sample of datamining techniques. Course Information: Same as EOHS 565. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): BSTT 400.

HPA 567. Health Policy Analysis. 3 hours.
Enables students to conduct an in-depth, evidence-based public health policy analysis within an economic and public policy frame. Focus will be on public health policy analyses conducted by government and non-government organizations. Course Information: Previously listed as HPA 467. Credit is not given for HPA 567 if the student has credit in HPA 467. Prerequisite(s): HPA 460 or HPA 463; and HPA 415 or HPA 430; and approval of the department.

HPA 573. Principles of Economic Evaluations of Health Care Interventions. 3 hours.
Principles, models and practical methods for the economic evaluation of health care services with an emphasis on pharmaceutical care. Course Information: Same as PSOP 573. Extensive computer use required. Course offered online, in person, or via distance education. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

HPA 590. Grant Writing. 1 hour.
Students will learn how to write a grant application through the guidance of a mentoring committee. They will formulate a research proposal which will be presented to a panel of researchers who will critique the proposed study.
HPA 591. Grant Writing for New Investigators. 3 hours.
Fosters grant writing skills, and helps students learn the mechanics
of an NIH grant application, particularly K awards, and how to peer
review applications. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the
instructor. MS in Clinical and Translational Science students are expected
to have completed the required coursework for the program and to have
made significant progress in their research project.

HPA 592. Spatial Data Analysis and Visualization. 4 hours.
Application of spatial analysis techniques to visualize patterns,
distributions, relationships of public health related data emphasizing
their advantages and limitations. Course Information: Prerequisite(s):
Credit or concurrent registration in HPA 564; or consent of the instructor.
Recommended background: basic statistics and ordinary least squares
regression.

HPA 593. Social Vulnerability Analysis. 4 hours.
Study of advanced level social vulnerability analysis techniques and
their application for the protection of communities. Course Information:
Extensive computer use required. Taught online. Prerequisite(s):
HPA 436; and consent of the instructor. Recommended background:
Introductory GIS and quantitative skills.

HPA 594. Advanced Special Topics in Health Policy and
Administration. 1-4 hours.
Advanced topics in health administration, policy analysis, health care
financing, cost-effectiveness evaluation. Topics vary by semester. Course
Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.