Infectious diseases are at the root of some of the world’s most pressing public health issues. The Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology (IDM) in the Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh has a long and distinguished history as a leader in graduate education, cutting-edge research, community intervention, and health provider education in infectious diseases. A major component of our mission involves training the next generation of scientists and public health professionals to join in the effort to reduce the impact of infectious diseases worldwide. Our department’s extensive research, community intervention, education, and training programs provide you with a dynamic educational experience needed to achieve your professional goals.

**IDM GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

We have a commitment to high-quality graduate education that is consistent with our leading research and our behavioral health and community education programs. Drawing on the disciplines of molecular biology, immunology, epidemiology, medicine, health education, and community intervention, our graduate programs encourage students to engage in cross-disciplinary research of multiple aspects of infectious diseases.

Graduates are prepared for careers in academia, industry, government, and community service sectors, and IDM alumni have obtained professional positions with prestigious employers in the US and worldwide. Examples include the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state and local health departments, pharmaceutical companies, hospitals, and research academic institutions.

**PROGRAMS OFFERED:**

- PhD program
- MS program
- MPH program with two concentrations:
  - Infectious Disease Management, Intervention and Community Practice (MIC)
  - Infectious Disease Pathogenesis, Eradication and Laboratory Practice (PEL)
I am very proud of our 60 year legacy of over 350 alumni. Many of them have made substantial improvements to the public health of our nation and the world. We truly are a small department with a big degree.”

- Charles Rinaldo, Jr., PhD, IDM Chair

IDM provides a mix of hard sciences and public health, as compared to infectious diseases departments that are housed in medical schools. Information that we generate in the lab has direct effects on public health projects and programs at GSPH, Allegheny County, and around the world.”

Julianne Baron, PhD ‘14

“I visited a few different schools when deciding where to complete my MPH. I chose IDM at Pitt because people care about you. My professors, advisors, other faculty, classmates, and staff all care how I’m doing in classes, about my success in school, and about my future in public health. Everyone looks out for each other.”

Emily Webster, MPH ‘13

PhD PROGRAM
PhD studies within IDM are both demanding and rewarding. It is designed for a broad spectrum of students, from recent undergraduates to experienced health care professionals. After initial coursework that emphasizes the fundamentals of pathogen biology and the host response to infection, our students conduct mentored research on the biologic and molecular mechanisms by which microorganisms infect hosts and cause disease.

Doctoral-level studies are a collaborative undertaking among students, their faculty advisor, and research team. Our PhD program encourages students to develop their own research ideas and interests within the framework of their advisor’s research laboratory. Early in their doctoral studies, IDM students design a research plan and are encouraged to take on leadership roles in research-related areas such as conference presentations and manuscript preparation.

MS PROGRAM
The MS program has the same basic research emphasis as the PhD program, but it is more limited in its scope and length. It is geared toward recent undergraduates seeking basic research education in preparation for a position in industry, an academic or health care laboratory, or serve as a foundation for advancing to a doctoral or medical degree program. After a year of coursework that emphasizes the basic biology of infectious diseases and introduces the key concepts of public health, IDM MS students conduct a research project under the direct supervision of an IDM faculty member. At the end of this project, typically the end of the student’s second year, MS students write and defend a thesis based on their research.

With an MS from IDM, you will be well prepared for your future career. Your ability to conduct scientific research will not only be a valuable asset to many industrial, governmental, and academic employers, but it also demonstrates a desire to pursue higher degree programs.

MPH PROGRAM
The MPH program in IDM is based upon a blended academic model of science and practice that fosters scientific discovery shaped by a mission to improve public health. Applied scholarly public health practice is the cornerstone to conducting practice-based research and gaining new knowledge and evidence to develop effective community-based prevention and intervention programs and policies. This approach to public health education fosters leadership, practice, and research in infectious diseases. The MPH program is designed to meet a national and international demand, which has reached critical proportions, for a trained workforce in infectious diseases including emerging infections.

The MPH program provides students with opportunities for essential hands-on experience to augment classroom instruction. The program aims to educate students on the infectious disease characteristics, factors and issues which influence practice, research, services, and policies on a local, national and global level.

