

# B.S. in Community Health

## College of Humanities and Social Sciences

2007-2008

Academic Advising Center

Old Main 380

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This document has been created for advising purposes only. Please contact the appropriate department for major and/or graduation requirements.

### What is the study of Community Health?

The Community Health degree consists of two to three years of course work in Health Education and supporting areas. This includes required course work in both content - and process-

oriented Health Education courses, social sciences (Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology), Biological and Physical Sciences (Anatomy and

Physiology, Exercise Physiology, and Chemistry), Nutrition and electives that complement a student's interests and professional needs.

### Why should I consider a Community Health Major?

Community Health Educators assess individual and community needs for health education; plan, implement and administer health education strategies, interventions and programs; conduct evaluation and research; serve as a health education resource; and communicate and advocate for health and health education. Effective Health Education is ecological in its approach. When planning the focus of interventions, trained Health Educators consider all factors that contribute to health and disease: individual behavior; group dynamics; environmental conditions; economics; politics,

laws and policies; culture, ethnicity and gender; and the availability, accessibility and quality of health services.

Students who are accepted into the Community Health major explore the biological, social, environmental and individual determinants of health. The curriculum is based on the skills and competencies to become a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) through the National Commission on Health Education Credentialing, Inc. The program is rigorous and faculty emphasize diverse classroom projects and community outreach.

At the end of the program, a full-time internship (40 hours per week for 10 weeks) in a health education setting is required.

The Community Health major is appropriate for students who want to work in community, public and global health; health communication; governmental and non-profit agencies and organizations; medical care settings; worksite wellness programs; and college and university student service health education programs. It can also serve as a preparatory program for graduate or post-baccalaureate study in Health Education, Public Health and other related areas.

### Declaring a Community Health Major:

Prerequisites for entry into the major are completion of either HLED 150, 151 or 152 with a grade of C or better, a 2.50 GPA and completion of a

program application. Admittance is competitive. Students must maintain the 2.50 GPA to satisfactorily complete the degree and to

enroll in HLED 472 and 473 (Internship). Further information is available from the Program Coordinator.

### Mid Program Checkpoint:

Students who intend to complete a Bachelor's of Science degree in Community Health within four years should complete the following courses

by the start of their junior year. Students are expected to follow all prerequisite requirements for courses and seek early departmental advisement.

#### Coursework:

BIOL 101 (pre-req. for BIOL 348) and CHEM 115 (note MATH 114 pre-req.)

HLED 150, 151, 152

(BIO 348, 349 and CHEM 251 must be completed before the senior year).

#### Contact Information:

<http://www.wvu.edu/pehr/>

#### Program Coordinator:

Billie J. Lindsey, EdD,  
CHES

CV 101C

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#### Sample Career Fields:

- Community Health Educator
- Tobacco Control Specialist
- Sexuality Education Coordinator
- HIV/AIDS Educator
- Hospital-based Wellness Program Director
- Public Health Educator
- Substance Abuse Educator
- College Health Educator
- Injury Prevention Specialist
- Curriculum Development Specialist
- Health Consultant
- Health Information Specialist
- Nutrition and Physical Activity Coordinator

# Community Health Major Requirements: 101 Credits

## Health Education Core: 66 Credits

HLED 150 Consumer and Environmental Health (4)  
HLED 151 Society and Drugs (2)  
HLED 152 Society and Sex (2)  
HLED 330 Contemporary Health Issues (4)  
    or HLED 345 Health Promotion/Disease Prevention (4)  
HLED 350 Nutrition (3)  
HLED 407 Principles and Foundations in Health Education (WP) (4)  
HLED 410 Health Communication/Social Marketing (4)  
HLED 420 Epidemiology and Biostatistics (5)  
HLED 432 Organization and Administration of Community Health Programs (4)  
HLED 447 Community Health (4)  
HLED 450 Methods and Materials in Health Education (5)  
HLED 460 Program Planning & Implementation in Health Education (WP) (5)  
HLED 465 Program Evaluation and Research Design (5)  
Choose:  
HLED 471 Internship I (3)  
    and HLED 472 Internship II (12)  
or HLED 473 Internship III (15)

## Science Core: 24-25 credits

CHEM 115 General Chemistry (5)  
CHEM 251 Elementary Organic Chemistry (5)  
    Or CHEM 351 Organic Chemistry (4)  
BIOL 348 Human Anatomy & Physiology (5)  
BIOL 349 Human Physiology w/Lab (5)  
PE 413 Physiology of Exercise (5)

NOTE: Program prepares students for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam.

## Exit Requirement:

Standard First Aid/CPR certification

## Other Community Health options:

Minor in Health Promotion (28 credits)\*

\*Students interested in the minor must complete BIOL 348 before applying. Minors will be accepted only if there is room in the senior-level classes. At this time, no minors are being accepted.

## Electives under advisement: 11 Credits

Students select supporting courses that contribute to their professional interests and to the settings in which they wish to practice. Student should consult with their major advisor when choosing elective courses. **Students interested in becoming lifestyle advisors in the WWU Peer Health Education Program may include HLED 250 as one of their electives.**

ANTH 353 Sex and Gender in Culture (5)  
ANTH 424 Medical Anthropology (5)  
HLED 250 Health of the College Student (4)  
HLED 435 Work Site Health Promotion (5)  
SOC 260 The Family in Society (5)  
SOC 268 Gender and Society (5)  
SOC 330 Social Psychology (5)  
SOC 332 The Sociology of Human Relationships (5)  
SOC 333 Aging in America (5)  
SOC 338 Sociology of Sexual Behavior (5)  
SOC 340 Sociology of Organizations (5)  
SOC 369 Sociology of Race and Ethnicity (5)  
SOC 380 Sociology of Youth (5)  
COMM 224 Small Group Processes (4)  
PSY 230 Developmental Psychology (5)  
PSY 240 Social Psychology (5)  
PSY 332 Adolescent Development (5)  
PSY 341 Psychology and Culture (5)  
PE 415 Physical Fitness Assess & Exercise Prescription (5)  
ENG 302 Introduction to Technical & Professional Writing (5)  
Other electives with advisor approval

## These required or elective courses will also satisfy the GUR or other Graduation Requirement:

BCOM: COMM 224  
QSR: MATH 114  
SSC: SOC 221, 251, 260  
BGCM: PSY 119  
    ANTH 353  
    SOC 268, 269  
LSCI: CHEM 115, 251  
    BIO 101  
WP: HLED 407,460  
    ENG 302