



Public Health

GRADUATE STUDIES AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED (Ph.D.)

Students who study Public Health at UC Merced, the primary research university in the San Joaquin Valley, are uniquely positioned to broaden their understanding of the health needs of California's diverse populations.

Our doctoral program in Public Health offers emphases in:

› PREVENTION SCIENCES

› ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

› HEALTH SERVICES



RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Students receive training in diverse research methods, including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods approaches to understanding public health problems and community-engaged research approaches for developing and evaluating effective interventions and services. They apply these skills to research projects in epidemiology, health promotions/health communication, intervention development, community-based participatory research, and the social determinants of health.

SUPPORT

Each admitted doctoral student receives a competitive stipend, and students in good standing are eligible for year-round financial support, including payment of fees and tuition. Students are typically supported by teaching and research assistantships, which can be supplemented by fellowships, awards and other forms of financial assistance.

CONTACT

For more information, please contact
Dr. Paul Brown, graduate group chair.
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GRADUATE STUDIES IN PUBLIC HEALTH

The Public Health program at the University of California, Merced offers a multidisciplinary course of study that provides learners the skills and training they need to address pressing public health problems. Our faculty have expertise in conducting multidisciplinary community-based public health research on issues pertinent to the diverse populations of the San Joaquin Valley, including:

- › Chronic and Infectious Disease Prevention
- › Health Disparities
- › Latino Health
- › Cancer
- › Mental Health
- › Behavioral Health
- › Health Policy
- › Air Pollution
- › Asthma
- › Vector Ecology
- › Maternal, Child and Perinatal Health

Faculty

PUBLIC HEALTH



PAUL BROWN, *Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison*

pbrown3@ucmerced.edu | health economics and health services research; behavioral health economics, economics of prevention of chronic disease, return on investment and cost effectiveness of public health interventions

NANCY BURKE, *Ph.D. University of New Mexico*

nburke2@ucmerced.edu | global health; social inequalities in health/health disparities; health behavior; cancer; oral health; medical anthropology; clinical trials recruitment/research participation; refugees; survivorship; immigration; health literacy

LINDA CAMERON, *Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison*

lcameron@ucmerced.edu | health communications and psychosocial interventions; cancer, heart disease, and diabetes; cognitive and emotional processes and self-regulation; theoretically-based interventions and refining psychological theory; development and evaluation of psychosocial support programs; techniques for stress management and smoking cessation; risk communications and tobacco use

RICARDO CISNEROS, *Ph.D. University of California, Merced*

rcisneros@ucmerced.edu | environmental exposure and health; air quality research and management; impacts of forest fires on air quality and health, ozone distribution and exposure in the Sierra Nevada region; environmental health

KARINA DIAZ RIOS, *Ph.D. University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign*

kdiazrios@ucmerced.edu | nutrition education and behavior: development, adaptation, and evaluation of theory-based, culturally sensitive nutrition education; community nutrition: diet-related disease prevention among Latino communities

JEFF GILGER, *Ph.D. University of California, Santa Barbara*

jgilger@ucmerced.edu | research interests in the epidemiology of twice exceptionality (learning disabilities alongside high abilities in specific areas), brain imaging studies of twice exceptional and spatially talented individuals, age-related changes in spatial learning in atypical groups, genetic correlates of dyslexia and twice exceptional learning disabilities, and brain injury

SIDRA GOLDMAN-MELLOR, *Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley*

sgoldman-mellor@ucmerced.edu | psychosocial adversity and health; epidemiology of depression and suicidal behavior; influence of psychological disorders on physical health and economic potential; intersections between mental health and violence

MARIAELENA GONZALEZ, *Ph.D. Stanford University*

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SANDIE HA, *Ph.D., University of Florida*

sha55@ucmerced.edu | Epidemiology and public health: perinatal health; neurodevelopment; maternal and child health; cardiovascular health; chronic diseases; environmental health

ANDREA JOYCE, *Ph.D. Texas A&M University*

ajoyce2@ucmerced.edu | public health entomology, alternatives to pesticides, vector borne disease, population genetics, vector ecology, environmental health, healthy agricultural communities, integrated pest management

DENISE PAYÁN, *Ph.D. University of Southern California*

dpayan@ucmerced.edu | Health policy: nutrition and obesity policy research; Food insecurity; State health policymaking; Advocacy coalitions; Program and policy evaluations.

SUSANA RAMIREZ, *Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania*

sramirez37@ucmerced.edu | health communication; message design; campaign evaluation; social marketing and media advocacy; communication inequalities; cancer prevention; obesity prevention; health disparities; Latino health

KURT SCHNIER, *Ph.D. University of Arizona*

kschnier@ucmerced.edu | conducting policy analysis in the fields of health and environmental and resource economics, response of physicians and hospitals to current and impending regulations that impact the provision of health care, the efficient utilization of donated organs and deceased donor organ allocation mechanism

ANNA SONG, *Ph.D. University of California, Davis*

asong5@ucmerced.edu | adolescent and young adult decision-making and risk behaviors; tobacco use initiation, continuation, and cessation; risk factors for sex initiation; relationship between perceptions, attitudes, and risk behaviors; predictors of health-related perceptions and attitudes; risk communication efficacy; ethnic differences in risk behaviors

JAN WALLANDER, *Ph.D. Purdue University*

jwallander@ucmerced.edu | health psychology and developmental psychopathology; Interactions between behavior and health in children and adolescents; effects of chronic disease or disability on quality of life in childhood; behavioral interventions to improve health and quality of life in children and adolescents

DEBORAH WIEBE, *Ph.D. University of Alabama at Birmingham*

dwiebe@ucmerced.edu | health and pediatric psychology; social support and developmental factors; coping with and managing chronic illnesses such as diabetes

STEPHEN WOODING, *Ph.D. University of Utah*

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