For more information about our graduate programs’ course work and requirements, please see the program specific brochures.
Our research and community education programs are well funded. IDM faculty have raised more than $150 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other government agencies over the past 10 years. Also, the Graduate School of Public Health consistently ranks in the top 5 schools of public health for NIH funding. Our research portfolio is extensive and combines laboratory research with community based education and intervention efforts. Current research includes:

**Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)**
Many IDM faculty members conduct research aimed at understanding the biology of HIV and the way in which HIV infection causes AIDS. Some of our current projects include:
- Mechanisms of sexual transmission of HIV
- Mechanisms of HIV pathogenesis
- Models of AIDS in nonhuman primates
- The Pitt Men’s Study on the natural history of HIV infection
- New experimental therapies for HIV infection
- Biomarker discovery in HIV infection

**Complications of Antiretroviral Therapy**
Investigators in the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study are working on several important complications that may arise from prolonged duration of HIV infection and toxicities of antiretroviral therapy:
- Dyslipidemia, particularly low HDL cholesterol and high LDL cholesterol
- The host genetic contribution to conditions such as lipoatrophy and lipohypertrophy, impaired glucose tolerance and frank diabetes mellitus
- Risk factors for the development of subclinical coronary atherosclerosis

**Microbicides & Immunotherapies Development**
Development of new tools and strategies are needed for the prevention of HIV-1 transmission and disease progression. IDM researchers are actively involved in several research projects in this area:
- Development of an anti-HIV microbicide that targets two unique sites of HIV-1 replication (entry and reverse transcription), through a controlled-release ring formulated product.
- Development of an immunotherapy against HIV that is based on loading dendritic cells with HIV products to mimic natural infection and stimulate an immune response.

"Understanding the community and working with the community to prevent the spread of disease is critically important. Understanding why some people don’t use condoms or are not willing to be vaccinated is an essential step that allows us to successfully move prevention from the lab to the field."

- Anthony Silvestre, PhD
Herpesviruses
These are DNA viruses that establish chronic infections and can lead to a number of diseases, especially in immunocompromised hosts. IDM faculty are currently engaged in research of:

- Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infection and disease
- Infection and immunopathogenesis of Kaposi’s sarcoma-associated virus, also known as human herpesvirus 8.

Hepatitis C
This virus is spread by blood-to-blood contact, and it is estimated that 150-200 million people worldwide now are infected with the Hepatitis C virus (HCV)--many of whom also are HIV-positive. Infection with HCV can cause chronic liver disease and liver cancer. IDM faculty are researching many aspects of HCV biology, including:

- Characterization of the human cellular proteins that interact with HCV
- The function of immune cells in individuals co-infected with HIV and HCV.

Emerging Infections
New, re-emerging, and drug-resistant infections pose some of the greatest current threats to public health. IDM researchers are developing new strategies aimed at increasing understanding of these diseases and finding suitable vaccines and treatments for diseases caused by microbes such as:

- Q fever bacterium
- SARS coronavirus
- Avian influenza virus
- Dengue virus

Clinical and Molecular Epidemiology
Interdisciplinary research is essential for developing and evaluating new, innovative approaches for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of infectious diseases. IDM faculty are involved in research into the following areas:

- Molecular epidemiology of bacterial pathogens
- Microbiological surveillance of bioterrorism agents
- Viral infections in organ transplant recipients

Genetic Basis of the Innate Immune Response
The innate immune response is the first line of defense against invading pathogens, and variation in the genes encoding innate response molecules influences the etiology of many infectious and inflammatory diseases. IDM faculty are researching many aspects of innate response genetics:

- Gene expression levels
- Copy-number variation
- Inflammatory diseases, such as pancreatitis, that arise from immune dysregulation

RESEARCH MILESTONES

- Many important viruses, such as Dengue virus types 3 and 4, Adeno-associated virus, and California encephalitis virus were discovered here in the 1950s and 1960s, and our researchers were the first to show that cytomegalovirus (CMV) was transmitted via organ transplantation.

- IDM faculty continued their world-leading research in HIV virology by showing in 1996 that viral load is the best predictor of HIV/AIDS disease progression, in work conducted as part of the Pitt Men’s Study/Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study.

