

# School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Carole Kenner, Dean

## Mission Statement

The mission of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences is congruent with that of The College of New Jersey in promoting excellence, valuing diversity, and providing a service in a community of learners. The School of Nursing and Health Sciences serves the people of New Jersey and the nation by preparing professional nurses at the baccalaureate level and advanced practice nurses at the master's level, with all graduates prepared to be successful, ethical, and visionary leaders in a multicultural, highly technological, and increasingly global world.

## Revision Advisory

The School of Nursing and Health Sciences maintains the right and responsibility to revise content as appropriate in response to changes to accreditation requirements or other professional standards in the field.

## Nursing

The Master of Science in Nursing prepares advanced nurses to care for individuals, families, and school-age children. The curriculum builds on the nursing and scientific knowledge base of the baccalaureate-prepared nurse and focuses on advanced clinical decision-making and critical-thinking skills. Graduates are prepared to accurately and critically assess the health and illness experiences of individuals, families, and school-age children to develop health interventions, and to evaluate healthcare outcomes.

The MSN program offers five options: four nurse practitioner options (Family Nurse Practitioner [with variation for BSN-prepared nurse midwives and nurse practitioners], Adult/Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and Neonatal Nurse Practitioner) and a School Nurse option. MSN programs begin in the fall.

Three post-MSN certifications are offered: Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult/Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and Family Nurse Practitioner for Specialized NPs. Post-MSN programs begin in fall or spring, depending on the specialty track. A School Nurse Instructional Certificate is available which meets NJ State requirements for school nurse certification and has been approved by the Department of Education in the State of New Jersey.

Classes are offered in a hybrid format, which includes asynchronous, synchronous, and limited in-person activities. All MSN and certificate options include clinical practicum experiences. Clinical practicum hours are during the day, usually on weekdays. Clinical experiences take place under the guidance of experienced advanced practice nurses, school nurses, clinical nurse leaders, physicians, or other advanced nursing practitioners as appropriate to the area of specialization and to the program.

Required practicum hours for each course are listed in the course descriptions. Most MSN options may be completed in two years and two summers of full-time study. Students may take up to six years of part-time study to complete any of the options. Faculty advisors work closely with each student to plan an appropriate course of study and to ensure progress through the program.

The master's degree programs in nursing at The College of New Jersey are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036-1120, 202.887.6791.

## Policy Statement on Minimum Grade in Clinical Courses for Graduate Nursing Students

Clinical courses include theoretical learning in the classroom, as well as practice in a clinical setting. Graduate students in courses with a clinical component must achieve a grade of B- or higher in order to continue in the clinical course sequence. Courses with a clinical component include NURS 633, 636, 637, 638, 660, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 690, and 695. In addition to courses with a clinical component, students must achieve a B- or higher in the following courses in order to progress in the program: NURS 503, 504, and 643.

A student who earns a C+ or C in any of the above courses may repeat the course once the next time the course is offered. A student who earns a C- or F in a clinical course will be dismissed from the program. A graduate nursing student may only repeat one course in the program one time. If a student repeats a course and subsequently earns a grade of less than B in that course or in any of the other listed courses, the student will be dismissed from the program. Students who are not meeting the academic requirements of the theoretical component of any clinical course may not be considered safe and may be excluded from clinical experience.

The policy for all graduate programs at The College of New Jersey is that the graduate student must maintain a GPA of 3.0. Should the student fall below this GPA, the student will be placed on academic probation and given one semester to raise the GPA to a minimum of 3.0. If this does not occur, then the student is dismissed from the program. If there is a course that is responsible for pulling down the GPA and it is only offered once a year, the student may be allowed to stay in the program until that course can be repeated. However, progression may not be allowed until the course is repeated and the GPA is 3.0 or above.

## Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Programs

Credits by program option

Program codes: NURS\_MSN01, NURS\_MSN02, NURS\_MSN03, NURS\_MSN05, NURS\_MSN15

Judy Harkins, Assistant Professor (harkinsj@tcnj.edu)

**Admissions Requirements**

- A completed online application.
- Bachelor in Nursing degree from an NLN- or CCNE-accredited program.
- Successful completion of one undergraduate statistics course within 5 years prior to matriculation or, for non-matriculated students, prior to taking NURS 506.
- Successful completion of an undergraduate health assessment course or approved equivalent.
- Preadmission interview may be required.
- Applicants to the School Nurse MSN must demonstrate completion of the TCNJ School Nurse Instructional Certificate or an equivalent post-BSN school nurse certificate program. Practicing School Nurses who were certified prior to 2004 and who hold current NJ School Nurse Certification may be considered on an individual basis for admission to this program.
- Students applying to the NNP program must have experience in a level 3 or 4 neonatal ICU. A separate interview with the Thomas Jefferson University NNP program director is required.
- Optional: GRE or GMAT scores, though students with an undergraduate GPA below 3.0 are encouraged to take the exam.*

