Welcome

The Department of Public Health is home to individuals, faculty, and students, all of who are passionate about improving human health and protecting public health.

Our mission

Working together to improve the health of the San Francisco Bay Area, California, and beyond through teaching, research, and service.

Our approach

We emphasize a hands-on approach to the field through problem-based learning (PBL) that emphasizes both theory and practice. PBL emphasizes learning through solving complex real-world problems. Instead of only traditional coursework, we also emphasize problem-solving together as teams. Our capstone course gives students an opportunity to work with community partners on a public health issue bringing together faculty, students, communities, and public health professionals to learn together and to improve the health of California. We complement this with substantive coursework encompassing major disciplines in public health, such as epidemiology, environmental health, & social determinants in the health care system.

Our program also requires courses in health humanities, bioethics, and law that emphasize that health is more than simply a science. These courses give students the tools they need to grapple with complex questions of values and equity that face us in understanding health.

Contact Us!

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Please scan the QR code for more information:
The **Department of Public Health** emphasizes public health, health policy, and environmental health.

Rooted in principles of solidarity, health equity, and social justice, the program values an interdisciplinary approach that emphasizes teamwork, problem solving, adaptability, ethics and strong evidence-based practice.

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### The Curriculum

**Public Health**

Students can pursue a general Health Sciences degree or can choose to have a concentration in public health or health policy.

**Health Policy**

The health policy concentration emphasizes the law, policy, governance, and politics of the health care and public health system.

**General**

The general degree in Health Sciences can be configured to fit the interest of the student and is a good choice if you are preparing for a clinical career.

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### Our Students

Our students are driven to improve the health of their communities and California. They are preparing for careers in fields such as medicine, nursing, law, governmental and non-governmental public health, community health, health education, program planning & evaluation, environmental health, and applied health research. Our students are given a strong population perspective and learn to see the health issues facing our communities in the contexts of health disparities and their social determinants, including the role of climate change.

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### Our Faculty

Our faculty are scholars with backgrounds in epidemiology, community health, law, political science, biology, public health, psychology, literature, and ethics.

They are committed educators and researchers bringing real-world issues into the classroom. Our faculty also work with students as mentors and involve students in their scholarly projects.