

ENV H 482 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INTERNSHIP



INSTRUCTORS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a Credit/No Credit course in which you will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills you have been developing under controlled conditions in the field. With help and guidance from faculty and staff, you will identify and apply for an appropriate Environmental Public or Occupational Health internship. Appropriate internships may be with a local, state, or federal environmental public health agency, a not-for-profit organization, or a private sector company, in which the intern will gain:

- Supervised application of public health practices and/or environmental control techniques
- Supervised observation and experience in environmental public health program planning
- Training in the utilization of community resources.

ENVH 482: ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH INTERNSHIP SYLLABUS

COURSE PURPOSE

The field internship is intended to provide students, majoring in environmental public health, with an opportunity to use the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom in an actual work setting. It is intended to be both practical and educational. You will be expected to devote your full-time efforts to the internship to gain an understanding of, and an appreciation for, the multiplicity of technical, legal, social, economic, and political factors which impinge upon the planning, development, and implementation of environmental public health programs to understand and help resolve problems in community and occupational settings.

LEARNING GOALS

By the end of this internship, you should be able to:

1. Apply the theoretical concepts of the classroom to the realities of the field;
2. Communicate with, and work with, the public and other health professionals;
3. Identify environmental public health problems, gather and interpret data, and propose alternative solutions with an understanding of the health, economic, social, legal, and political implications of each alternative;
4. Observe and evaluate conditions and situations likely to have an adverse effect on human health and well-being;
5. Relate the role of environmental public health to other public health and environmental protection programs, and to community values, demands and priorities; and,
6. Describe the legal and political processes, including, but not limited to, the role of the county commissioners, local and state boards of health, writing rules and regulations, enforcement techniques and the basic rights of citizens.



Image Credit: [Career Addict, 2022](#)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Duration

The internship is a 400-hour practicum in which you will work with a local, state, federal or private organization for the purpose of being trained in the delivery of environmental public health programs through observations and instruction/mentorship.

The internship may be completed any academic quarter, although most students complete their internship during their summer break. The internship normally begins on the first day of the quarter and ends upon the completion of ten full weeks of training (400 hours) unless other arrangements are agreed upon between the student and the organization's supervisor and are approved in advance by this course's instructor. For example, there have been situations where students have completed their internship over the course of an academic year (working approximately 10 hours/week).

ENV H 482 is a variable credit course. Students should register for between 2 and 15 credits. Regardless of the number of credits for which you register, you are responsible for completing the entire 400 hours of the required internship. For students completing an internship during their summer break, they can register for a min. of 2 Summer quarter credits OR for a min. of 2 Fall quarter credits – the decision is entirely up to the student and often is linked to financial aid during the academic year.

Grading & Assessment

ENV H 482 is a credit/no credit course. Students receive credit based on summary materials submitted to canvas, as well as, evaluated performance in the workplace. The summary of experience will be reported in weekly journal entries and synthesized for a final report. To earn credit, students must:

- Earn 175 out of a total 220 possible points on assignments;
- Submit the required elements of a workplan, schedule, release forms, updated resume, 2 evaluations and final documents (see assignment schedule below);
- Receive a favorable evaluation from the internship's site supervisor indicating the agreed upon commitments and responsibilities to the organization have been met; and
- Work at least 400 hours for the internship's organization(s).

ENV H 482: ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

WEEK	ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION	POINTS
BEFORE YOU START	Workplan: Upload signed form to canvas	Required 10
	Schedule: Since internships start at different times, complete this form to provide us a schedule for the internship assignment due dates.	Required 10
	Acknowledgement of Risk Form & Media Release Form: Due before you start your internship	Required 10
1	Week 1 Journal Entry	10
2	Week 2 Journal Entry	10
3	Week 3 Journal Entry	10
4	Week 4 Journal Entry	10
	Informational Interview Reflection Essay	10
5	Week 5 Journal Entry: Mid-Point Check-in	10
6	Week 6 Journal Entry	10
7	Week 7 Journal Entry	10
8	Week 8 Journal Entry	10
	Updated Resume Submission	Required 10
9	Week 9 Journal Entry	10
10	Evaluations: An evaluation of the student's performance must be completed by the field supervisor, AND an evaluation of the internship experience must be completed by the student prior to credit being conferred.	Required 10 + 10
AFTER YOU FINISH	Final Report or Poster & Reflection Questions: Submit a written summary report of your activities during the internship.	Required 50
	Career Competency Assessment	10
TOTAL POINTS		220

COURSE POLICIES

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students at the University of Washington (UW) are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic conduct, professional honesty, and personal integrity.

The UW School of Public Health (SPH) is committed to upholding standards of academic integrity consistent with the academic and professional communities of which it is a part. Plagiarism, cheating, and other misconduct are serious violations of [the University of Washington Student Conduct Code](#) (WAC 478-120). We expect you to know and follow the university's policies on cheating and plagiarism, and [the SPH Academic Integrity Policy](#). Any suspected cases of academic misconduct will be handled according to University of Washington regulations. For more information, see the University of Washington Community Standards and Student Conduct website.

