Doctoral Minor in Social and Behavioral Sciences

The Fairbanks School of Public Health offers a rigorous, highly focused 12-credit hour doctoral minor in Social and Behavioral Sciences. The field of Social and Behavioral Sciences is growing rapidly in national and international importance, is integral to many areas of pursuit, offers population-based research perspectives, offers skills that are of interest to the private and public sectors, and formally acknowledges the course work that doctoral students take through the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The doctoral minor in Social and Behavioral Sciences will provide students with the concepts and principles of research, field, theory and practice in the social and behavioral sciences so that they will be able to:

• Identify the causes and conditions linked to social, cultural and behavioral factors that affect health of individuals and populations.

• Use systems methods to analyze the effects of political, social and economic influences on public health systems at the individual, community, state, national and international levels.

• Identify social, cultural, and behavioral science factors, theories and models used to develop, implement and evaluate interventions designed to positively affect health behaviors in populations.

• Describe steps and procedures for planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, policies and interventions.

• In collaboration with others, prioritize individual, organizational, community, and societal concerns and resources for public health programs, policies and interventions.

• Apply evidence-based approaches in the development, implementation, and evaluation of social and behavioral science interventions in diverse populations.

• Specify targets and levels of intervention for social and behavioral science programs and/or policies.

The doctoral minor in Social and Behavioral Sciences offers the opportunity to draw together students from related doctoral programs from many schools, including: 1) Dentistry, 2) Health, Physical Education and Recreation, 3) Health and Rehabilitative Sciences, 4) Liberal Arts, 5) Medicine, 6) Science, and others. The Social and Behavioral Sciences faculty at the Fairbanks School of Public Health will serve as advisors for the minor.

Curriculum:
The curriculum for this 12 credit hour PhD minor provides students with a rigorous grounding in the background and application of Social and Behavioral Science principles.

Required Course for the 12-hour PhD Minor in Social and Behavioral Sciences
PBHL S500 Social and Behavioral Science in Public Health 3.0 cr.
Plus any three courses from the following list:
PBHL S510 Introduction to Research Methods in Public Health
PBHL S614 Program Planning in Public Health 3.0 cr.
PBHL S617 Human Diseases and Prevention 3.0 cr.
PBHL S631 Maternal, Child, and Family Health 3.0 cr.
PBHL S615 Culture and Qualitative Methods 3.0 cr.
PBHL S625 Applied Public Health Campaign and Social Marketing Strategies 3.0 cr.
PBHL S670 Coaching for Health and Wellness
Or, additional electives offered by the Social and Behavioral Sciences faculty in the Department of Public Health.

Other courses may be taken if approved by the student’s minor advisor. Students who have already completed any of the required courses as part of their MPH or PhD requirements cannot apply these courses toward their minor in Social and Behavioral Sciences. In this case, students must work with their faculty advisor to identify 4 alternate courses in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Satisfactory completion of the requirements for the minor in Social and Behavioral Sciences will be monitored by the student’s minor advisor. Doctoral students must notify the Fairbanks School of Public Health before beginning their course of study for the minor.

For the list of course descriptions, visit Course Descriptions.