

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How do I declare the Certificate?

A: You will need to complete one of the three core courses before declaring the Certificate (see details under “Certificate Requirements”). Once you have done this, see detailed instructions for declaring on the Certificate’s website.

Q: Can I talk to someone about the Certificate even though I’m not yet eligible to declare it?

A: Absolutely! We encourage you to get advising before you are eligible to declare. Start with a group advising session — see the program’s web site for details.

Q: What are the prerequisites?

A: PHS 370 requires any college-level science class. Otherwise, there are no prerequisites for the three core courses. All three are open to freshmen. However, many possible electives do have prerequisites.

Q: Is this only for pre-medicine students?

A: NO! Global health is about much more than doctors and medicine, and students from many areas of study can make useful contributions. Non-science majors are encouraged to pursue the Certificate and students from all majors and colleges will be accepted.

Q: What graduation requirements can I meet by taking classes for the Certificate?

A: All three core courses can help meet one or more other UW requirements for graduation. Most Certificate electives also meet one or more requirements.

Q: What if I have already gone abroad or am planning to go abroad on a trip that’s not an official Certificate field experience—is there a way I can have this count toward the Certificate?

A: Possibly, at least if it included or will include some sort of work in public health or a related field. Talk to a Certificate advisor.

Learn more on the web:

[http://ghi.wisc.edu/education/
undergraduate-certificate/](http://ghi.wisc.edu/education/undergraduate-certificate/)

If you are new to the certificate, make sure to visit our web site’s advising page, sign up for a group advising session, and sign up for the program’s newsletter.

Questions about the certificate?

Please e-mail:

ghadvising@nutrisci.wisc.edu

Or call:

608-262-3718

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GLOBAL HEALTH



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THE UNIVERSITY
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Madison Initiative for Undergraduates

What is “Global Health”?

“Global health is an area for study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide. Global health emphasizes transnational health issues, determinants and solutions; involves many disciplines within and beyond the health sciences and promotes interdisciplinary collaboration; and is a synthesis of population-based prevention with individual-level care.”

-Koplan, *et al.*, 2009



A global health student getting a lesson in Nepali

What is the Certificate in Global Health?

The Certificate is an undergraduate program offered to all students interested in global health issues regardless of college or major. The global health education initiative is overseen by a campus-wide working group from various schools, departments, centers and programs whose activities relate to global health.

Certificate Requirements

A minimum of 15 credits, including:

1. The core class **Introduction to Global Health** (Nutritional Sciences/ Agronomy/Entomology 203; fall only; 3 credits).
2. **At least one of the other core classes:**
 - **Introduction to Public Health: Local to Global Perspectives** (PHS 370; spring only; 3 credits)
 - **Global Environmental Health: An Interdisciplinary Introduction** (Medical History and History of Science 213; spring only; 3 credits)
3. **1 or more credits of approved field experience** (see details at right).
4. **Approved electives related to global health** (see details at right; most students will take 6-9 elective credits)

Interested students must also:

1. Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 in all courses that you wish to have count toward the Certificate.
2. After completing at least one of the course courses, declare the Certificate as described on the program’s web site (see address on back).

For reasons of scheduling and/or cost, the field experience requirement is the most significant obstacle to completion for many students. Talk to an advisor about this as

Course Information

Introduction to Global Health – This course introduces students to the concept of global health through a multidisciplinary series of speakers dedicated to improving health with the tools of their unique fields. While providing a background in global health, the course also shows students of diverse majors how their selected field can make an impact on global issues. Taught by Sherry Tanumihardjo, Kevin Pixley, and Susan Paskewitz plus many guests.

Introduction to Public Health: Local to Global Perspectives – This course introduces students to the principles and practice of public health. Using six leading global health problems as examples, students are introduced to basic concepts of epidemiology and evidence-based public health with a focus on closing the gap between science and practice at home and abroad. Taught by Patrick Remington and Lori DiPrete Brown.

Global Environmental Health: An Interdisciplinary Introduction -This course explores intersections between major health problems and environmental crises around the world, including historical and cultural dimensions. Topics include disease ecology, the political economy of health and disease, global consumption, climate change, food and water security, and energy. Taught by Richard Keller.

Field Experience – The Certificate offers field courses that include the opportunity for one-on-one mentorship by UW faculty and international faculty partners. Field courses also include on-site study, observation, and service learning. Field courses are largely offered during the summer with a few courses happening at other times. Courses take place in countries including Mexico, Ecuador, Uganda, Kenya, China, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, as well as Wisconsin and other US locations. Field experiences are announced late in each fall semester on the Certificate’s web site (see address on back). There are also ways for students to create and receive approval for their own field experiences.

Global Health Electives - Elective courses allow students to tailor the Certificate to match their own interests in global health. A list of approved electives is posted on the Certificate’s website (see address on back).