

BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

We promote and protect the health and well-being of all people and communities through innovative, theory-based research and practice, aiming at eliminating racial and social injustices and preparing the next generation of leaders in social and behavioral sciences. We offer a rigorous curriculum with opportunities to engage and partner with communities through internships, global experiences, capstones and student-directed research. We are leading community-engaged research in areas including:

- Structural racism, health disparities, health equity
- Tobacco and other substance use prevention
- Cancer screening and prevention
- LGBTQ+ health

- Violence prevention
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Health communication
- Health literacy
- Healthy aging
- Childhood adversity



MARLEN CRUZ MPH '23, CHES

Program Coordinator, Children's National Hospital

"BCH gave me the knowledge and skills necessary to develop, implement and evaluate health education materials tailored to the needs and interests of communities. The courses and faculty prepared me to pass the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) examination, laying a solid foundation for my future endeavors."



- Scientific administrators at federal agencies
- Professors at leading universities
- Health educators creating content for diverse populations
- Health directors implementing community-based programs
- Project directors spearheading health equity-centered research
- Public health analysts at federal, state and local health departments
- Communication specialists developing health information strategies



GRADUATE DEGREES OFFERED

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Part-time and full-time in-person or online program options

Students develop skills in community health needs assessment; health literacy; health communication; program planning, implementation and evaluation; research methodology; applying health behavior theory and public health leadership by participating in both academic and applied training. The program includes an internship and a capstone project.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Part-time and full-time in-person program options

Students develop skills to inform, deliver and evaluate interventions, programs and policies to improve the public's health and eliminate health disparities. Students conduct theory-based, community-engaged and anti-racist quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods research, while receiving exceptional mentoring. The program culminates in a dissertation.





OLIVIA KACHINGWE PhD '22

Assistant Professor, Yale School of Public Health, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences

"The most important thing I learned while studying at the University of Maryland is that interventions, programs and policies are most successful when grounded by the lived experiences of those impacted."

SPH AT A GLANCE >

TOP-TIER ACADEMICS

- Top 25 School of Public Health
- Top 12 SPH at a public university*
- * Source: U.S. News and World Report, 2024

CUTTING-EDGE LEARNING ACROSS THE PUBLIC HEALTH SPECTRUM

- 40+ innovative labs
- 30+ academic programs
- Over \$22 million in annual research funding

LARGE ENOUGH TO FIT YOUR INTERESTS, SMALL ENOUGH TO FEEL AT HOME

- 500+ graduate students
- 2,200+ undergraduates
- 250+ faculty and staff

INCLUSIVE & EXPANSIVE COMMUNITY

- Over half of SPH students are people of color
- Research, learning and collaboration opportunities around Maryland and the world

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

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