

HEALTH

The Department of Health in the College of Health Sciences considers the maintenance and promotion of health as a continuous process throughout one's lifetime. Maintaining and advocating optimum health includes appropriate disease prevention, and health education, promotion, and behavior.

The department's primary role is to prepare health professionals in a variety of disciplines. A secondary role is to educate and inform students from other departments about health. A tertiary role is to provide health-related information to the University campus and the surrounding community. The department believes in a multidisciplinary and humanistic approach to education. It provides you, as the student, with learning experiences both in and out of the classroom.

Career Opportunities

The Department of Health offers programs that prepare you for a career in environmental health, public health, and respiratory care. In addition, allied health professionals who have earned an associate degree, diploma, or certificate can complete a bachelor of science in health science. Minors are available in health sciences and environmental health.

The department also offers graduate programs for those pursuing advanced training in the fields of public health and school health.

The department has a career placement rate of more than 90%. Graduates have been placed in organizations such as the following:

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Devereaux Foundation
Environmental Protection Agency
Haverford Hospital
Weston Solutions
Thomas Jefferson University and Medical Center
West Chester Area, Downingtown, and Upper
Perkiomen school districts

Undergraduate Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Health Science – General. This degree-completion program is designed for those of you who have completed your training as allied health professionals such as paramedics, dental hygienists, respiratory therapists, medical lab technologists, and practitio-

ners of complementary and alternative medicine.

Bachelor of Science in Health Science – Respiratory Care. You will be trained to work with physicians and nurses to provide assistance to individuals suffering from acute or chronic respiratory illness. This program is offered in association with Bryn Mawr Hospital and is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).

Bachelor of Science in Public Health – Health Promotion. You will be trained in a program approved by the Society of Public Health Education/AAHE to work as entry-level public health educators. The program trains you to plan, administer, and evaluate public health education services and programs.

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health. You will be given a strong foundation in science and mathematics enabling you to work in a variety of settings where you will be called on to recognize, assess, and control environmental hazards in water quality, hazardous waste management, and industrial hygiene.

Minors

Environmental Health
Health Science

Advanced Degrees

Master of Education in School Health
Master of Public Health
Graduate Certificate in Emergency Preparedness in
Public Health
Graduate Certificate in Health Care Management
Graduate Certificate in Integrative Health

Typical Courses

Alternative and Complementary Medicine
Aspects of Respiratory Therapy
Community Health
Curriculum and Instruction in Health
Dimensions of Wellness
Environmental Health
Family Life and Sex Education
Mental Health
Program Planning and Evaluation
Transcultural Health

Learn More

UNDERGRADUATE FACT SHEET

Special Study Opportunities

All of the department's undergraduate programs require practical experience in addition to didactic training. The public health and environmental health programs require a 12-credit internship chosen from a variety of settings. The respiratory care program requires you to be involved in clinical practice while in the program.

Student internship sites have included Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Teva Pharmaceuticals, Boeing Vertol, BP Refining, Graduate Hospital, Moss Rehabilitation Center, Johnson and Johnson, Fox Chase Cancer Center, and the American Heart Association.

Under a special partnership with the Amazon Center for Environmental Education and Research (ACEER), you may participate in credit and noncredit workshops, internships, and faculty-student research projects in the Amazon rainforest and the cloud forest of the Andes Mountains of Peru. Workshop topics include rainforest ecology, cloud forest ecology, tropical water quality, environmental education, tropical medicine, botanical medicine, and more. Internships and research are hosted at ACEER's environmental centers near Puerto Maldonado, Cusco, and Iquitos. Visit www.aceer.org for more information.

Faculty

You can obtain a complete listing of faculty and their academic qualifications for this program and other programs of study at West Chester University from the department.

For More Information

Chairperson, Department of Health
207 Sturzebecker Health Sciences Center
West Chester University
West Chester, PA 19383
610-436-2931

Web page: http://www.wcupa.edu/_academics/HealthSciences/health/

Undergraduate Catalog: http://www.wcupa.edu/_information/official.documents/undergrad.catalog/

About West Chester University

A comprehensive, public institution, West Chester University offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs in more than 100 subject areas, as well as certification and certificate programs. As one of the largest members of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, West Chester offers a full and rewarding educational experience as well as reasonable tuition.

With a rich heritage dating back to the 19th century, West Chester University was founded in 1871 as West Chester Normal School for the purpose of training teachers for the Commonwealth's newly established public schools. In 1960, West Chester State Teachers College expanded its programs to include liberal arts and graduate degrees and, as a result, dropped "Teachers" from its name. In 1983, West Chester State College became one of the 14 institutions in the State System of Higher Education. Along with its university status, the school acquired a new system of governance and the opportunity to expand its degree programs.

Today, more than 15,400 graduate and undergraduate students, along with 1,500 faculty and staff, study and work on the 406-acre campus. Situated in the Borough of West Chester, the campus is a picturesque mix of Gothic, Victorian, and modern architecture with pleasant, tree-shaded walks.

Strategically located at the center of the mid-Atlantic corridor between New York City and Washington, D.C., West Chester is just 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington.

Information on Admission Office of Admissions

Emil H. Messikomer Hall, 100 West Rosedale Ave.
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