

HEALTH EDUCATION CONCENTRATION

Program director

Anna Nelson

The Dr.P.H. degree with a concentration in health education is designed for individuals who desire to add depth to their health education specialization as well as develop research and leadership skills.

The emphasis on health education offers advanced knowledge and competencies in the health education domains and also includes advocacy, critical analysis, leadership, professionalism, and ethics.

The online technology-mediated format is designed to meet the needs of working professionals. The curriculum consists of online asynchronous and synchronous courses (where online and on-campus students meet simultaneously for class via teleconference). Specific hardware and software requirements for the program must be met. Online students are required to comply with the online attendance requirements per LLU Distance Education Policy.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible to sit for the credentialing examination in health education—CHES or MCHES—offered by the National Commission of Health Education Credentialing, Inc., <http://www.nchec.org/>.

Program learning outcomes

By the end of the program, the graduate should be able to:

- Collect and analyze qualitative data to enable research and programs promoting public health.
- Integrate public health research and health behavior theory to advance science or practice of health education.
- Apply evaluation specific theory and methodology in evaluation practice.
- Provide mentorship and consultation on health education-related issues.
- Apply evidence-based research to develop advocacy efforts for policies or programs promoting health.

Educational effectiveness indicators

- Comprehensive examination.
- Publishable research paper.
- Doctoral project presentation.

Prerequisite

In addition to the entrance requirements for all Dr.P.H. degrees (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/doctoral-degrees/#admissionstext>), each applicant to the health education concentration must have:

- A degree in health education, health behavior, or health promotion; or a master's degree in a health-related field (preferred).
- Postmaster's degree work experience (preferred).
- Social science, two courses which may include psychology, sociology, or cultural anthropology.

Concentration requirements

Corequisites

See standard DrPH corequisites (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/doctoral-degrees/drph/>).

Degree requirements

Dr.P.H. public health core

Critical analysis		
PHCJ 600	Overview of Research Methodologies	3
PHCJ 615	Intermediate Biostatistics	3
Electives (choose from following)		3
HADM 587	Health Policy Analysis and Research	
PHCJ 630	Concepts and Practical Issues of Secondary Data	
STAT 568	Data Analysis	

Leadership, management, and governance

PHCJ 607	Professional Leadership	3
PHCJ 616	Administrative Systems in Agency Management	3
PHCJ 617	Building Healthy Systems	3

Education and workforce development

PHCJ 614	Pedagogy: The Art and Science of Teaching	2
PHCJ 618	Transformative Communication	2

Policy, advocacy and programs

PHCJ 609	Building Healthy Individuals	3
PHCJ 610	Building Healthy Communities ¹	3

Doctoral seminar

PHCJ 608A	Doctoral Seminar for Public Health	1
PHCJ 608B	Doctoral Seminar for Public Health	1
PHCJ 608C	Doctoral Seminar for Public Health	1

Health education major

HPRO 544	Health Education Evaluation and Measurement	3
HPRO 588	Health Behavior Theory and Research	4
HPRO 589	Qualitative Research Methods	3
HPRO 604	Research Seminar	2
HPRO 608	Advanced Seminar in Health Education (2)	4

Electives **2-6**

Religion		
RELE 5__	Graduate-level ethics	3
RELR 5__	Graduate-level relational	3
RELT 5__	Graduate-level theological	3

Integrated learning experience

PHCJ 698	Doctoral Project	4
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Total Units **62**

Practicum

Practicum units are in addition to the minimum didactic units required for the degree		
PHCJ 795	Applied Practice	2

¹ Fulfills service learning requirement

Applied practice experience and integrated learning experience

All Dr.P.H. students will engage in an applied practice experience that results in a product that is relevant to public health organizations. The culminating activity is an integrated learning experience that includes a field-based project emphasizing advanced practice. Both applied practice experience and integrated learning experience will demonstrate integration of foundational and concentration specific competencies.

