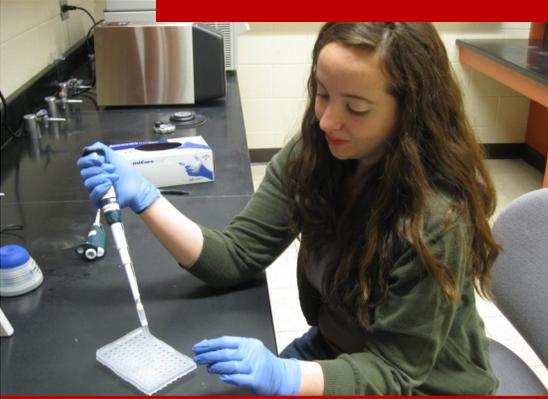




Water Quality and Health



"I have always been interested in learning about water quality and enjoy using my experience to effectively educate and inform the public about health concerns related to water quality. As a graduate student at UIC, I received the opportunity to see how water quality research can directly affect policy decisions at both local and national levels of government."

- Stephanie DeFlorio, PhD Graduate

Water Quality and Health Overview

This concentration is offered to MPH students interested in chemical and microbial water contamination, the management of water quality, water monitoring regulation, and the impact of water pollutants on human health. Students will learn methods in epidemiology, biostatistics, data management, risk assessment, and geographic information systems as related to water quality and human health. During their tenure, students will participate in a field practicum focused on water quality, water quality management, and human health effects.

Studying water quality and health in Chicago provides a unique opportunity to learn how a major city provides and protects its water supply, manages recreational waterways, and how anthropogenic activities in an urban environment can affect water quality.

Diverse Employment Opportunities

Job diversity is a major benefit to consider when choosing a career in the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. Those with expertise in water quality and health are employed in a variety of organizations such as:

- Federal and State Governmental Agencies
- Local and State Health Departments
- Industry
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Academia
- Research Institutes
- Consulting Firms
- Water Treatment Facilities

Degree in Water Quality and Health

Master of Public Health

Prepares students for the development, management and evaluation of environmental and occupational health programs.

**ENVIRONMENTAL
AND
OCCUPATIONAL
HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH**



Faculty Spotlight



Samuel Dorevitch MD, MPH
Associate Professor

Healthy communities require adequate supplies of high quality water. Students in the Water and Health MPH concentration learn about water management, waterborne chemical and microbial hazards, and the acute and chronic diseases caused by impaired waters. Samuel Dorevitch, Associate Professor in the Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, conducts research that addresses microbial hazards in Chicago area lakes and rivers, and the health risks posed by those hazards. Students in the Masters and PhD programs play important roles in those efforts, conducting field work, laboratory analysis to rapidly identify and measure microbes in water samples, and to predict illness using that information. Students also participate in an initiative to prepare health departments for extreme weather events and changes in the distribution of disease that are expected to occur as a result of climate instability.

Water Quality and Health Coursework

- Chemistry for Environmental Professionals
- Analysis of Water and Wastewater Quality
- Environmental Calculations
- Environmental Risk Assessment and Management
- Water Quality Management
- Environmental and Occupational Toxicology
- Health-related Database Design and Analysis
- GIS Application in Public Health
- Water Chemistry
- Advanced Water Quality Management Topics

Student Opportunities

Research training—Research training opportunities for young investigators exist through research assistantships, targeted research training groups, and pilot projects.

Career development—As part of the required field practicum, students in the water quality and health concentration can gain experience through placements in government agencies, local and state health departments, and in many other settings. Students are encouraged to participate in student organizations where they may participate in volunteer activities or attend professional networking events and conferences.

Financial Aid Assistance—Financial support for Water Quality and Health students come in the form of tuition stipends, research assistantships, and scholarships.

Questions

Please direct admission questions to:

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Email: zordani@uic.edu
Office: 312-996-8856

Please direct general program inquiries to:

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Office: 312-355-3629