



# Montclair State University Department of Public Health

**Is Public Health the right major for you?**  
**Some questions to ask yourself!**

# What is public health?

- When most people think of health careers, they think of clinical careers – like doctor or nurse – that involve treating individuals who have diseases or injuries.
- Public health professionals try to improve the health of ***whole populations*** and focus on ***prevention of injury or disease*** as well as ***promotion*** of optimal health.

If your patient is the whole population,  
where do you begin?



# What is the mission of the Department of Public Health at Montclair State?

- Prepare public health practitioners within the context of a strong focus on social justice
- Prepare public health practitioners who can help to enhance population health
- Prepare public health practitioners who can help to eliminate health disparities

# Who are Public Health majors?

- Our students are passionate about health, well-being and social justice
- They seek to contribute to a society where everyone can thrive
- They have a wide range of strengths, interests, and abilities
- They are smart, curious, caring, and like to work with people

# What do students in the Public Health major learn?

- Five core disciplines of public health:
  - Social and behavioral science
  - Environmental health
  - Health policy and administration
  - Epidemiology
  - Biostatistics
- Ethics, cultural competency, elimination of health disparities
- Public health biology including human nutrition, human sexuality, and human disease
- Concentration-related courses:
  - Concentration in Community Health Education: How to plan, implement and evaluate public health programs, communicate health messages, and organize communities around health issues
  - OR
  - Concentration in Health Systems Administration and Policy: How to organize and manage hospitals and healthcare systems with a focus on prevention and in service to social justice
- Field practice

# What kinds of jobs do Public Health alumni do and where do they work?

## Sample Jobs

- Health educator
- Program manager
- Outreach coordinator
- Health communication specialist
- Research assistant
- Policy analyst
- Program evaluator
- Hospital executive
- Case manager
- Project planner
- Client services coordinator
- Program assistant
- Clinic administrator

- Health services manager
- Community prevention specialist
- Regulatory specialist
- Government official
- Policy advocate

## Sample Workplaces

- Health departments
- Nonprofit organizations
- Hospitals
- Health and medical clinics
- Insurance companies
- Government agencies

# Will I be able to find a job when I graduate?

- Job growth (16%) for community health educators and community health workers is projected to outpace other professions through 2026. (*National Bureau of Labor Statistics*)
- Job growth (20%) for medical and health managers and administrators is projected to outpace other professions through 2026. (*National Bureau of Labor Statistics*)
- By 2020, the nation will face a shortfall of more than 250,000 public health workers including public health physicians, nurses, epidemiologists, health educators, and administrators. (*Association of Schools for Public Health*)







See you in September!

Til then ... have a great summer!