Normal time to complete the program

Three (3) years – based on full-time enrollment; part time permitted

Courses

HPRO 500. Stress Management. 2 Units.

Covers aspects of stress as it relates to health. Addresses definitions of stress, emphasizing the potential effect of stress on physical and mental diseases. Presents coping mechanisms, e.g., cognitive behavior therapy, music therapy, spirituality, and several other techniques. Presented in a service-learning format in which students are in direct contact with the community applying stress-prevention and coping strategies.

HPRO 501. Human Anatomy and Physiology I. 6 Units.

Systematic investigation of the form and function of human biological systems. Laboratory included. Limited to doctoral degree students.

HPRO 502. Human Anatomy and Physiology II. 6 Units.

Continues HPRO 501. Systematically investigates the form and function of human biological systems. Laboratory included. Limited to doctoral degree students.

HPRO 509. Principles of Health Behavior. 3 Units.

Introduces key health behavior-change theories and psychosocial determinants of health behaviors. Provides an overview of motivation, stress and coping, addiction, culture, and religion as related to health behavior. Laboratory emphasizes communication, leadership, and group process activities.

HPRO 515. Mind-Body Interactions and Health Outcomes. 3 Units.

Studies the effect of the neurological system on physical health, with a focus on psychoneuro-immunology. Summarizes scientific disciplines that study brain, immune system, and health behavior interactions that provide the healthcare professional with an integrative understanding of lifestyle, whole person care for immune system function and wellness. Prerequisite: Anatomy and physiology, biochemistry.

HPRO 519. Pharmacology. 3 Units.

Basic and clinical pharmacology. Emphasizes drugs of concern to health promotion specialists. Principles of drug addiction, drug receptors and pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and practical uses for drugs. Prerequisite: Anatomy and physiology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry.

HPRO 524. Child and Adolescent Health. 3 Units.

Studies developmental and health problems unique to the child and adolescent periods of life. Focuses on special needs and public health programs designed to reach children and adolescents. Gives attention to special problems, such as social adaptation, juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, suicide, adolescent pregnancy.

HPRO 526. Lifestyle Diseases and Risk Reduction. 3 Units.

Discusses current lifestyle diseases, including: cardiovascular, metabolic, communicable, and nutritional. Concepts regarding risk factors, screening approaches, and risk reduction, with impact on specific health parameters. Prerequisite: Anatomy and physiology; or consent of instructor.

HPRO 527. Obesity and Disordered Eating. 3 Units.

Explores causes and development of obesity, principles of weight management, and relapse prevention. Includes discussion of the causes and treatment of anorexia nervosa and bulimia.

HPRO 529. Preventive and Therapeutic Interventions in Chronic Disease. 3 Units.

Specific preventive care techniques dealing with lifestyle and chronic disease in the clinical environment. Multidisciplinary lifestyle interventions in the prevention and treatment of dyslipidemia, diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis, sleep disorders, and other chronic conditions. Uses case studies and role playing to explore interventions in a variety of clinical scenarios.

HPRO 530. Fundamentals of Research in Health Behavior and Health Education. 3 Units.

Introduces research in behavioral health and health education sciences. Application of research principles and techniques to quantitative research methods and surveys in health education. Includes: reading and use of published research; development of research questions; hypotheses testing; selection of research methods; data collection; causal inference; reliability; validity; measurement; and, research ethics.

HPRO 531. Pathology of Human Systems I. 3 Units.

Fundamental mechanisms of disease, including degenerative changes and physical and chemical injury. Reviews diseases by organ system: endocrine, biliary, hepatic, respiratory, digestive, urogenital, skeletal, and central nervous. Limited to doctoral degree students.

HPRO 532. Pathology of Human Systems II. 3 Units.

Introduces micropathological organisms. Surveys tissue changes in infectious diseases. Growth disorders, including: basic genetic problems and neoplasia; cardiovascular, circulatory, and inflammatory systems. Limited to doctoral degree students. Prerequisite: HPRO 531.

HPRO 534A. Research Methods. 2 Units.