- IDM continues to conduct leading research in microbiology, immunology, and virology by using the latest genomic, proteomic, and metabolomic methods to investigate viral, bacterial, and protozoal diseases.

- IDM faculty also are leaders in the field of HIV/AIDS education and training. We direct the Pennsylvania/Mid-Atlantic AIDS Education and Training Center, providing critical training to health care professionals and programs, and we also host the Pennsylvania Prevention Project, a statewide community-based HIV prevention and care plan.

Community-Based Research & Practice

Pennsylvania/MidAtlantic AIDS Education Training Center (AETC) and the AETC Telehealth Appalachian Project
This project conducts applied research and educational evaluation that documents the impact of education, training, and consultation to health professionals, health care clinics and programs. This research provides information that is critical to HIV prevention and treatment capacity building and assists in addressing unmet needs and disparities as well as planning for HIV service systems, state governments, and the region.

Pennsylvania Prevention Project (PPP)
Closely working with the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the CDC and HRSA, PPP helps develop and implement the state’s HIV prevention and care plan. IDM faculty and staff carry out needs assessments among HIV positive people and those at high risk of infection, facilitate community-involved HIV planning, and implement effective prevention and care programs.
DEGREE REQUIREMENT
Applicants must possess a bachelor’s degree (or higher) from an accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent degree from a foreign school with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0/4.0. Applicants must also have majored/focused in biology, chemistry, medicine, or other area related to public health. For more information on applicable majors, please consult the individual program brochures.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
All applicants must possess a minimum of 3 credits of college level algebra/statistics (or higher) and a minimum of 3 credits of college level biology with a “C” or better.

Additional course requirements for the MS & PhD programs:
- Minimum 3.0 combined GPA in biology, chemistry, math, biochemistry and/or molecular biology and/or immunology
- Relevant research experience in biochemistry, immunology, or molecular biology
- Chemistry, including organic chemistry with lab and biochemistry

Additional requirements for the MPH program:
- Minimum 6 credits of college level behavioral science, to include at least one course in sociology/social psychology, and an additional course in anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, or sociology

EXAM REQUIREMENT
The GRE exam is required for admission. Applicants should achieve a combined verbal and quantitative score of 300 and a writing score of 4.0. IDM also accepts the MCAT or DAT as a GRE substitute.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS
- All requirements listed above
- Applications must be submitted by the deadline
- TOEFL scores of at least 550 on the written exam/80 on the iBET or a minimum score of Band 6.5 on the IELTS
- All education completed outside the U.S. must be evaluated by the World Education Services (WES). Course-by-course evaluations are required and must be submitted directly to SOPHAS.
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

HOW TO APPLY
All degree-seeking applicants and non-degree applicants are required to apply through SOPHAS. Non-degree students may take up to 12 credits that transfer into a degree program. IDM only offers fall admission for all degree programs.

DEGREE-SEEKING APPLICANTS
APPLY: www.sophas.org
SOPHAS FAQ: http://www.sophas.org/Faq.cfm
Pitt Public Health FAQ: http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/home/prospective-students/admissions/how-to-apply/frequently-asked-questions

Application Requirements Submitted to SOPHAS
• SOPHAS application & fee
• Personal statement
  • Why are you interested in IDM, public health, and the degree program?
  • What are your professional goals in public health?
  • Mention any public health/research experience
• 3 letters of recommendation
• Official transcripts for ALL education in the U.S. sent by student’s institution(s)
• Official GRE scores to GSPH code 4234, with no department code
• Course-by-course WES evaluation for education outside of U.S. (if applicable)
• Official TOEFL scores code 5688 (if applicable)

NON-DEGREE APPLICANTS
APPLY: https://sophasexpress.unicas.com/applicant/login
Pitt Public Health FAQ: http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/home/prospective-students/academics/non-degree-option

Application Requirements
• Possess a US bachelor’s degree or the equivalent foreign degree
• SOPHAS application & $50 fee
• Official transcripts for ALL education in the US to Student Affairs - 114 Parran Hall
• Course-by-course WES evaluation for education outside of U.S. (if applicable)
• Official TOEFL scores code 5688 (if applicable)

Fall 2015 Application Deadline
January 15, 2015
DOCTORAL LEVEL STUDENTS
The department offers a comprehensive and competitive package to support doctoral students throughout their graduate careers including an annual stipend of about $25,000, health insurance, and a tuition waiver.

