



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

School of Public Health

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Public Health CORE COMPETENCIES

OVERVIEW

- Public Health training is focused on both knowledge AND skills (competencies)
- Additional SPH learning outcomes and matrix including courses where competencies are achieved is located here: <https://publichealth.sdsu.edu/programs/bs-public-health/learning-goals-and-outcomes/>
- In addition to coursework, an applied practice experience (internship) demonstrates students' achievement of select competencies as well. **Your internship should help you achieve at least three competencies from the list below.**

CORE COMPETENCIES

1. The history and philosophy of public health as well as its core values, concepts and functions across the globe and in society
2. The basic concepts, methods and tools of public health data collection, use and analysis and why evidence-based approaches are an essential part of public health practice
3. The concepts of population health, and the basic processes, approaches and interventions that identify and address the major health-related needs and concerns of populations
4. The underlying science of human health and disease, including opportunities for promoting and protecting health across the life course
5. The socioeconomic, behavioral, biological, environmental and other factors that impact human health and contribute to health disparities
6. The fundamental concepts and features of project implementation, including planning, assessment and evaluation
7. The fundamental characteristics and organizational structures of the US health system as well as the differences between systems in other countries
8. Basic concepts of legal, ethical, economic and regulatory dimensions of health care and public health policy and the roles, influences and responsibilities of the different agencies and branches of government
9. Basic concepts of public health-specific communication, including technical and professional writing and the use of mass media and electronic technology