

Initiation of New Associate of Science in Public Health Science

BACKGROUND

In fall 2016, the Academic Senate and Academic Affairs Council approved the concept of the associate degree of public health, in accordance with AP 4021. The public health degree at Hartnell College was supported by

- limited allied health programs available at Hartnell College
- limited health professions pathway options
- lack of non-clinical healthcare professions programs in the region
- Chancellor's Office approval of a transfer model curriculum (TMC) for public health science
- community/industry/stakeholder interest in increasing health pathways

A health degree with the ability to transfer into public health, health science, and kinesiology affords students access to a broad range of degrees and careers. A heightened focus on community health as a means to alleviate health disparities is critical for the Salinas Valley region. As reported by Monterey County Health Department's Strategic Plan 2011-2015, "recognizing the diversity we have in Monterey County, the 2011-2015 strategic plan includes specific strategies to address the current disparities in health status that exist on a regional basis" (p. 3). Monterey county is currently 57% Hispanic with 14% of household in linguistic isolation. Within Spanish-speaking households, 34% were estimated to exist in linguistic isolation (MCHD, 2011). Furthermore, one third of the county's population growth occurred in Salinas, which is 75% Latino. Although 13% of Monterey County residents reported incomes below the poverty level in 2009, 73% of the county's children living in poverty were Hispanic (MCHD, 2011). Lower educational attainment, poverty, and health are inextricably linked and 56% of the Hispanic residents aged 25 and older did not have a high school diploma in 2005-2009 (MCHD, 2011). Monterey County's Latinos report the highest teen birth rate, the highest rates of late entry into prenatal care, the highest motor vehicle-related death rate, and the highest homicide death rate. Furthermore, 44.6% of Monterey County's children are overweight or obese, with Latinos representing 75.9% of the total (MCHD, 2011).

Educational programs that promote an understanding about the link between health disparities such as obesity, chronic and infectious diseases, sedentarism, and musculoskeletal disorders may influence youth to adopt healthy behaviors, which is critical to the population in Monterey County. For example, according to the California Center for Public Health Advocacy the cost of

Chronic Disease Prevention Coordinator	\$5164 - \$7053	BS - MPH
Community Service Aid	\$1946 -	

UC Merced- Public Health

References

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistic (2014). *Occupational outlook handbook, 2012-2013*. Retrieved from

- Achieve a minimum grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in all CSU-transferable coursework. While a minimum of 2.0 is required for admission, some majors may require a higher GPA. Please consult with a counselor for more information.
- Complete a minimum of 18 semester units in an "AA-T" or "AS-T" major as detailed in the degree section of the catalog. All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of "C" or better or a "P" if the course is taken on a "pass-no pass" basis (title 5 § 55063).
- Certify completion of the California State University General Education-Breadth pattern (CSU GE Breadth) (see page 80 of the Hartnell College Catalog for more information)

No additional local Associate degree requirements are applied.

P	REQUIRED MAJOR COURSES	Course No.	Course Title	Units
	Required Major Course	BIO-10	General Biology	4.0
	Required Major Course	BIO-5	Human Anatomy with lab	4.0
	Required Major Course	BIO-6, 6L	Human Physiology and Human Physiology lab	5.0
	Required Major Course	CHM-22 or CHM-1A	The Science of Chemistr46 0 0 6.96 35	

	Choose either A. CSU-GE or B. IGETC for the General Education pattern related to your educational goal:	
	A. Minimum units to meet CSU-GE breadth certification requirements (39 units)	39.0
	B. Minimum units to meet	