MASTER LEVEL STUDENTS
Financial aid resources include:
- Accelerated Degree Progress
- Financial Aid, Grants, & Scholarships
- External funding opportunities
- Student employment
- Loans

ACCELERATED DEGREE PROGRESS
Full-time IDM master’s degree students have the option to complete their degree program on an accelerated schedule for an early graduation and up to $20,000 savings! No separate application needed. Email idm@pitt.edu for more information or visit the program’s web pages: MS, MPH-PEL, or MPH-MIC.

FINANCIAL AID, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS
IDM will provide $1,000 - $3,000 first semester financial aid to the first 50% of accepted applicants that matriculate. IDM also has a limited number of partial tuition scholarships available to outstanding matriculated first year MS and MPH students. Students are also encouraged to visit the Pitt Public Health Grants & Scholarships web page to find a listing of grants and scholarships available. Applicants are encouraged to apply for scholarships prior to beginning their education.

EXTERNAL FUNDING
Available for students enrolled in public health programs, please explore options here. Some options include:
- American Heart Association
- American Association of University Women
- National Cancer Institute
- Fulbright-Hays
- Truman Foundation Scholarships

EMPLOYMENT
Students who want to secure employment within the School or University can locate positions through Pitt Bridges, networking with their academic advisor, contacting directors of Pitt Public Health’s research centers, and by utilizing the University’s listing of open employment positions.

LOANS
Information on Federal and State student loans is available on the University’s Admissions and Financial Aid website. For all students completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), please note that you also must complete the University of Pittsburgh’s Financial Aid Application Supplement (FAAS) available online. The FAAS form must be submitted by June 1 prior to the start of each new academic year to obtain loans for the fall semester. This form is to be completed, with the exception of section nine (9), and sent to the Admissions Manager, Office of Student Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, 130 DeSoto Street, 114 Parran Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15261.
WHERE CAN IDM TAKE YOU?

IDM and Pitt Public Health are dedicated to providing resources for students to find careers in public health. As a student, you will have access to workshops, programs, seminars, public health career database, and professional development opportunities through the school and department.

*Data self-reported or obtained from LinkedIn*
Our PhD program provides students with the opportunity to refine their research skills and gain leadership experience in an increasingly competitive career. Students graduate with the knowledge and experience needed for CDC and NIH postdoctoral fellowships, as well as for academic and non-academic positions at leading research institutions and companies.

University of Pittsburgh

Graduate School of Public Health
Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
A419F Crabtree Hall
130 DeSoto Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

Phone: 412-624-3331
E-mail: idm@pitt.edu
Website: http://www.idm.pitt.edu

Program Contacts:
Velpandi Ayyavoo, PhD
Professor
Assistant Chair
Director, IDM Graduate Programs
Director, PhD Program
404 Parran Hall
412-624-3070
velopandi@pitt.edu

M Meredith Mavero, M.Ed.
Student Services Coordinator
A419F Crabtree Hall
412-624-3331
mlm72@pitt.edu

To apply, you will need:
• SOPHAS application
• Official GRE scores to GSPH, code: 4234
• Official transcripts for completed degrees
• Personal statement
• Three letters of recommendation
• Official TOEFL scores to SOPHAS, code: 5688 (International applicants only)

Visit SOPHAS’ FAQ page:
http://www.sophas.org/Faq.cfm

All applications must be submitted online through SOPHAS, the Schools of Public Health Application Service: http://www.sophas.org.
Upon completion of the PhD program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the molecular biology of hosts and pathogens and how pathogenesis of infectious diseases evolves from the interactions of organisms on a molecular level.

2. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the mechanisms of innate and acquired immunity and the role of immune functions in health and disease.

3. Demonstrate an ability to analyze and interpret data from scientific publications in the field of molecular biology, microbiology, immunology, or infectious diseases.

4. Show an ability to think independently and demonstrate comprehensive knowledge in a specific area of microbiology related to the student’s dissertation work.

5. Conduct independent laboratory-based research leading to a first author publication in a professional peer-reviewed journal.