Philosophy of scientific research, sources of research invalidity, quantitative and qualitative literature review techniques, setting research goals and objectives, quasi-experimental and experimental design, research ethics. Requires presentation and critique of published research and literature review. Taken over the course of two quarters for a total of 4 units (HPRO 534A, 2 units Winter Quarter; and HPRO 534B, 2 units Spring Quarter). Doctoral students only. Prerequisite: STAT 509.

HPRO 534B. Research Methods. 2 Units.

Philosophy of scientific research, sources of research invalidity, quantitative and qualitative literature review techniques, setting research goals and objectives, quasi-experimental and experimental design, research ethics. Requires presentation and critique of published research and literature review. Taken over the course of two quarters for a total of 4 units (HPRO 534A, 2 units Winter Quarter; and HPRO 534B, 2 units Spring Quarter). Doctoral students only. Prerequisite: HPRO 534A.

HPRO 535. Health Education Administration and Leadership. 3 Units.

Analyzes the managerial and leadership roles of the health education specialist in both public and private health organizations. Emphasizes organizational structure and health communication; as well as managing, supervising, marketing, decision making, and other administrative roles.

HPRO 536. Program Planning and Evaluation. 2 Units.

Introductory course that utilizes the planning cycle to address public health problems. Analyzes trends in health-care planning. Applies planning cycle to selected topics. Provides overview of evaluation design, methodology, and instrument development for health education programs. Laboratory included.

HPRO 537A. Community Programs Laboratory—A. 2 Units.

First in a three-course sequence operationalizing qualitative research methods. Includes: conducting observational assessments, windshield surveys, and personal interviews; participating in focus groups; and, compiling secondary data for a community-needs assessment. Preparation for implementation and evaluation of health education programs.

HPRO 537B. Community Programs Laboratory—B. 1 Unit.

Student-designed marketing and evaluation plans for community-based health education program. Student implements and evaluates programs developed during HPRO 537A. Prerequisite: HPRO 537A.

HPRO 537C. Community Programs Laboratory—C. 1 Unit.

Students continue their marketing plan while implementing and evaluating their programs in the community. Students write a plan for program sustainability with community organizations as stakeholders.

HPRO 538. Health Education Program Development and Evaluation. 3 Units.

Uses program-planning theories, models, and diagnostic techniques to design, deliver, and evaluate health promotion and education programs in community, occupational, educational, and health care settings. Presents steps in the health educational planning process. Includes: assessments; goals and objectives; intervention strategies; behavioral and educational theories; instructional delivery and designs; evaluation; and, reporting.

HPRO 539. Policy and Issues in Health Education. 3 Units.

Examines and discusses policy issues, trends, and strategies relating to health education—including but not limited to HIV/AIDS, women's health, injury prevention and control, tobacco and other drug issues, and health issues in ethnically diverse populations. Provides opportunities to develop and improve presentation skills. Project included.

HPRO 541. Wellness Coaching I. 3 Units.

Covers the fundamentals of the coaching structure and process, from coach preparation to program termination—including the legal and ethical implications. Explores specific components of the coaching process, with special attention given to coach/client relationship, empathetic communication skills, importance of client reflections, and goal setting. Introduces the Wellness Mapping 360 tool to lay the foundation for the coaching plan.

HPRO 542. Wellness Coaching II. 3 Units.

Reviews the wellness coaching process. Introduces students to effective methodology of motivational interviewing. Explores the techniques and theories associated with this coaching method. Covers in detail the skills needed to successfully motivate patients toward healthier lifestyles. Gives attention to practical information needed to be a successful health professional. Includes overview of positive psychology methods and theory. Prerequisite: HPRO 541.

HPRO 543. Writing for Health Professionals. 3 Units.

Writing by health professionals for popular, lay, or professional publications. Student selects journal or magazine, writes query letter, and prepares abstract and manuscript in final form for submission. Includes preparation of camera-ready art. Preparation of two publishable papers. Limited to doctoral degree students.