**Additional Requirements****Program entry**

- License to practice as a registered nurse in New Jersey
- License to practice in Pennsylvania

**Pre-clinical requirements**

- CPR certification (BLS or ACLS)
- Criminal Background Check
- Drug Test
- Health and immunization requirements
- Liability Insurance for student nurse practitioner
- For more detailed information, please contact Deirdre Jackson, clinical site coordinator (jacksond@tcnj.edu).

**Graduation Requirements**

- Credits as determined by program option.
- Successful completion of all program requirements/prerequisites.

**Program Options****Family Nurse Practitioner Option** (NURS\_MSN01)

47 credits

***Required Courses***

- NURS 506/Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice and Research
- NURS 501/Perspectives in Advanced Practice Nursing
- NURS 503/Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice
- NURS 504/Advanced Human Pathophysiology

- NURS 604/ Research and Evidence-Based Nursing for Advanced Nursing Practice
- NURS 603/Individual, Family, and Community Systems
- NURS 633/Advanced Holistic Health Assessment
- NURS 636/Primary Care I
- NURS 638/Primary Care II
- NURS 637/Primary Care III
- NURS 643/Primary Care of the Childbearing Family
- NURS 690/Practicum in the Nurse Practitioner Role
- NURS 694/Capstone Seminar
- NURS 705/Capstone Project in Nursing

**Adult/Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Option** (NURS\_MSN05)

43 credits

***Required Courses***

- NURS 506/ Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice and Research
- NURS 501/Perspectives in Advanced Practice Nursing
- NURS 503/Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice
- NURS 504/Advanced Human Pathophysiology
- NURS 604/ Research and Evidence-Based Nursing for Advanced Nursing Practice
- NURS 603/Individual, Family, and Community Systems
- NURS 633/Advanced Holistic Health Assessment
- NURS 636/Primary Care I
- NURS 638/Primary Care II
- NURS 637/Primary Care III
- NURS 690/Practicum in the Nurse Practitioner Role
- NURS 694/Capstone Seminar
- NURS 705/Capstone Project in Nursing

**Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Option** (NURS\_MSN03)

38 credits (23 at The College of New Jersey; 15 at Thomas Jefferson University)

***Required Courses at TCNJ***

- NURS 506/ Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice and Research
- NURS 501/Perspectives in Advanced Practice Nursing
- NURS 504/Advanced Human Pathophysiology
- NURS 604/ Research and Evidence-Based Nursing for Advanced Nursing Practice
- NURS 603/Individual, Family, and Community Systems
- NURS 633/Advanced Holistic Health Assessment
- NURS 690/ Practicum in the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Role (didactic sessions only 3 cr.)
- NURS 694/Capstone Seminar
- NURS 705/Capstone Project in Nursing

***Required Courses at Thomas Jefferson University***

- NURS 662/ Diagnostic Reasoning and Clinical Decision Making for NNP I

NURS 663/ Diagnostic Reasoning and Clinical Decision Making for NNP II  
 NURS 664/ Diagnostic Reasoning and Clinical Decision Making for NNP III  
 NURS 665/ Comprehensive Assessment for Clinical Decision Making of the Mother and Neonate  
 NURS 667/ Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics for Neonatal Nurse Practitioners

#### School Nurse Option (NURS\_MSN15)

40 credits (includes 23 credits completed for the Instructional Certificate). Additional coursework is required for school nurses certified prior to 2004.

#### *Required Courses*

17 cr.

NURS 506/ Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice and Research  
 NURS 604/Research and Evidence Based Nursing  
 NURS 503/Advanced Pharmacology  
 NURS 633/Advanced Health Assessment  
 NURS 504/Advanced Pathophysiology  
 NURS 694/Capstone Seminar  
 NURS 705/Capstone Project

#### *Instructional School Nurse Certificate (required) 23 cr.*

NURS 524 Assessment and Management of School Age Children and Adolescents  
 NURS 525 School Nurse Practicum I  
 NURS 526 School Nurse Practicum Seminar  
 HLED 554 Curriculum Program Construction in Health and Safety Education or NURS 506  
 NURS 603 Individual, Family and Community systems  
 NURS 625 School Nursing/Teaching Practicum II

### **Post-Master's Nurse Practitioner Certificate Programs**

Credits by program option

Program codes: NURS\_SCT02, NURS\_SCT03, NURS\_SCT04

Judy Harkins, Assistant Professor (harkinsj@tcnj.edu)

#### *Admission Requirements*

A completed online application.  
 Master of Science in Nursing from an NLN- or CCNE-accredited program.  
 An undergraduate health assessment course or approved equivalent.  
 Preadmission interview may be requested.

