Our department focuses on the interdisciplinary study of physical activity and its complex role in human health. Kinesiology spans from molecular and physiological studies to the examination of sport and societal approaches to physical activity and health throughout the lifespan. We are in the top third of nationally ranked doctoral programs by the National Academy of Kinesiology.

The department is actively engaged in collaborations across the campus in areas such as engineering and robotics, sociology, architecture, computer science, the newly formed Brain Behavior Initiative, Intercollegiate Athletics (Sports Medicine and Sports Performance), and with the School of Medicine on the University of Maryland’s Baltimore campus.

In addition, we partner with the Veterans Administration in Baltimore and Washington DC, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, City of Baltimore Neighborhood Communities and Erickson Retirement Communities.

Faculty bring expertise in physiology, psychology, sociology, engineering, education and neuroscience to work on challenging public health problems related to physical activity and health.

Being a kinesiology department within a school of public health allows us to make unique contributions. Some examples of our work:

- Biomechanics to understand and prevent arthritis
- Exercise’s impact on brain health through the lifespan
- Study of blood cells in elite endurance athletes and how this translates to the promotion of cardiovascular health in the general population
- Studying how social, environmental, and cultural issues impact physical activity, sport and health
- Study of expertise and ability to perform under mental stress
- Partnership of basic sciences in kinesiology, entrepreneurship, and development of health technology

“The School of Public Health is a collaborative community of dedicated faculty and graduate students. Through teaching, research, mentoring, grant writing, and collaborations with faculty in and outside of SPH, I have the experience necessary for a successful career in exercise physiology and public health.”

RIAN LANDERS-RAMOS
PhD ’16, KINESIOLOGY
GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

Master of Arts, Kinesiology
Focus on one of several areas, including cognitive motor neuroscience, exercise physiology or physical cultural studies.

Doctor of Philosophy, Kinesiology
Prepare to join the next generation of public health professionals by furthering the understanding of the relationship between physical activity and health practices, experiences and outcomes. Select a research focus in cognitive motor neuroscience, exercise physiology or physical cultural studies.

Master of Public Health, Physical Activity
Prepare for a career that integrates physical activity into public health practice at various levels. This 43-credit degree program is designed to be completed in two years full-time or three and a half or more years part-time (6 or fewer credits a semester).

Master’s Certification in Physical Education (PE-MCERT)
Undertake a 13-month, intensive teacher preparation program offered in partnership with the University of Maryland College of Education.

THE SCHOOL

Ranked 22nd among all schools of public health by U.S. News & World Report, we are a dynamic and growing school located at one of the nation’s top-ranked public research universities. Our vision is to be a leader in the discovery, application, and dissemination of public health knowledge in the state of Maryland, the nation, and the world. Faculty and students are involved in a broad range of scientific endeavors that advance knowledge through basic and applied research aimed at understanding and enhancing health and well-being across the lifespan. With a strong emphasis on promoting health equity and justice, many of our programs involve community-based participatory research and translational investigations, leading to dissemination of research findings into practice for the community, individuals and for health care settings.

With over 2,500 students in 25 different degrees and academic programs, our School of Public Health prepares students to tackle longstanding and emerging public health issues and make meaningful contributions to the health and welfare of individuals and society. We do this utilizing the tools of traditional public health disciplines, and in collaboration with fields as varied as engineering, arts and humanities, business and public policy.

THE UNIVERSITY

A global leader in research, entrepreneurship and innovation, Maryland is ranked No. 21 among public universities by U.S. News & World Report and No. 14 among public universities by Forbes. The Institute of Higher Education, which ranks the world’s top universities based on research, puts Maryland at No. 38 in the world, No. 29 nationally and No. 13 among U.S. public research institutions.

Located “inside the beltway” just minutes from the nation’s capital, the University of Maryland, College Park campus provides unparalleled access to unique opportunities for internships and research experiences in public health, including placements at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), CDC Washington, other agencies and offices in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children’s National Medical Center, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and many other national, state, and local health agencies. In addition to being a vibrant hub of research and policy, the D.C. area’s rich and diverse culture make it an especially lively, friendly, and accessible community where students, faculty and staff can thrive professionally and personally.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

For deadlines and application instructions, please visit sph.umd.edu/gradadmissions

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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