Public Health and YOU!

Diana Cassady, DrPH
Associate Director, MPH Program
UCD Department of Public Health Sciences

The Public Health Vision:
Healthy People in Healthy Communities
WHAT IS HEALTH?

“Health is the state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”

World Health Organization, 1947

TEN GREAT PUBLIC HEALTH ACHIEVEMENTS

- Vaccination
- Motor vehicle safety
- Safer work places
- Control of infectious diseases
- Mortality reduction from CHD and stroke
- Safe food supply
- Healthier mothers and babies
- Family planning
- Water fluoridation
- Recognition of tobacco as hazard
WHO DELIVERS PUBLIC HEALTH?

Public agencies
  Federal, state, local

Private organizations
  Hospitals, clinics, church, civic groups, advocacy organizations, etc.

MPH: WHY UC DAVIS?
Emphasis on public health practice with strong ties to the practice world:
  + California Department of Public Health
  + Local health departments
  + Community clinics
  + State legislature and advocacy groups

Based in a research university with expertise in:
  + Environmental health
  + Communications
  + Epidemiology and Biostatistics
  + Health policy

Small class size, personal attention, strong class cohort
General degree in public health, program can be tailored
Graduate within 12-18 months.
UCD MPH PROGRAM

MPH degree at UC Davis

- A 56-unit program in the essentials of public health
- Includes Practicum experience in public health
- Co-located with PhD programs in epidemiology, biostatistics, and environmental health.

UCD MPH PROGRAM

MPH requirements: courses

- Epidemiology
- Biostatistics and Informatics
- Environmental and Occupational Health
- Health Services and Administration
- Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Seminar in Public Health
UCD MPH PROGRAM

MPH requirements: practice

Practicum experience:
+ Work on practical public health project in local public health agency or other organization - 300 hour commitment
+ Can be local or other.

Capstone experience (symposium);
  15 minute presentation, poster, paper.

RECRUITMENT DATA

- 2011-2012: 155 applications submitted

- Current recruitment:
  + 244 people expressed interest
  + Continuing recruitment activities through December
    - Information Nights
    - Attendance at 6 graduate fairs
    - Extensive e-mail and mail campaign
ADMISSIONS DATA

- 155 applications received for 2011-2012
  + 58 offered admissions
  + 26 enrolled students
- Average GPA of admitted students – 3.5
- Average GREs of admitted students –
  + Verbal – 537 (61 percentile);
  + Quantitative – 657 (61 percentile);
  + Analytical – 4 (59 percentile)

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Submit Graduate Studies online application and supplemental materials by either application deadline (Dec. 1 or Jan 15)
- MPH office will contact you if there are missing materials or when your file is complete
- Review can take several months and students will be notified by mail of the decision
  + Admit
  + Waitlist
  + Deny
APPLICATION TIPS...

- Read the directions.
- Start early (or: don’t wait until the last minute).
- Refer to the UCD MPH website for tips (personal goals statement vs. statement of purpose).
- Tell us why public health is important to you.
- Letters should support your commitment to public health.

ALUMNI PROFILE

- Linette Scott - Public Health Medical Officer II - California Department of Public Health, Class of 2004-05
- Monica Garcia - Community Public Health Coordinator - Community Health Clinic Ole, Class of 2007-2008
- Joseph Hunt - Environmental Health Specialist - Tuolumne County, Class of 2008-2009
- Mary Gallagher – Nursing School, Yale University, Class of 2009-2010