6. Write and defend the merits of a dissertation in a field of their research.
MS Program

The MS program in the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology provides students with a basic research education to prepare them for careers in industry, government, or academic institutions as microbiologists, analysts, or pharmaceutical sales.

Admission Materials

To apply, you will need:
- SOPHAS application
- Official GRE scores to GSPH, code: 4234
- Official transcripts for completed degrees
- Personal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official TOEFL scores to SOPHAS, code: 5688 (International applicants only)

Application Submission

All applications must be submitted online through SOPHAS, the Schools of Public Health Application Service: http://www.sophas.org.

Visit SOPHAS’ FAQ page: http://www.sophas.org/Faq.cfm

University of Pittsburgh

Graduate School of Public Health
Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
A419F Crabtree Hall
130 DeSoto Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

Phone: 412-624-3331
E-mail: idm@pitt.edu
Website: http://www.idm.pitt.edu

Program Contacts:
Todd Reinhart, ScD
Professor
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
Director, MS Program
606 Parran Hall
412-648-2341
reinhar@pitt.edu

Meredith Mavero, M.Ed.
Student Services Coordinator
A419F Crabtree Hall
412-624-3331
mlm72@pitt.edu

Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh
### Program Requirements
- 36 credits required
- Comprehensive exam
- Written thesis & defense

### Length of Program
- Full-time students complete the program in 2 years or less
- Part-time students complete the program in 3-4 years on average
- Many part-time students are technicians in Pitt research laboratories!

### Applicable Undergraduate Majors
- Biology & Microbiology
- Biological Sciences & Chemistry
- Pre-Med

### Career Possibilities
- Academic Institutions
- Governmental Agencies (NIH, CDC, FDA)
- Biotech/Pharmaceutical Industry
- Non-Profit Agencies
- Medical School
- Doctoral programs

### Required Courses
- IDM 2001 Molecular Biology of Microbial Pathogens
- IDM 2002 Molecular Virology
- IDM 2003 Host Response to Microbial Infection
- IDM 2021 Special Studies in Microbiology
- IDM 2023 Microbiology Laboratory
- IDM 2025 Microbiology Seminar
- IDM 2420 Experimental Virology
- EPIDEM 2110 Principles of Epidemiology
- EPIDEM 2161 Methods of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
- BOST 2041 Introduction to Statistical Methods I
- BOST 2042 Introduction to Statistical Methods II
- PUBHLT 2030 Research Ethics
- PUBHLT 2011 Essentials of Public Health
- PUBHLT 2022 Public Health Grand Rounds

### Competencies

**MS program graduates will be able to:**

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the molecular biology of hosts and pathogens and how the pathogenesis of infectious diseases evolves from the interactions of organisms on a molecular level.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the mechanisms of innate and acquired immunity and the role of immune functions in health and disease.
3. Demonstrate an ability to analyze and interpret data from scientific publications in the fields of molecular biology, microbiology, immunology, and infectious diseases.
4. Show an ability to think independently and demonstrate comprehensive knowledge in a specific area of microbiology related to the student’s thesis work.
5. Conduct relatively independent laboratory-based research.
University of Pittsburgh
Graduate School of Public Health
Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
A419F Crabtree Hall
130 DeSoto Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15261
Phone: 412-624-3331
E-mail: idm@pitt.edu
Website: http://www.idm.pitt.edu

Program Contacts:
Linda Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN
Associate Professor of Public Health, Medicine, & Nursing
Director, MPH-MIC Program
A427 Crabtree Hall
412-624-9118
frankie@pitt.edu

Meredith Mavero, M.Ed.
Student Services Coordinator
A419F Crabtree Hall
412-624-3331
mlm72@pitt.edu

To apply, you will need:
• SOPHAS application
• Official GRE scores to GSPH, code: 4234
• Official transcripts for completed degrees
• Personal statement
• Three letters of recommendation
• Official TOEFL scores to SOPHAS, code: 5688 (International applicants only)

All applications must be submitted online through SOPHAS, the Schools of Public Health Application Service: http://www.sophas.org.
Visit SOPHAS’ FAQ page: http://www.sophas.org/Faq.cfm

www.sophas.org

Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh
Program Requirements

- 42 credits total
- Written essay OR thesis
- Practicum

Length of Program

- Full-time students complete the program in 2 years or less
- Part-time students complete the program in 3-4 years on average