#### *Additional Requirements*

##### **Program entry**

License to practice as a registered nurse in New Jersey.  
 License to practice in Pennsylvania.

#### **Pre-clinical requirements**

CPR certification (BLS or ACLS)  
 Criminal Background Check  
 Drug Test  
 Health and immunization requirements  
 Liability Insurance for student nurse practitioner  
 For more detailed information, please contact Deirdre Jackson, clinical site coordinator (jacksonsd@tcnj.edu).

#### *Completion Requirements*

Credits as determined by program option.

Successful completion of all program requirements/prerequisites.

#### *Program Options*

##### Family Nurse Practitioner Option (NURS\_SCT02)

37 credits

#### *Required Courses*

NURS 503/Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice  
 NURS 504/Advanced Human Pathophysiology  
 NURS 603/Individual, Family, and Community Systems  
 NURS 633/Advanced Holistic Health Assessment  
 NURS 636/Primary Care I  
 NURS 638/Primary Care II  
 NURS 637/Primary Care III  
 NURS 643/Primary Care of the Childbearing Family  
 NURS 690/Practicum in the Nurse Practitioner Role

##### Adult/Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Option (NURS\_SCT03)

33 credits

#### *Required Courses*

NURS 503/Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice  
 NURS 504/Advanced Human Pathophysiology  
 NURS 603/Individual, Family, and Community Systems  
 NURS 633/Advanced Holistic Health Assessment  
 NURS 636/Primary Care I  
 NURS 638/Primary Care II  
 NURS 637/Primary Care III  
 NURS 690/Practicum in the Nurse Practitioner Role

##### Family Nurse Practitioner Option for Specialist NPs (NURS\_SCT04)

Up to 18 credits

This program is designed for nurse practitioners who have graduated from a master's degree program that prepares adult, geriatric, or adult/gerontological primary care nurse practitioners and who want to expand their scope of practice to include the entire family. This program begins in the spring. This program may be completed in two semesters of part-time study.

**Admission Requirements**

- Master of Science in Nursing from an NLN- or CCNE-accredited program that prepares nurse practitioners.
- National certification as an adult, geriatric, or adult/gerontological primary care nurse practitioner.
- At least 500 documented clinical practicum hours in an MSN program
- A graduate-level health assessment course that includes all ages and both genders
- A graduate-level general pharmacology course
- A graduate-level general pathophysiology course

**Additional Requirements****Program entry**

- License to practice as a registered nurse and certification as an Advanced Practice Nurse in New Jersey
- License to practice as a registered nurse and certification as an Advanced Practice Nurse in Pennsylvania is required
- Students who are not certified to practice as an NP in NJ but who are eligible for certification may apply. Certification must be accomplished prior to starting the program.

**Pre-clinical requirements**

- CPR certification (BLS or ACLS)
- Criminal Background Check
- Drug Test
- Health and immunization requirements
- Liability Insurance for student nurse practitioner
- For more detailed information, please contact Deirdre Jackson, clinical site coordinator (jacksond@tcnj.edu).

**Required Courses**

- NURS 603/Individual, Family, and Community Systems
- NURS 638/Primary Care II
- NURS 643/Primary Care of the Childbearing Family

**Nurse Educator Certificate**

14 credits

Program code: NURS\_CER09

Utilizing an online format, the Nurse Educator Certificate is designed for licensed nurses who are seeking to acquire advanced knowledge in the field with a special focus on teaching in an academic environment and/or the healthcare setting.

**Admission Requirements**

- A completed online application.
- License to practice as a registered nurse in New Jersey.
- CPR certification (BLS or ACLS)
- Criminal Background Check
- Drug Test
- Health and immunization requirements
- Liability Insurance for student nurse practitioner

For more detailed information, please contact Deirdre Jackson, clinical site coordinator (jacksond@tcnj.edu).

