**NEW** Interdisciplinary Concentration in Population Mental Health

Mental disorders are the major overlooked challenge to population health both in the United States and globally. One in five persons suffer from a mental disorder at some point in their lives. The public health burden of mental disorders is devastating. Major depression is projected to be the leading cause of burden of disease globally by 2030. Schizophrenic and bipolar disorders are in the top 10 leading causes of disability in low- and middle-income countries, while substance use disorders are in the top 10 list in high-income countries. Increasingly, mental disorders have been linked to higher risk of the development of and mortality from chronic diseases, such as type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease as well as infectious diseases such as HIV.

The goal of this interdisciplinary concentration is to increase expertise in mental disorders among public health professionals. Students who complete this interdisciplinary concentration will be prepared to articulate the U.S. and global public health impact of mental disorders and obtain critical skills that will enable them to conduct important work, in both research and practice, aimed at understanding the causes and consequences of mental disorders as well as reducing their public health burden.

**Concentration Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELIGIBILITY</th>
<th>Students from any academic department at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADMISSIONS</td>
<td>Submit the concentration completion form within five business days of the registrar’s add/drop deadline for the quarter prior to graduation. For spring graduation, this would be within five business days of the Spring 2 add/drop deadline. For winter graduation, this would be within five business days of the Fall 2 add/drop deadline.</td>
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<td>REQUIRED</td>
<td>Completion of 10 credits (C or higher for ordinal credit, S for S/NS credit):</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 5 credits from core courses (EPI 217, EPI 219, GHP 204)</td>
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<td>• 2.5 credits from mental health elective courses</td>
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<td>• 2.5 credits from any core, mental health elective, or related elective courses</td>
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<td>RECOMMENDED</td>
<td>Population mental health related practicum, thesis or dissertation</td>
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**Core Courses (5 credits required)**
- EPI 217: Epidemiology of Adult Psychiatric Disorders (2.5 credits)
- EPI 219: Assessment Concepts and Methods in Psychiatric Epidemiology (2.5 credits)
- GHP 204: Foundations of Mental Health and Sustainable Development (2.5 credits)

**Mental Health Elective Courses (2.5 credits required)**
- GHP 208: Case Studies in Global Mental Health Delivery (2.5 credits)
- SBS 202: Child Psychiatric Epidemiology (2.5 credits)
- SBS 212: Developmental Disabilities I: Evaluation, Assessment and Systems (2.5 credits)
- SBS 214: Developmental Disabilities II: Value, Policy and Change (2.5 credits)
- SBS 254: Social Disparities, Stress and Health (2.5 credits)
- SBS 504: Substance Abuse and Public Health (2.5 credits)
- WGH 210: Women, Gender and Health: Critical Issues in Mental Health (1.25 credits)
- WGH 403: Issues in Mental Health - Independent Study (1.25 credits)

**Related Elective Courses**
- BST 267: Introduction to Social and Biological Networks (2.5 credits)
- EPI 507: Genetic Epidemiology (2.5 credits)
- SBS 207: Race, Ethnicity and Health: Perspectives from the Social and Behavioral Sciences (2.5 credits)
- SBS 208: Adolescent Health (2.5 credits)
- SBS 219: High-Risk Behavior: Epidemiology and Prevention Strategies (2.5 credits)
- SBS 220: Society and its Effects on Child Health (2.5 credits)
- SBS 222: Social Services for Children, Adolescents and Families (2.5 credits)
- SBS 299: Driving Science-Based Innovation in Early Childhood Practice and Policy (5 credits)
- SBS 514: Reducing Socioeconomic and Racial/Ethnic Inequalities in Health (2.5 credits)

For the Concentration Completion Form or questions, contact the Program Coordinator: Jake Powers (jpowers@hsph.harvard.edu)