University of Pittsburgh® School of Public Health

INTEGRATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE
HEALTH POLICY & MANAGEMENT MPH
ESSAY/THESIS AGREEMENT

MPH students are required to complete an essay or thesis that demonstrates synthesis of foundational and program-specific competencies. Students must submit this agreement approved by their faculty or essay/thesis advisor prior to beginning their essay/thesis.

Student Name: _____

Department: Health Policy & Management

Pitt Email: _____

Program Director Name: _____

Program Director Email: _____

Are you working with data owned by an organization outside of Pitt Public Health? Select
If yes, please provide the following information.

Organization Name: _____

Organization Contact: _____

Will the organization contact be a member of your essay/thesis committee? Select

Primary Reader: _____
HPM Core faculty
Title & Department: _____

Email Address: _____

Essay Reader #2: _____
Pitt faculty not on HPM Core
Title & Department: _____

Email Address: _____

Essay Reader #3: _____
Only required if practicum-related or data-related
Title & Department: _____

Email Address: _____

Essay/Thesis Title: Identify the title or topic of your essay/thesis.

Target Journal Reference Format:

Target Date for Presentation:

Brief abstract: Include a description of objective/aims and design, methods, and data sources.

Competencies: Identify three competencies that will be attained through essay/thesis activities. Two competencies must be selected from the CEPH MPH Foundational Competencies and one competency from the HPM MPH Competencies.

1. Select CEPH MPH Foundational Competency
2. Select CEPH MPH Foundational Competency
3. Select HPM MPH Competency

Approvals: Please send via Docusign at my.pitt.edu.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Primary Reader Signature: _____ Date: _____

Essay Reader #2 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Essay Reader #3 Signature: _____ Date: _____
If Applicable

Program Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

HPM MPH Competencies

HPM 1	Evaluate facilitators and barriers that impact the financing and delivery of public health services or health care services
HPM 2	Apply legal and ethical principles to health services practice
HPM 3	Evaluate legal and policy strategies to promote the health status of populations
HPM 4	Apply and interpret principles of program management, budgeting, and finance in the context of health care organizations, government, or community-based organizations
HPM 5	Define and explain the principles of strategic planning to health delivery initiatives
HPM 6	Measure and evaluate the impact of health policies on population health

CEPH MPH Foundational Competencies

MPH 1	Apply epidemiological methods to settings and situations in public health practice
MPH 2	Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
MPH 3	Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming, and software, as appropriate
MPH 4	Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice
MPH 5	Compare the organization, structure, and function of health care, public health, and regulatory systems across national and international settings
MPH 6	Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and systemic levels
MPH 7	Assess population needs, assets, and capacities that affect communities' health
MPH 8	Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design, implementation, or critique of public health policies or programs
MPH 9	Design a population-based policy, program, project, or intervention
MPH 10	Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
MPH 11	Select methods to evaluate public health programs
MPH 12	Discuss the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
MPH 13	Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
MPH 14	Advocate for political, social, or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations
MPH 15	Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity
MPH 16	Apply leadership and/or management principles to address a relevant issue
MPH 17	Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges
MPH 18	Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
MPH 19	Communicate audience-appropriate (i.e., non-academic, non-peer audience) public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
MPH 20	Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content
MPH 21	Integrate perspectives from other sectors and/or professions to promote and advance population health
MPH 22	Apply a systems thinking tool to visually represent a public health issue in a format other than standard narrative