**Required Courses**

- NURS 570 Teaching Strategies with Practicum (50 hours)
- NURS 571 Curriculum Development and Learning Theory
- NURS 572 Teaching with Technology for Health Professionals
- NURS 573 Assessment and Evaluation with Practicum (150 hours)

**Public Health**

Public Health is a vibrant field of practice and science. Public Health is a broad, interdisciplinary field in the practice and science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities—answering needs on local, national and global levels. Professionals work to preserve wellness, as well as prevent or minimize health problems by implementing intervention programs, recommending policies, administering services, and conducting studies. Public health professionals strive to decrease health disparities and improve healthcare access, equity, and quality. Students develop the leadership, critical thinking, and research capabilities to pursue a range of public health career options.

The Public Health program's vision is to address emerging concerns in public health in order to create a more equitable and healthier world. The program's mission is to promote critical thinking, leadership, and evidence-based practice in order to create improvement and equity in health outcomes for domestic and global populations.

**Master of Public Health (MPH)**

45 credits

Program code: PBHL\_MPH01

Sylvia Twersky, Associate Professor (twerskys@tcnj.edu)

The TCNJ MPH offers specialization tracks:

1. Epidemiology and Health Analytics (PBHL\_SUBM2) focuses on the determinants and distribution of health as well as building the skill set to interpret and apply data for understanding population level health and the design and implementation of public health initiatives
2. Health Communication (PBHL\_SUBM1) explores state-of-the-art social marketing and communication strategies and innovative ways to motivate healthy behavior and reduce health risk. Interpersonal communication, social marketing campaigns and mass communication theories, strategies, and methods are explored as health changes are possible via institutions and agencies throughout the nation
3. Global Health (PBHL\_SUBM3) concentrates on the impact of culture, social structure, economics and politics on health and illness trends, social determinants of health, health disparities and public health policies worldwide. It includes skills in needs assessment, program planning, and evaluation in order to improve community health.

The program is offered as a full-time, 2-year program or part-time as an up to 6-year program. In-person classes are offered on the TCNJ campus. Some courses also can be taken online or as hybrid (online/on-site). To accommodate working professionals, classes are scheduled in two-and-a-half (2 ½) hour blocks during the evening (5:30 pm and after).

Additionally, the department offers a dual-degree program which yields an MBA and MPH in two years of full-time study.

For undergraduate students, TCNJ also offers a “4+1” program accelerated program for upper-class TCNJ undergraduates wanting to pursue a combined Bachelor of Science and Master of Public Health degree and a 5-year option for incoming first-year students who want to pursue a combined Master’s and Bachelor’s degree.

Notice: Students follow the degree requirements of the Graduate Bulletin in effect when they begin their matriculation as a graduate student at the College. The information in this document applies to the 2025-2026 academic year. Students returning to the College after an absence of two consecutive regular-session semesters (not including summer or winter) follow the requirements in effect at the time of their return.

### **Admission Requirements**

#### **For entry into full-time or part-time (up to six years) programs**

A completed online application.

Bachelor’s degree by the time of matriculation with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher from an accredited or approved institution. As Public Health is an interdisciplinary field, students from all backgrounds are welcome to apply. Depending on background, some undergraduate coursework may be required before full matriculation into the MPH program. Students who have no prior statistics course (equivalent to STA 115 or 215) may need to take an orientation to statistics and/or take an introductory statistics course prior to beginning the Epidemiology/Biostatistics sequence.

Student essay.

Curriculum vitae or resume.

Official transcript(s).

Two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a previous professor or an academic center.

Application fee (\$75) or SOPHAS Common Application fee.

International students:

Must have score reports submitted for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if their native language is not English.

All students who attend a non-US institution for their undergraduate degree must have all educational documents translated into English and evaluated on a course-by-course basis by an accredited agency.

*Optional: GRE or GMAT scores, though students with an undergraduate GPA below 3.0 are encouraged to take the exam.*

#### **For entry into the MPH Accelerated Program (4+1)**

Applying students must be in good standing as a rising junior with a GPA of 3.0 or higher from TCNJ or an accredited or approved institution (transfer students only). Students interested in the 4+1 program are encouraged to consult with their advisor as early as possible so that their schedule can be to best take advantage of graduate classes to be taken in the junior and senior years of study. Under current TCNJ policies, undergraduates in the 4+1 or five-year programs are allowed to double count up to five courses (5 units/15 credits) that meet the minimum graduate grade requirements and are applied to both the BS and MPH degree requirements. Students are fully matriculated into the MPH program after successful completion of their Bachelor’s degree. Students will follow the MPH requirements in effect at the time of their graduate matriculation.

Online application through the Department of Public Health Student essay

Curriculum vitae or resume

Unofficial transcript

Two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a previous professor or an academic center.