Applicable Undergraduate Majors

- Biology, Microbiology, or Chemistry
- Public Health or Pre-Med
- Health Professions (Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work, Dentistry)
- Psychology or Sociology

Career Possibilities

- Academic Institutions
- Local, State, and Federal Agencies
- Non-Profit Agencies and NGOs
- Domestic and International Public Health
- Further Education in Medicine or Doctoral Programs

Required Courses

- BCHS 2523 Public Health Program Planning, Implementation & Evaluation
- IDM 2007 Practicum
- IDM 2021 Special Studies in Microbiology
- IDM 2025 Microbiology Seminar/Journal Club
- IDM 2032 Human Diversity and Public Health
- IDM 2034 Control and Prevention of HIV/AIDS
- IDM 2038 Prevention, Treatment, and Control of Infectious Diseases
- BCHS 2509 Social and Behavioral Sciences & Public Health
- BIOST 2011 Principles of Statistical Reasoning
- EOH 2013 Environmental Health and Disease
- EPIDEM 2110 Principles of Epidemiology
- HPM 2001 Intro to Leadership, Management and Policy for Public Health
- PUBHLT 2014 Overview of Public Health
- PUBHLT 2015 Public Health Biology
- PUBHLT 2016 Capstone: Problem Solving in Public Health
- PUBHLT 2022 Public Health Grand Rounds

Competencies

MPH-MIC program graduates will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of local, regional, national and global infectious diseases.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of social, economic, and cultural factors for the prevention, control and/or elimination of the emergence and spread of infectious diseases in specific populations and communities.

3. Demonstrate knowledge of infectious disease pathogenesis, prevention, clinical diagnosis, and treatment in relevant populations in domestic and international settings.

4. Demonstrate knowledge of clinical, behavioral, epidemiological aspects of infectious disease prevention and treatment interventions for health services, systems of care, organizations, institutions, communities, and governments.

5. Demonstrate knowledge and skills in recognizing, assessing, evaluating scientific research and best practices to make evidence-based public health recommendations for infectious disease planning, interventions, research, and policies.
The MPH Infectious Disease Pathogenesis, Eradication, and Laboratory Practice degree program (PEL) provides students with the skills to secure jobs in government agencies, academic institutions, as well as private industry. Many graduates have also used the degree as a foundation for medical school or further graduate education.

Admission Materials

To apply, you will need:

- SOPHAS application
- Official GRE scores to GSPH, code: 4234
- Official transcripts for completed degrees
- Personal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official TOEFL scores to SOPHAS, code: 5688 (International applicants only)

Application Submission

All applications must be submitted online through SOPHAS, the Schools of Public Health Application Service: http://www.sophas.org.

Visit SOPHAS’ FAQ page: http://www.sophas.org/Faq.cfm

Program Contacts:
Jeremy Martinson, DPhil
Assistant Professor
Director, MPH-PEL Program
403 Parran Hall
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Meredith Mavero, M.Ed.
Student Services Coordinator
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University of Pittsburgh

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Phone: 412-624-3331
E-mail: idm@pitt.edu
Website: http://www.idm.pitt.edu

To apply, you will need:

- SOPHAS application
- Official GRE scores to GSPH, code: 4234
- Official transcripts for completed degrees
- Personal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official TOEFL scores to SOPHAS, code: 5688 (International applicants only)
**Program Requirements**

- 42 credits total
- Written essay OR thesis
- Practicum

**Length of Program**

- Full-time students complete the program in 2 years or less
- Part-time students complete the program in 3-4 years on average

**Applicable Undergraduate Majors**

- Biology, Microbiology, or Chemistry
- Public Health or Pre-Med
- Health Professions (Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work, Dentistry)

**Career Possibilities**

- Public Health Specialist
- Epidemiologist
- Quality Control Associate
- Data Manager
- Emergency Preparedness

