PUBLIC HEALTH

**Associate of Applied Science Degree**

The associate of applied science degree in public health provides the initial coursework to prepare students for a career in public health. Public health is an exciting area of practice which takes a population-based focus to health. Individuals in this field interpret community data to determine health needs and intervention priorities. In addition to needs assessment, they work with community leaders to plan, implement, and evaluate community health education interventions such as smoking cessation, chronic and infectious disease awareness campaigns, vaccination programs, and family planning and prenatal care initiatives. This program is ideal for those who like to work with the public, yet who also like to take the broader view of how to promote the health of communities and groups of citizens.

The associate degree program fully articulates with the bachelor of public health degree program offered at the main NMSU campus in the Department of Health Science, which also offers the master of public health in community health education at the graduate level. The courses in this associate of applied science in public health curriculum at DACC will meet the majority of NMSU’s general education degree requirements and are designed to give students a full overview of what public health and community health education practice is all about. There are no special admissions criteria for this program, but prospective majors should arrange an initial degree advising session with a health occupations faculty member in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Division. The faculty member will also be able to advise students regarding choices for elective courses.

**NOTE:** The Associate Degree in Public Health may be obtained entirely online.

Public Health - Associate of Applied Science (http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/academic-career-programs/public-health/public-health-associate-applied-science)

**CHSS 101. Overview of Health and Community Services**

*3 Credits*

Health and community service professions with emphasis on public health, community health education, and environmental/occupational health.

**CHSS 216. Ethical and Research Issues in Human and Community Service**

*3 Credits*

Ethical and legal responsibilities of health personnel with emphasis on research applications. May not receive credit for both CHSS 216 and CHSS 316. Community Colleges only.

**CHSS 299. Service Learning Experience in Human and Community Services**

*3 Credits*

Exploration of contemporary social, civic, economic and ethical problems that require student participation in collaborative efforts within the community. Requires 30 clock hours of community based service for each credit. Graded: S/U. Contact instructor for approval.

**Prerequisite(s):** CHSS 101, HL S 150 and HL S 275 or consent of instructor.

**Corequisite(s):** HL S 295 or CHSS 216.

**PHLS 100. Introduction to Health Science**

*1 Credit*

An overview of professional career opportunities in the realm of health science as well as the functional roles of practice, education, administration, and research. Some field trips will be required.

**PHLS 150G. Personal Health and Wellness**

*3 Credits*

A holistic and multi-disciplinary approach towards promoting positive lifestyles. Special emphasis is placed on major problems that have greatest significance to personal and community health. Topics to include nutrition, stress management, fitness, aging, sexuality, drug education, and others.

**PHLS 275. Foundations of Health Education**

*3 Credits*

Role and responsibility of the health educator with emphasis on small group dynamics, oral and written communication skills, building community coalitions and an introduction to grant writing. Taught with HL S 375. Cannot receive credit for both HL S 275 and HL S 375.

**Prerequisite(s):** Either HL S 100 or HL S 150G, or consent of instructor.

**PHLS 295. Essentials of Public Health**

*3 Credits*

The course will focus on principles and major areas if public health, including ecological and total personal concept of health care system, epidemiological approaches to disease prevention and control. Consent of Instructor required.

**Name:** Becky Corran, Department Chair

**Office Location:** DAAR 100D

**Phone:** (575) 528-7033

**Website:** https://dacc.nmsu.edu/hlth/