#### **Requirements for Maintaining 4+1 or 5-Year Program Matriculation**

A grade below a B- in PBH Statistics, Epidemiology, or Research Methods will trigger a probationary period for the 4+1. A grade below B- in 2 or more of these classes may result in dismissal from the 4+1 program. A grade below the minimum requirement in two or more undergraduate major required classes will result in dismissal from the 4+1 program.

Probation: A continuing or unfinished undergraduate or graduate course (e.g. grades of I or IP) will place a hold on the ability to register for graduate courses until the incomplete is resolved. An incomplete in more than one semester may result in dismissal from the 4+1 program.

A grade below the minimum grade requirement in a PBHG course (B- in core courses, except for Epidemiology and Biostatistics which has a C minimum requirement; C+ in track and elective courses) may result in dismissal from the program.

Students are permitted to use graduate grades that are below the graduate requirement but meet the equivalent undergraduate requirement for public health grades to count toward the undergraduate program only. Only grades that meet the graduate minimum will be counted toward your MPH.

Students who meet the conditions for probation will be required to meet with the 4+1 advisor and graduate director to discuss whether they may continue in the 4+1 program and under what conditions.

Matriculation in MPH year: Students must meet with the graduate director the semester before the full-time graduate matriculation year to determine eligibility to participate in the graduate year and develop the graduate schedule.

Students dismissed from the 4+1 program can reapply to the MPH program in their senior year.

### ***Additional Requirements for All Applicants***

In some cases, an interview may be requested.

### ***Graduation Requirements***

Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher

Completion of the non-credit course PBHG 500 Public Health Orientation

45 graduate credits consisting of 15 courses (5 core/5 specialization track/3 electives/2 capstone) within six years of graduate matriculation

### ***Required Core Courses and Capstones***

**21 cr.**

*Minimum grade of B- is required for successful completion of a course, except for PBHG 540 and PBHG 652 which have a minimum grade requirement of C.*

*In order to progress in the Epidemiology and Health Analytics track students must have a B+ or better in both PBHG 640 and PBHG 652. Students who receive below a B+ and are in the Epidemiology and Health Analytics track may switch to one of the other tracks without retaking the course as long as their grade meets the overall minimum requirement (C).*

PBHG 504/Environmental and Occupational Health

PBHG 521/Health Systems and Policy

PBHG 540/Intermediate Epidemiology

PBHG 652/Biostatistics for Public Health

PBHG 685/Health Promotion for Individuals, Families, and Communities

PBHG 705/Capstone Internship in Public Health

PBHG 706/MPH Capstone Paper/Portfolio

### ***Specialization Tracks***

**15 cr.**

*Five courses/15 credits are needed to complete the specialization track. Minimum grade of C+ is required for successful completion of a course.*

### ***Health Communication Track*** (PBHL\_SUBM1)

PBHG 603/Health and Risk Communication Theory

PBHG 615/International Communication

PBHG 650/Health Education in Practice

PBHG 660/Global Health Communication and Social Change

*Choose one of the following:*

PBHG 530/Sexual Communication and Health

PBHG 535/Interpersonal Health Communication

PBHG 545/New Media Innovations in Health Communication

PBHG 578/Cancer from a Public Health Perspective: Prevention to Survival

PBHG 677/Disclosure, Stigma, Privacy, and Health

### ***Epidemiology and Health Analytics Track*** (PBHL\_SUBM2)

*A minimum grade of B+ in PBHG 540 and PBHG 652 is required in order to register for PBHG 602. Students who don't have a B+ or higher grade in Intermediate Epidemiology and Biostatistics will not be permitted to complete the Epidemiology and Health Analytics track.*

PBHG 501/Research Methods for Public Health

PBHG 602/Health Analytics: Identifying, Collecting, and Analyzing Big Data

PBHG 620/Health Economics

*Choose two of the following:*

PBHG 566/Epidemiology of Dental Public Health

PBHG 577/Epidemiology and Intervention in Violence and Injury

PBHG 578/Cancer from a Public Health Perspective: Prevention to Survival

PBHG 667/Public Health Genomics

PBHG 689/Epidemiology and Aging

### ***Global Health Track*** (PBHL\_SUBM3)

PBHG 565/Social Determinants and Health Inequities

PBHG 572/Program Planning and Evaluation in Global Health

PBHG 620/Health Economics OR

PBHG 678/Water, Land, and Air: Critical issues in Global Environmental Health

PBHG 675/Critical Issues in Global Health

*Choose 1 of the following:*

PBHG 556/Population Migration and Health

PBHG 615/International Communication

PBHG 620/Health Economics

PBHG 678/Water, Land, and Air: Critical issues in Global Environmental Health

PBHG 689/Epidemiology and Aging

### ***Elective Courses***

**9 cr.**

*Three elective courses are needed to complete the MPH degree. Minimum grade of C+ is required for a course to count as an elective. Students can choose from the list below or any concentration classes that are a) not part of the student's chosen specialization track or b) specialization classes above the 5 required. Relevant courses from other graduate programs at TCNJ may be accepted on a case-by-case basis based on review by the Graduate Director.*

