

Fall 2022 Undergraduate Program Director (UPD) Report

PRINCESS Evan-Mbah - Sat, Dec 3, 2022 10:11 PM

SEBS Governing Council

Received

General Information

Your name

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Major

Public Health

Date of meeting

11/29/2022

Class year

2025

Undergraduate Program Director

Christina Torian

UPD Email

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Major website link (if available)

<https://bloustein.rutgers.edu/undergraduate/publichealth/>

Major Information

Major Options - What options are offered within the major? How do they differ?

Students who are SAS and SEBS, can still major in public health while fulfilling core requirements of their various divisions. There are options for students to enroll in a joint BS/MPH program which will enable them pursue a masters in public health while taking undergraduate courses and still pay undergraduate tuition.

Total number of students within the major (give an estimate from UPD if the exact number is unknown)

97

Goals within the major - What are expectations of students post-graduation?

About a handful of students choose to go into professional schools such as nursing, physician assistant program, medical school E.T.C Majority of the students end up pursuing postgraduate degree programs such as masters in public health, occupational therapy and a masters in healthcare administration

List 2-3 high-level major courses. What is the goal of each course? What should students be learning?

Research Methods: It is a data analysis course where different methods and type of research are taught to students. This course teaches students how to conduct questionnaires, surveys and interviews, as well methods to data analysis and synthesis. This prepares students for their final project that needs to be done for their internship which is 'professional practice' and of course apply it to real world situations.
Leadership Seminar: This is a professional development course where students are sectioned into teams and made to work together. Students learn about things like emotional intelligence in workplace,

workplace etiquettes, and all skills needed to prepare them for the workforce and internships. Professional Practice: It is a 225 hours (6 credit load) practicum experience course done at a public health agency where students gain practical experience in the workforce through an internship so they are exposed to certain aspects of public health. This is essential because it helps students through navigation, decide what they want to do with their degree, and/or solidify their path. In some cases, students end up getting employment opportunities in the agency they worked at.

Student Issues

Are there any concerns/student issues with classes? Are there any suggestions for solutions to these issues?

The only issue is with this major, are prerequisite science courses needed to declare the major. Courses such as general chemistry and biology have been major obstacles for students who want to pursue public health. So far, the Bloustein school have been able to work with SAS and SEBS in regards to lowering the amount of science courses required as prerequisites so as to enable students declare the major with ease. This also involved them brainstorming on what students really needed to know in order to excel in public health field as professionals in the future. So instead of taking general biology which is not really necessary if they intend to pursue post graduate studies in public health and work in the field, they would have to take a human biology course and instead of general chemistry they could take chemistry of life.

From the perspective of the UPD or faculty members, what could be improved upon in the major (anything, not just related to classes)? Are there any suggestions for solutions to these issues?

They are working on more study abroad experience program for students to give students the opportunity to gain real world experience outside of the country. What's Next program has been designed for students outside of school curriculum to discuss their future after undergraduate, ensuring that students are ready to go into graduate program and also gain experiences which can be added to their resume.

Things going on within the major (Visitors, Talks, Seminars within the major)

Throughout the semester, there are events, seminars and webinars organized by the Bloustein School of Public health, even in collaboration with Rutgers School of Public health which are necessary for students in deciding what to do with their degrees, networking, and connecting. Information about events are usually sent out to students emails and posted on their Instagram page.

Suggestions for students in this major (ex: organizations to join, news to pay attention to)

The Bloustein School of Public health have an active Instagram page , a Facebook group, as well as student organizations such as future healthcare administrators (for those aspiring to get a masters in healthcare administration), NJ Public Health Association (Rutgers chapter) which are all active student organizations.

Changes within the major in the upcoming year?

Cancer surveillance certificate programs which prepares students to sit for an exam to become cancer registerers should be ready next academic year. Also, more study abroad opportunities for students with scholarships for those programs

Other Suggestions

None for now.

Discussion

P Paula Agustin

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