

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum 2.75 GPA
- Minimum GRE score 280 & MCAT min. score 50th percentile or 500
- Three letters of recommendation
- Statement of interest (one page) addressing the following topics: 1) What are your interests in public health and why are you planning to pursue an MPH? 2) What are your future career goals and what have you done either academically or professionally to guide your interest in public health?

All bachelor's degrees in any major from an accredited institution are welcomed.

## PREREQUISITES FOR THE PROGRAM ARE:

- One course in college-level introductory or general biology
- One course in college algebra, precalculus, calculus, or statistics

## APPLICATION STEPS:

- Submit your online application
- Pay your \$30 application fee
- Have official transcripts, test scores, and recommendation letters sent to our office via email to [ogp@xula.edu](mailto:ogp@xula.edu) or postal mail.
- Have official transcripts, test scores, and recommendation letters sent to our office via email to [ogp@xula.edu](mailto:ogp@xula.edu) or postal mail to the Office of Graduate Programs at 1 Drexel Drive, Box 250, New Orleans, LA 70125 or via email at [ogp@xula.edu](mailto:ogp@xula.edu)

## FACULTY AND STAFF:

Faculty members in the Department of Public Health Sciences are committed to training students and empowering them to be strong advocates for minimizing population based diseases and health disparities.

- **Dr. L. Faye Grimsley, PhD, MSPH** - Environmental and Industrial Hygiene
- **Dr. Regina Benjamin, MD, MBA** - Endowed Chair in Public Health Sciences and 18th United States Surgeon General
- **Dr. Tyra Gross, PhD, MPH** - Maternal and Child Health Disparities
- **Dr. Krista Mincey, DrPH, MPH** - Mental Health and Health Disparities
- **Dr. Amy Thierry, PhD, MPH** - Biobehavioral Health

## STAFF MEMBERS:

- Ms. Sierra Dixon, BS, MSPH • Ms. Kristina Wilcox, BS

## LEARN MORE

Receive more information about Public Health, events, and deadlines.

- Visit **This Is Public Health** for more information about pursuing a career in public health.
- Find out what public health is and why it's important.
- Learn about the role public health plays in our society.
- Learn more about who works in public health and what they do.
- Explore current public health job openings

*For more information about the Master of Public Health, please contact*

**Department of Public Health Sciences**  
Xavier University of Louisiana  
o: 504-520-6707 | f: 504-520-7894  
[www.xula.edu/publichealth/](http://www.xula.edu/publichealth/)



**XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA**  
**MASTER OF PUBLIC**  
**HEALTH IN HEALTH**  
**EQUITY**

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD



Public health is constantly evolving, which presents new challenges for living a long, quality life. Although there are practical solutions to defeat some of these challenges in place, we still need state-of-the-art and community-based solutions to address lingering challenges such as tobacco use and addictions. Our students are exposed to courses and field experiences designed to equip them with the knowledge and skills essential to leading the efforts of improving the health of communities here and around the globe. I am honored to be the Head of the Department of Public Health Sciences. The major here at Xavier is one of the few programs to combine a liberal arts curriculum with public health courses that stimulate critical thinking and emphasize the application of multidisciplinary strategies to promote health and wellbeing across the community.

Over the years, my public health career has been very rewarding and fulfilling, and I look forward to guiding and assisting others who have a desire to work in public health. I am looking forward to working with students, staff, and faculty to ensure Xavier's undergraduate program in Public Health Sciences continues to be successful.

Please explore the department's website at <http://www.xula.edu/publichealth/index.php> to learn more about our faculty, course offerings and requirements, and careers in public health.

Sincerely,  
L. Faye Grimsley, PhD, CIH, MSPH

## PUBLIC HEALTH OVERVIEW

Public health is the science and art of creating healthy communities through education, research and promotion of healthy lifestyles. In public health, the focus is on health promotion and disease/injury prevention, in contrast to the medical model of care, which focuses more heavily upon diagnosing and treating illnesses and conditions after they occur. Focusing on prevention and the population public health is a distinct and ever-changing field. There are 10 Tips from the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) when investigating an education and career in public health.

Public health professionals analyze and develop programs that protect the health of individuals, families and communities in the United States and abroad. Because of their "big picture" perspective, public health experts play a key role in emergency preparedness and response. This may be why public health has become such a growing field in recent years. The United States is placing a high priority on building up the nation's public health workforce.

A career in public health opens the door to diverse opportunities in a variety of sectors such as federal, private and non-governmental organizations. Because of their "big picture" perspective, public health experts play a key role in emergency preparedness and response. This may be why public health has become such a growing field in recent years.

There are over 20 major fields of study. The five core disciplines are:

- Behavioral science/health education
- Biostatistics
- Environmental health
- Epidemiology
- Health services administration

The Master of Public Health in Health Equity at Xavier University of Louisiana is a 45-credit hour program that includes core foundational competency courses and a range of other courses to choose from related to determinants of health equity. The program will be offered in an on-campus format with courses being offered in late afternoon and evening to accommodate work schedules.

The MPH in Health Equity is designed to accomplish the following goals and is based on the current work of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health and the Council on Education for Public Health:

- Educate students so that they understand the core beliefs and functions of the profession and evidence-based science of Public Health; and
- Educate students so that they understand the environmental, biological, genetic, behavioral and psychological factors, and globalization affects related to human health.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM:

The curriculum will be closely structured to reflect the core of public health, with additional courses that will be geared towards health equities. The curriculum will require students to complete 45 hours and will have both a thesis and a non-thesis option.

Students will be required to complete 27 hours of required core courses that are listed below (Course Descriptions follow):

- Environmental Health and Toxicological Issues (3 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods in Racial and Ethnic Disparities (3 credits)
- Health Equity Principles and Practices (3 credits)
- Applied Biostatistics (3 credits)
- Public Health Policy (3 credits)
- Determinants of Health Equity (3 credits)
- Graduate Practicum and Capstone (9 hours)