PBHG 503/Health Informatics

PBHG 551/Substance Abuse and Addiction: Individual, Family, and Society

PBHG 560/Counseling Girls and Women\* OR  
 PBHG 561/Counseling Boys and Men\*  
 PBHG 591/Graduate Independent Study  
 PBHG 606/Grant Writing in Public Health  
 PBHG 610/Public Health Leadership for a Changing World  
 PBHG 651/Stress Management  
 PBHG 670/Topics in Public Health

\* Can take either 560 OR 561 to count as an elective, but not both.

## Online Master of Public Health (MPH) in Global Health

45 credits

Program code: PBHL\_MPH01 with PBHL\_SUBM3

Sylvia Twersky, Associate Professor (twerskys@tcnj.edu)

The online program is offered as a part-time 3-year program. To accommodate working professionals, classes are offered completely online in either synchronous or asynchronous formats. Synchronous online classes will be scheduled in two-and-a-half (2 ½) hour blocks during the evening (5:30 pm and after) once a week. Students in the online MPH will also be able to complete *either* the Health Education Certificate or the Healthcare Management Certificate using their elective courses.

### Admission Requirements

A completed online application.

Bachelor's degree by the time of matriculation with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher from an accredited or approved institution. As Public Health is an interdisciplinary field, students from all backgrounds are welcome to apply. Depending on background, some undergraduate coursework may be required before full matriculation into the MPH program. Students who have no prior statistics course (equivalent to STA 115 or 215) may need to take an orientation to statistics and/or take an introductory statistics course prior to beginning the Epidemiology/Biostatistics sequence.

Student essay.

Curriculum vitae or resume.

Official transcript(s).

Two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a previous professor or an academic center.

Application fee (\$75) or SOPHAS Common Application fee.

International students:

Must have score reports submitted for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if their native language is not English.

All students who attend a non-US institution for their undergraduate degree must have all educational documents translated into English and evaluated on a course-by-course basis by an accredited agency.

### Required Core Courses and Capstones

21 cr.

*Minimum grade of B- is required for successful completion of a course, except for PBHGO 540 and PBHGO 652 which have a minimum grade requirement of C.*

PBHG 504/Environmental and Occupational Health  
 PBHG 521/Health Systems and Policy  
 PBHG 540/Intermediate Epidemiology  
 PBHG 652/Biostatistics for Public Health  
 PBHG 685/Health Promotion for Individuals, Families, and Communities  
 PBHG 705/Capstone Internship in Public Health  
 PBHG 706/MPH Capstone Paper/Portfolio

### Global Health Courses

15cr.

*Minimum grade of C+ is required for successful completion of a course.*

PBHG 565/Social Determinants and Health Inequities  
 PBHG 572/Program Planning and Evaluation in Global Health  
 PBHG 620/Health Economics  
 PBHG 675/Critical Issues in Global Health  
 Choose 1 of the following:  
 PBHG 556/Population Migration and Health OR  
 PBHG 678/Water, Land, and Air:  
 Critical issues in Global Environmental Health

### Elective Courses

9 cr.

*Three elective courses are needed to complete the MPH degree.*

#### Health Education Certificate

PBHG 650/Health Education in Practice  
 PBHG 610/ Public Health Leadership for a Changing World  
 and *one* of the following:  
 PBHG 530/ Sexual Communication and Health  
 PBHG 535/ Interpersonal Health Communication  
 PBHG 677/ Disclosure, Stigma, Privacy, and Health  
 PBHG 551/Substance Abuse and Addiction: Individual, Family, and Society

#### Healthcare Management Certificate

ISTG 675/ Healthcare Analytics: Utilizing Data for Healthcare Management  
 ACCG 640/ Healthcare Accounting Financial Management  
 MGTG 645/: Healthcare Operations and Process Improvement

## Master of Business Administration (MBA)/ Master of Public Health (MPH) Dual-Degree Program

63 credits

Program code: BUSN\_MBA01, PBHL\_2DG01

Sylvia Twersky, Associate Professor (twerskys@tcnj.edu)

Stephen Tomkiel, MBA Director (tomkiel@tcnj.edu)

TCNJ offers a joint Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Public Health (MPH) directed toward early career professionals and individuals seeking to obtain managerial roles. The MBA/MPH joint degree can be completed in two years of full-time study. Dual degree students are required to complete a total of 63 credits: 30 MBA credits and 33 MPH credits. The MBA program will accept up to 4 MPH courses or 12 credits toward the MBA program. The MPH program will accept up to 4 MBA courses or 12 credits toward the program. All course grades must meet the minimum grade requirements for the degree program to be transferred.

