The societal need for highly trained and educated public health professionals continues to grow rapidly. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), nearly one-third of the projected increase in US jobs is projected to come from the healthcare and social assistance sectors.

Public health professionals protect, improve and promote the health of individuals, communities and populations. They play a significant role in responding to infectious disease epidemics and emergency situations relating to natural disasters. The work of a public health professional can range from addressing the health needs of people in a very specific locality to focusing on the spread of disease across the globe. The work of public health professionals spans many disciplines.

The curriculum for the B.S. in Public Health consists of a core of approximately 83 credit hours, 15 credit hours in a selected option, and 22 additional credit hours of general education and elective credits. The core draws on courses taught by twelve different departments. The option area is intended to allow students to gain an in-depth understanding of a specific area of professional practice. All students complete internships and/or research participation. This interdisciplinary curriculum provides multiple opportunities for graduates in the growing public health field.

Public Health students will...
- Understand the concepts of population health, and the basic processes and interventions that identify and address major health related needs and issues for populations.
- Be able to identify opportunities for promoting and protecting health across the human life span by acquiring an understanding of the science of human health and disease.
- Develop an understanding of the socioeconomic, behavioral, biological, environmental and other factors that impact human health and health disparities.
- Be able to use and analyze public health data and evidenced based approaches in public health practice.
- Be well prepared to directly enter career positions in the public health field or to successfully pursue post-baccalaureate education programs.

Being Career Ready...
- Faculty-mentored research and guidance will help you develop the professional skills needed for success in a competitive job market and/or advanced study in graduate and professional programs.
- The Public Health: Nutrition option program prepares graduates for multiple opportunities in the growing public health field. Example job titles include public health nutritionist, health coach and community nutritionist.
- 100% of Southeast programs offer real-world experience. Public Health: Nutrition option students learn by completing a required internship and/or research participation at governmental public health agencies, not-for-profit agencies and global health organizations.
- The path to a successful career begins with you! You can maximize your career development by working closely with Career Services and Southeast faculty – they are here to help you connect your passions, interests and skills to jobs and opportunities in the field. Career Services provides professional career counseling and coaching, resume critiques, practice interviews, job search strategies, career events, networking opportunities and more.

Internships, Employment Opportunities and Graduate Schools of Recent Graduates:
- Health Officer
- Project Manager
- Health Research Analyst
- Rural Health Analyst
- Disaster Specialist
- Health Services Consultant
- Humanitarian Organizations
- Program Administrators
- Policy Analysis and Planning
- Community Based Prevention Manager
- Management Analyst
- Quality and Performance Measurement
- Public Health Administrator
- State Departments of Public Health
- Entertainment/Hospitality Companies
- Universities and Colleges
- Community Health Manager
- Local Public Health Agencies
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Health Plans
- Washington University School of Public Health
- St. Louis University School of Public Health
- University of Missouri – Columbia

Admission Requirements
A college preparatory sequence that includes three years of science (including biology, chemistry and physics) and mathematics through advanced algebra is encouraged.

Transfer and Dual Credit Students
If you have dual credit or transfer credit, please visit our transfer course equivalencies guide at semo.edu/transfercredit.
This is a guide based on the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students will meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their individual progress.

**CURRICULUM CHECKLIST**

“Critical Courses” are italicized and bolded. Data shows that students who have completed this course in the first two years and have earned the noted grade are most likely to complete this program of study.

### Public Health: Nutrition Option – 95-97 credit hours

- BI163 Evolution and Ecology (4)
- **BI173** Cell and Organismal Biology (4)
- **BI310/BS240/BS242** Microbiology (3-4)
- **BI443/VE443** Epidemiology (3)
- Bi654/EV545 Risk Assessment Applications (3)
- **BI471/VE481/HN471/PS384** Internship (1)
- **BS113** Anatomy and Physiology I (4)
- **BS114** Anatomy and Physiology II (4)
- **CH185** General Chemistry (5)
- **CH234/CH341** Organic and Biological Chemistry (3-4)
- **EC215** Microeconomics (3)
- **HL320** Community Health (3)
- **IS175** Information Systems (3)
- **MA116** Precalculus A (3)
- MA223/MA155 Probability and Statistics (3)
- **PS103** US Political Systems (3)
- **PY220** Psychological Development Across the Lifespan (3)
- **PY555** Health Psychology (3)
- **SC105** Fundamentals of Oral Communication (3)
- **SC301** Foundations of Health Communications (3)
- **SO102** Society, Culture and Social Behavior (3)
- **IU309** Professional Writing for Science and Technology (3)
- UO2 Medical Ethics (3)
- **UO36** Environmental Health (3)
- **UO412** American Healthcare Systems (3)

**Nutrition Option:** select 15 credit hours from the following:

- FN235 Nutrition for Health (3)
- **FN255** Nutrition I (3)
- **FN355** Lifespan Nutrition (3)
- **FN520** Nutrition and Aging (3)
- **FN540** Community Nutrition (3)
- **HL332** Lifestyle Disease Risk Reduction (3)
- **HL526** Health Behavior Change (3)

**General Education Requirements** – some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in major program

- Social and Behavioral Sciences – 6 hours
- Constitution Requirement – 3 hours
- Written Communication – 6 hours
- Oral Communication – 3 hours
- Natural Sciences – 7 hours (from two disciplines, one to include a lab)
- Mathematics – 3 hours
- Humanities & Fine Arts – 9 hours (from at least two disciplines)
- Additional requirements – 5 hours (to include UI100 for native students)
- Civics examination

**SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN**

### FALL SEMESTER

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**Milestone:** maintain 2.0 cumulative GPA

### SPRING SEMESTER

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**Milestone:** maintain 2.0 cumulative GPA

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**Milestone:** maintain 2.0 cumulative GPA

### THIRD YEAR

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**Milestone:** maintain 2.0 cumulative GPA

**A “Milestone” signifies a significant stage for a student in the completion of a degree.**

**Degree requirements for all students:** a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of the General Education program, and completion of 39 senior division hours (300-599). Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or Degree Works for additional graduation requirements for your program.

A minimum 2.00 GPA in the major and overall are required to graduate with a BS degree.