HPRO 544. Health Education Evaluation and Measurement. 3 Units.

Student selects and develops health education and psychosocial measurement instruments, determines validity and reliability of evaluation tools, provides overview of data-collection methods and protocols, analyzes and interprets results, and communicates evaluation findings. Limited to doctoral degree students.

HPRO 553. Addiction Theory and Program Development. 3 Units.

Applies addiction process theory in a practical way to program development. Emphasizes alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) problems, using case studies and extensive reading as part of a problem-solving approach. The epidemiological, pathological, physiological, psychological, and spiritual bases for prevention and treatment of addictions. Laboratory included.

HPRO 556. High-Risk Infants and Children: Policy and Programs. 3 Units.

Examines development of at-risk infants and children, and evaluates interventions that may modify cognitive and social outcomes. Includes, medical and social risk factors, and efficacy of early-intervention and survival strategies globally and locally. Examines legal, regulatory, and ethical issues.

HPRO 559. Lactation Management. 3 Units.

Analyzes the managerial and leadership roles of the health education specialist in both public and private health organizations. Emphasizes organizational structure and health communication; as well as managing, supervising, marketing, decision making, and other administrative roles.

HPRO 565. Tobacco Use: Prevention and Interventions. 3 Units.

Second of three courses providing an overview of the underlying pathophysiology of the health impact of tobacco use on individuals, families, and society. Includes: smoking behavior; pharmacodynamics of nicotine delivery; mechanisms of nicotine addiction; and, individual, group, systems, and public intervention strategies. Incorporates principles of epidemiology, anatomy, physiology, immunology, endocrinology, and biochemistry.

HPRO 570. Wellness Coaching Lab. 1 Unit.

Provides a review of the wellness coaching process and introduces students to direct client interaction. Requires 50 sessions of wellness coaching practice in the field, offering students the creative opportunity to apply and integrate skills and knowledge gained in the preceding terms of the program. Requires students to use the learned skills and knowledge to schedule, coach, and educate individuals in client-centered individual sessions. Prerequisite: HPRO 541, HPRO 542.

HPRO 573. Exercise Physiology I. 3 Units.

Basic preparation for development and leadership of exercise programs. Includes exercise physiology, training, acute and chronic effects of exercise, simple assessment of fitness, role of exercise in prevention of common health problems, and management of selected risk factors. Discusses endurance, strength, flexibility, and aerobic exercises. Laboratory included.

HPRO 578. Exercise Physiology II. 3 Units.

Physiologic basis of the normal body function during exercise. Emphasizes the training effects of aerobic exercise. Noninvasive laboratory methods of the study of the circulatory and respiratory systems. Laboratory included. Prerequisite: HPRO 573; and basic physiology.

HPRO 580. Preventive Care Management. 3 Units.

Prepares students for careers in preventive care. Covers three areas of preventive care: teaching, worksite wellness, and clinical practice. Enhances skills and tools needed in preventive care practice. Limited to doctoral candidates in preventive care.

HPRO 586. Introduction to Preventive Care. 1 Unit.

Provides overview of preventive care's role within public health. Orientation to doctoral program, with attention to professional portfolio preparation. Limited to doctoral degree students in preventive care.

HPRO 587. Preventive Care Practice Management. 2 Units.

Provides overview of issues and challenges in the operation of a preventive care practice. Emphasizes billing and reimbursement issues, and legal and ethical responsibilities of the preventive care specialist. Limited to doctoral degree students in preventive care.

HPRO 588. Health Behavior Theory and Research. 4 Units.

Analyzes factors contributing to health behavior decisions. Examines theory and research relevant to individual, family, organization, and community behavior. Emphasizes critical-thinking, professional writing, and oral presentation. Applies theory to development of a basic research proposal. Limited to doctoral degree students. Consent of instructors required for nondoctoral degree students.

HPRO 589. Qualitative Research Methods. 3 Units.