For more information, including admissions requirements and curriculum, please see School of Graduate, Global, and Online Education.

## Graduate Certificate in Public Health

*May be completed as part of the Master of Arts in Professional Studies.*

15 credits

Program code: PBHL\_CER01

Sylvia Twersky, Associate Professor (twerskys@tcnj.edu)

The graduate certificate in Public Health at TCNJ aims to address the growing population health needs at the local, state, national, and global level. The program prepares graduates to meet the complex health needs of populations and individuals by: 1) assessing the social and political determinants of health; 2) critically analyzing data to determine health trends; 3) evaluating policy implications of health trends and health care delivery; and 4) synthesizing current population health practices to make recommendations for improvement. The certificate is designed for both working professionals and students preparing for further graduate study, beginning with a broad overview of population health.

Notice: Students follow the degree requirements of the Graduate Bulletin in effect when they begin their matriculation at the College. The information in this document applies to the 2025-2026 academic year. Students returning to the College after an absence of two consecutive regular-session semesters (not including summer or winter) follow the requirements in effect at the time of their return.

### Admission Requirements

A completed online application.

Completed or pending Bachelor's degree from an accredited or approved institution. Bachelor's degree must be

complete prior to full matriculation with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Curriculum vitae or resume.

Official transcript(s).

Application fee (\$75) or SOPHAS Common Application fee.

International students:

Must have score reports submitted for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if their native language is not English.

All students who attend a non-US institution for their undergraduate degree must have all educational documents translated into English and evaluated on a course-by-course basis by an accredited agency.

Preadmission interview may be required.

*Optional: GRE or GMAT scores, though students with an undergraduate GPA below 3.0 are encouraged to take the exam.*

### Completion Requirements

Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Completion of all required coursework with qualifying grades.

For students who complete the certificate and matriculate into the MPH program, courses with grades meeting MPH criteria may be applied to the MPH graduation requirements.

### Required Core Courses

**9 cr.**

PBHG 521/Health Systems and Policy

PBHG 540/Intermediate Epidemiology

PBHG 685/Health Promotion for Individuals, Families, and Communities OR

PBHG 504/Environmental and Occupational Health

### Additional Courses

**6 cr.**

*Select two from the following:*

PBHG 501/Research Methods for Public Health

PBHG 503/Health Informatics

PBHG 504/Environmental and Occupational Health

PBHG 530/Sexual Communication and Health

PBHG 535/Interpersonal Health Communication

PBHG 545/New Media Innovations in Health Communication

PBHG 556/Population Migration and Health

PBHG 565/Social Determinants and Health Inequities

PBHG 572/Program Planning and Evaluation in Global Health

PBHG 566/Epidemiology of Dental Public Health

PBHG 577/Epidemiology and Intervention in Violence and Injury

PBHG 578/Cancer from a Public Health Perspective: Prevention to Survival

PBHG 603/Health and Risk Communication Theory

PBHG 606/Grant Writing in Public Health



PBHG 610/Public Health Leadership for a Changing World  
 PBHG 615/International Communication  
 PBHG 620/Health Economics  
 PBHG 650/Health Education in Practice  
 PBHG 652/Biostatistics for Public Health  
 PBHG 655/Social Inequalities in a Developing Context  
 PBHG 660/Global Health and Risk Communication  
     Campaigns  
 PBHG 667/Public Health Genomics  
 PBHG 670/Topics in Public Health  
 PBHG 675/Critical Issues in Global Health  
 PBHG 677/Disclosure, Stigma, Privacy, and Health  
 PBHG 678/Water, Land, and Air: Critical issues in Global  
     Environmental Health  
 PBHG 685/Health Promotion for Individuals, Families, and  
     Communities  
 PBHG 689/Epidemiology and Aging

## Graduate Certificate in Health and Risk Communication

*May be completed as part of the Master of Arts in Professional Studies.*  
 12 credits

Program code: PBHL\_CER02

Sylvia Twersky, Associate Professor (twerskys@tcnj.edu)

The Health and Risk Communication certificate will train individuals in the necessary tools and knowledge to persuade others to pursue healthier, less risky lives. The program prepares students to craft the most appropriate health and risk communication strategies for convincing target audiences to improve their life chances through coursework in issue research, program design, and program testing.