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**Required Courses**

- IDM 2003  Host Response to Microbial Infection
- IDM 2007  Practicum
- IDM 2010  Pathogen Biology
- IDM 2021  Special Studies in Microbiology
- IDM 2025  Microbiology Seminar/Journal Club
- BCHS 2509  Social and Behavioral Sciences & Public Health
- BIOST 2041  Intro to Statistical Methods I
- BIOST 2042  Intro to Statistical Methods II
- BIOST 2093  Data Management and Analysis
- HPM 2001  Intro to Leadership, Management and Policy for Public Health
- EOH 2013  Environmental Health and Disease
- EPIDEM 2110  Principles of Epidemiology
- EPIDEM 2160  Epidemiology of Infectious Disease
- EPIDEM 2180  Epidemiological Methods I
- PUBHLT 2014  Overview of Public Health
- PUBHLT 2016  Capstone: Problem Solving in Public Health
- PUBHLT 2022  Public Health Grand Rounds

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**Competencies**

**MPH-PEL program graduates will be able to:**

1. Demonstrate increased knowledge in infectious disease pathogenesis and application to public health prevention and control.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of host response mechanism and application to domestic and global infectious diseases.
3. Contribute to research and development in novel or enhanced prevention, treatment, and eradication programs.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of basic laboratory methods and data analyses as applied to public health infectious disease programs.
Infectious Diseases and Microbiology

STUDENT LIFE

The Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology not only helps foster and develop your analytical research skills and public health knowledge, but it also gives students the opportunity to network with each other through lab rotations, practicum experiences, small classes, and educational and social events! Our faculty and staff are committed to guiding you through the transition into graduate school as well as presenting you with great opportunities for your future! As a member of a small department, you'll have the opportunity to get to know everyone and form lasting friendships and build a strong professional network. IDM hosts events like the Annual Meeting, Research Day, Career Day and more, so students can interact professionally and socially with other students and faculty from other IDM graduate programs. You will also have the opportunity to join school-wide and university-wide organizations to get to know the University of Pittsburgh’s graduate student body!

• Discover IDM
• Student Organizations
• Pittsburgh Living

“As an undergrad coming from a small private school, I wasn’t sure what to expect at the University of Pittsburgh. But once I came to IDM, I knew this was the place for me. Not only do small class sizes provide an environment to make great friendships with fellow students, but faculty as well! IDM is a world full of opportunities in the making!”
- Johna Veltre, MS ’11

Connect with IDM & Pitt Public Health!
01 Student Experience

With a low cost of living, low crime rates, and a rich history, no wonder Pittsburgh is consistently voted as the most livable city in America!

Pittsburgh is home to excellent neighborhoods, sports galore, and tons of culture. As a Pitt student, you get FREE access to some of Pittsburgh’s main attractions like Phipps Conservatory, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Warhol Museum, and FREE public transportation with your Pitt ID! Everything is truly at your finger tips.

Students have ranked their favorite things about Pittsburgh:

- Pittsburgh Sports
- Schenley Park
- Pittsburgh Activities
- Great Restaurants
- Friendly People

02 Get Involved

IDM students get involved in the Graduate School of Public Health by joining great student organizations like:

- Student Government Association
- Doctoral Student Organization
- Minority Student Organization
- Global Heath Student Association
- Association of Women in Public Health
- Health Policy and Management Association
- Student Public Health Epidemic Response Effort
- Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
- Public Health Fitness and Recreation Organization

03 Pittsburgh Life

What better way to learn about student life in Pittsburgh and IDM than to hear from real students?

“Pittsburgh has a lot of really good food! I like that there aren’t as many chain restaurants and more small family-owned places in different neighborhoods.”
- Emily Webster, MPH ’13

“I had the privilege of working with professors who truly cared about my success and were true leaders and innovative thinkers in their respective fields. Pitt not only offered academic opportunities, it also offered ample opportunities to get involved in a variety of communities - from HIV infected populations to survivors of domestic violence to children in urban schools. There is always an opportunity to do more at Pitt...”
- Roseanna Guzman, MPH ’06

With a low cost of living, low crime rates, and a rich history, no wonder Pittsburgh is consistently voted as the most livable city in America!

Pittsburgh is home to excellent neighborhoods, sports galore, and tons of culture. As a Pitt student, you get FREE access to some of Pittsburgh’s main attractions like Phipps Conservatory, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Warhol Museum, and FREE public transportation with your Pitt ID! Everything is truly at your finger tips.

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