ACCESS & ACCOMODATION

Students experiences in this class are important to us. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. Students with established Disability Resources for Students (DRS) accommodations should activate their accommodations via myDRS so they can be implemented early in the quarter.

Students that have not previously established services through DRS, are encouraged to contact DRS directly to set up an Access Plan if they encounter temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts.) DRS facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations. Contact DRS at disability.uw.edu.

LEARNING ENVIROMENT

The Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (DEOHS) strives to create welcoming and respectful learning environments that promote access and opportunity for all students, regardless of their experiences, perspectives, identities, and abilities. The DEOHS, along with The UW School of Public Health, seek to ensure all students are fully included in each course. We strive to create an environment that reflects community and mutual caring. Students are encouraged to talk to course instructor(s) if they experience uncomfortable situations within the internship environment. We take your concerns seriously and will work with you to identify a resolution.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is a form of harassment based on the recipient's sex that is characterized by:

1. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature by a person who has authority over the recipient when:
 - Submission to such conduct is an implicit or explicit condition of the individual's employment, academic status, or ability to use University facilities and services, or
 - Submission to or rejection of the conduct affects tangible aspects of the individual's employment, academic status, or use of university facilities.
2. Unwelcome and unsolicited language or conduct that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or learning environment, or has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic or work performance.

If you believe that you are being harassed, or have observed harassment, you can report it to SPH using the bias concerns link. The University also has designated offices to help you: [SafeCampus](#); [Office of the Ombud](#); [Title IX Investigation Office](#); and [University Complaint Investigation and Resolution Office](#).

SAFETY

Call [SafeCampus](#) at 206-685-7233 anytime – **no matter where you work or study** – to anonymously discuss safety and well-being concerns for yourself or others. SafeCampus's team of caring professionals will provide individualized support, while discussing short- and long-term solutions and connecting you with additional resources when requested.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Diverse backgrounds, embodiments and experiences are essential to the critical thinking endeavor at the heart of university education. In SPH, students are expected:

1. To respect individual differences, which may include, but are not limited to, age, cultural background, disability, ethnicity, family status, gender, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status and veteran status.
2. To engage respectfully in the discussion of diverse worldviews and ideologies embedded in course readings, presentations and artifacts, including those course materials that are at odds with personal beliefs and values.
3. To encourage students with concerns about classroom climate to talk to their instructor, adviser, a member of the departmental or SPH EDI Committee, the Assistant Dean for EDI, or the program's director.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMODATIONS

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at [Religious Accommodations Policy](#). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the [Religious Accommodations Request form](#).

WRITING RESOURCES

All written assignments for this class must be high quality, well researched, well organized, and well written. Use plain language instead of jargon. The instructors will consider the clarity of writing when grading assignments. Writing is an important transferable skill for all career pathways. Establishing a strong foundation in writing skills will help students be successful throughout their future course work and career. Therefore, this course includes written assignments with the goal to helping students identify areas of strength and improvement in writing. However, if a student feels that they could benefit from additional opportunities to improve their writing skills, a list of resources at the UW and others accessible online can be found on the SPH website (<https://sph.washington.edu/sites/default/files/inline-files/Writing-Resources-4.3.19.pdf>) and on the DEOHS intranet (<https://portal.deohs.washington.edu/index.php/academic-support-writing-resources>).

NOTICE TO STUDENTS – USE OF PLAGIARISMS DETECTION SOFTWARE

The University has a license agreement with SimCheck, an educational tool that helps prevent or identify plagiarism from Internet resources. Your instructor may use the service in this class by requiring that assignments are submitted electronically to be checked by SimCheck. The SimCheck Report will indicate the amount of original text in your work and whether all material that you quoted, paraphrased, summarized, or used from another source is appropriately referenced.

ACCREDITATION

EHAC REQUIREMENTS MET BY THIS COURSE

Environmental public health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) requirements met by this course include:

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE/FIELD EXPERIENCE

180 min clock hours (DEOHS EPH degree requires 400 hours)

“Students shall be exposed to field equipment, data collection and data interpretation. From this experience students should develop problem solving skills, learn to work as part of a team and gain an understanding of organizational dynamics.”

CEPH COMPETENCIES MET BY THIS COURSE

Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) competencies met by this course include:

D9-1 PUBLIC HEALTH DOMAINS

Health Communications: Address the basic concepts of public health-specific communication, including technical and professional writing and the use of mass media and electronic technology

D11-1 CUMULATIVE AND EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY

The ENV H 482 course evaluates the knowledge gained as a result of completing a mandatory environmental public health internship with a local, state, federal, or private organization. The field internship is minimum 400 hours with a dedicated supervisor who provides a final evaluation of the student. The internship is intended to provide students, majoring in environmental public health, with an opportunity to use the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom in an actual work setting. This knowledge is evaluated through weekly journals, an updated resume, and a final report and/or poster.

D12-1 CONCEPTS

- Community dynamics
- Ethical decision making as related to self and society
- Independent work and a personal work ethic
- Networking
- Organizational Dynamics
- Professionalism
- Systems thinking
- Teamwork and leadership