Students gain skills in taking a three-pronged approach to health and risk communication: Issue Research, Program Design, and Program Testing. This program will assist working professionals who want to gain a background in health and wellness communication in order to pursue employment with biotechnology firms, social advocacy organizations, non-profits, hospitals and health departments, state and federal health agencies, health foundations, community health centers, pharmaceutical companies, medical research facilities, and health and wellness-related businesses.

### Admission Requirements

- A completed online application.
- Completed or pending Bachelor's degree from an accredited or approved institution. Bachelor's degree must be complete prior to full matriculation with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Curriculum vitae or resume.
- Official transcript(s).
- Application fee (\$75) or SOPHAS Common Application fee.
- International students:

Must have score reports submitted for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if their native language is not English.

All students who attend a non-US institution for their undergraduate degree must have all educational documents translated into English and evaluated on a course-by-course basis by an accredited agency.

Preadmission interview may be required.

### Completion Requirements

Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Completion of all required coursework with a C or better.

For students who complete the certificate and matriculate into the MPH program, courses with grades meeting MPH criteria may be applied to the MPH graduation requirements.

### Required Core Courses

**9 cr.**

PBHG 603/Health and Risk Communication Theory  
 PBHG 615/International Communication  
 PBHG 660/Global Health and Risk Communication  
     Campaigns: A Social Marketing Approach

### Additional Course

**3 cr.**

*Select one from the following:*

PBHG 545/New Media and Health Communication  
 PBHG 650/Health Education in Practice  
 PBHG 677/Disclosure, Stigma, Privacy, and Health

## Graduate Certificate in Health Education

*Stackable with the Graduate Certificate in Health Risk and Communication OR Healthcare Management; one optional course may be double-counted toward both certificates.*

Credits: Variable. *No less than 9 credits and no more than 27 credits are required to complete the certificate as outlined. The three required courses align directly with the CHES 8 areas of responsibility.*

Program code: PBHL\_CER03

Sylvia Twersky, Associate Professor (twerskys@tcnj.edu)

Students who complete the Graduate Certificate in Health Education (GCHE) will be able to inform, educate and empower others in their pursuit of healthier lives using a number of evidence-based strategies, theories, and tools through research, communication, leadership, and advocacy. Employment of health educators is projected to grow 12 percent from 2021 to 2031 (US Bureau of Labor Statistics), much faster than the average for all occupations. Growth will be driven by efforts to improve health outcomes and to reduce healthcare costs by teaching people healthy behaviors and explaining how to use available healthcare services. The process to be eligible to sit for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam requires at least 9 transcripted courses with at least 3 focused directly on CHES competencies and 6 related to

or reinforcing of competencies. This certificate allows individuals interested in pursuing their CHES certification to take the required courses in order to prepare for and be eligible to sit for the CHES exam.

### **Admission Requirements**

A completed online application.

Completed or pending Bachelor's degree from an accredited or approved institution. Bachelor's degree must be complete prior to full matriculation with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Curriculum vitae or resume.

Official transcript(s).

Application fee (\$75) or SOPHAS Common Application fee.

Must submit undergraduate and/or graduate transcript to CHES to be pre-screened in January or May: <https://www.nchec.org/ches-exam-eligibility> in order to determine the courses you need to take in order to qualify to sit for the CHES exam (determines if you need to take the minimum 9 credit certificate or take additional courses-up to 27 credits). This can be completed prior to starting the certificate (preferred) OR within the first semester in the program.

International students:

Must have score reports submitted for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if their native language is not English.

All students who attend a non-US institution for their undergraduate degree must have all educational documents translated into English and evaluated on a course-by-course basis by an accredited agency.

Pre-Admission interview may be required

### **Completion Requirements**

Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Completion of all required coursework with C+ or better.

For students who complete the certificate and matriculate into the MPH program, courses with grades meeting MPH criteria may be applied to the MPH graduation requirements.

### ***Required Core Courses***

***9 cr.***

PBHG 572/ Program Planning and Evaluation in Global Health

PBHG 610/ Public Health Leadership for a Changing World

PBHG 650/ Health Education in Practice

### ***Optional Courses***

***0-18 cr.***

PBHG 530/ Sexual Communication and Health

PBHG 535/ Interpersonal Health Communication

PBHG 545/ New Media and Health Communication

PBHG 578/ Cancer from a Public Health Perspective

PBHG 677/ Disclosure, Stigma, Privacy, and Health

PBHG 685/ Health Promotion for Individuals, Families, and Communities