Applies qualitative methods to instrument design, sampling, and data collection. Focuses on public health issues, ethics, and theory-building. Supervised needs assessment in a selected community.

HPRO 590. Worksite Wellness. 3 Units.

Prepares students to enter the field of corporation wellness as leaders not only in developing, implementing, and evaluating wellness work-site programs; but also in decreasing the burden on corporation health, morale, budget, and performance caused by lifestyle-related diseases.

HPRO 595. Community Project. 1-4 Units.

Provides the student with an individual, hands-on experience to apply the principles learned in the didactic courses of the health education program. Students plan, implement, and evaluate a health education intervention based on the findings of the needs assessment. Programs consist of several sessions, individually planned and taught by the student. Minimum of thirty hours required for each unit of credit. A maximum of 4 units applicable. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

HPRO 604. Research Seminar. 2 Units.

Student develops and critiques doctoral project proposals, with peer review of research protocols. Limited to doctoral degree students. Prerequisite: PHCJ 600; consent of program director.

HPRO 606. Motivational Interviewing. 2 Units.

Introduces students to the effective methodology of motivational interviewing. Explores the techniques and theories associated with this treatment method. Covers in detail the skills needed to successfully motivate patients toward healthier lifestyles. Gives attention to practical information needed to be a successful health professional. Prerequisite: Minimum of 90 units of coursework toward Dr.P.H. (preventive care) degree.

HPRO 608. Advanced Seminar in Health Education. 2 Units.

Studies current issues in health promotion and education from the standpoint of historical setting. Explores emerging challenges to professional preparation in health promotion and education, and the place of professional health educators in the practice of public health. Must be taken for a total of 6 units. Limited to health education doctoral degree students.

HPRO 685. Preliminary Research Experience. 2 Units.

Experience gained in various aspects of research under the guidance of a faculty member and by participation in an ongoing project. Must be completed prior to beginning dissertation/research project. Limited to doctoral degree students.

HPRO 696. Directed Study/Special Project. 1-4 Units.

Individual arrangements for advanced students to study under the guidance of a program faculty member. May include reading, literature review, or other special projects. Minimum of thirty hours required for each unit of credit. A maximum of 4 units applicable to any master's degree program. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and of program advisor.

HPRO 697. Dissertation Proposal. 1-10 Units.

Doctoral student develops the written dissertation proposal and collaborates with doctoral dissertation committee chair on mutually agreed-upon objectives, which will serve as the basis for evaluation. Culminates in a written and oral dissertation proposal defense and advancement to candidacy. Prerequisite: Successful completion of comprehensive exams.

HPRO 698. Dissertation. 1-14 Units.

Student prepares a manuscript presenting results of the doctoral research study. Limited to doctoral degree candidates. Prerequisite: Advancement to Candidacy.

HPRO 704A. Internship. 2 Units.

Training and supervised experience (minimum of 100 clock hours) with other health professionals in applied settings. Opportunity to work with individuals, families, and groups in assessing health and building relationships conducive to health-promoting behavior changes. Limited to doctoral (preventive care) degree students. May be repeated for a total of up to 12 units.

HPRO 704B. Internship. 4 Units.

Training and supervised experience (minimum of 200 clock hours) with other health professionals in applied settings. Opportunity to work with individuals, families, and groups in assessing health and building relationships conducive to health-promoting behavior changes. Limited to doctoral (preventive care) degree students. May be repeated for a total of up to 12 units.

HPRO 704C. Internship. 6 Units.

Training and supervised experience (minimum of 300 clock hours) with other health professionals in applied settings. Opportunity to work with individuals, families, and groups in assessing health and building relationships conducive to health-promoting behavior changes. Limited to doctoral (preventive care) degree students.

HPRO 704D. Internship. 8 Units.

Training and supervised experience with other health professionals in applied settings. Opportunity to work with individuals, families, and groups in assessing health and building relationships conducive to health-promoting behavior changes. Limited to doctoral (preventive care) degree students. A ten-week (40 hours/week) field internship.