

Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

Undergraduate Public Health Studies
Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH)
Degree Program & Minor



STUDENT HANDBOOK

2009-2010



Undergraduate
Public Health Studies

Welcome to Tulane University and the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine!

Warm greetings and thank you for your interest in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) degree here at Tulane! Building on the strengths of its seven academic departments, diverse research faculty, and multicultural student body, the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine's (SPHTM) four-year undergraduate program of study will provide you with a strong base in the liberal arts and sciences as well as a solid foundation in the public health sciences. Tulane's undergraduate public health studies program is unique in that the curriculum and faculty offer undergraduates a degree program unmatched by most competing institutions because they do not have one of the 39 accredited schools of public health--nor can they claim a school with the national recognition and historical significance of Tulane's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Public health is unique in that it encourages engagement with the world in both a scientific and humanistic way, including research into the realities of environmental hazards, the challenges of social choice, and action toward the solution of health problems of individuals and populations. A Tulane BSPH will be a first step in securing the tools and skill sets you will need to create and disseminate public health knowledge and to apply that knowledge on local and international levels.

As you may know, the field of public health has applications in numerous disciplines, and offers many career opportunities. Whether you plan to enter the workforce--or you opt to pursue graduate and professional programs in health, business, law, or medicine upon completion of the baccalaureate --a degree in public health will provide a solid foundation for your future career path. The undergraduate public health studies program allows our students the opportunity to focus in one of three areas of specialization: Environmental Health Sciences, Global and Community Health, and Health Informatics. The program also offers a minor in public health.

The School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, located on historic Canal Street in downtown New Orleans, is a vital component of the Tulane Health Sciences Center. Currently, over 1300 students are enrolled in the School of Public Health. The Health Sciences Center network is a model public health laboratory with ample opportunities for educational collaboration. Tulane Medical School, Tulane/Xavier Center for Bioenvironmental Research, Tulane Hospital and Clinic, Tulane/Xavier Center for Excellence in Women's Health, and the LSU Health Sciences Center are all located within walking distance of the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

As an entering freshman interested in the public health sciences, you will have an opportunity to work with outstanding teaching and research faculty, many of whom are eminent scholars in their fields. The core and prerequisite courses you complete during your first two years will provide a solid foundation for your junior and senior years, when you will have opportunities to engage with a diverse, multicultural cadre of graduate students from dozens of countries both in the classroom and in research settings.

During your time at Tulane, please do not hesitate to call upon us here at the Office of Undergraduate Public Health Studies--we want to make sure your experience in the Undergraduate Public Health Studies Program is both rewarding and memorable. Our Uptown office is located at the Advising Center in Stanley Thomas Hall, Room 305A, and our Downtown office is inside the Tidewater Building, Suite 2460. Just call or drop by, we love to see our students!

Best wishes for a great year and welcome to Tulane!

With kindest regards,

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Brief History

The study of public health in Louisiana began in the early 1800s when New Orleans suffered from endemic malaria and almost yearly epidemics of cholera and yellow fever. Attempts to control tropical diseases led to the establishment of the Medical College of Louisiana in 1834. The founders, a group of young physicians, issued a prospectus emphasizing the lack of knowledge of these diseases and the necessity for studying them in the environment in which they occurred. In 1881, formal instruction in hygiene was offered for the first time. The name of the medical college was changed to Tulane University of Louisiana, College of Medicine after the Civil War when Paul Tulane bequeathed the funds to establish a new university.

A school of hygiene and tropical medicine was first established in 1912 with a \$25,000 gift from Samuel Zemurray's United Fruit Company. In 1947, the departments of tropical medicine and preventive medicine merged to establish a department of tropical medicine and public health in the medical school. Instruction at the graduate level expanded to a full academic year with programs leading to the degrees of master of public health and master of public health and tropical medicine. A doctoral program was approved in 1950, and the first doctoral degrees in public health were awarded in 1953.

With the rapid expansion in public health and tropical medicine, and the participation of other departments of the medical school in educational activities, an administrative division of graduate public health was created in 1958. In 1961, this administrative division was re-designated as the Division of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Programs leading to the degrees of master of science and doctor of science in hygiene were instituted, providing a wide range of preparation for public health careers.

In 1967, the Division of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine became the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. The school is now organized into seven departments: biostatistics, community health sciences, environmental health sciences, epidemiology, health systems management, international health and development, and tropical medicine.

In December of 2003, the Faculty Senate approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) degree program in the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine with the inaugural class beginning in fall 2005. In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina postponed the first class offering in the BSPH program. However over 85% of the inaugural class returned to Tulane in January 2006 for the first undergraduate public health studies course offering, SPHU 101: Epidemics, Revolutions, and Response: A History of Public Health. In response to the interest in the new BSPH, sophomores were allowed to transfer to the program. Consequently, a select group of students graduated with the Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree in May 2008, one year before the acceptance of the inaugural class of 2009.

Introduction

This handbook is designed to introduce you to the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine's undergraduate curriculum, help you to plan a schedule, and instruct you on how and when to register for classes. You should also read the Tulane College's First Year Students Schedule of Classes for information regarding the use of TOUR (online registration).

This handbook will describe the curriculum and requirements for Undergraduate Public Health students. Please read these materials carefully so that your course selections will conform to the school's degree programs and with Newcomb-Tulane's undergraduate requirements.

Based on your academic interests and the curriculum information provided, select a schedule of courses from the Registrar's Schedule of Classes and from the School of Public Health and Newcomb-Tulane core curriculum. Be sure to schedule enough credits (16-18) so that you may, if necessary, drop a course during the semester and still be enrolled in the minimum 12 credits. AP/IB/transfer credit may not be counted toward this minimum. (See Newcomb-Tulane College Freshman Academic Planning Guide for more information, available at: http://advising.tulane.edu/transfer_students.html) Also, it is a good idea to have several alternative classes or schedules planned before you register.

If you expect to receive credit from Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or transfer coursework, please consider those credits when planning a schedule. You will NOT receive credit for courses that you have already completed through AP, IB, or transfer coursework. In addition, consider your Foreign Language Placement and the information in this Handbook on First Year Students Mathematics Courses when choosing courses in those subjects.

Follow the instructions on your TOUR PIN sheet. Your time assignment is indicated online at the TOUR website (<https://sslegacy.tcs.tulane.edu/SIS/SISlogon.htm>) You may register any time after your TOUR starting time and changes can be made until the last day of the register/add period, September 9th. After registering for classes you MUST confirm your registration by August 29th or you will be dropped from all your classes.

This handbook should provide you with all of the information you need to plan your schedule and register each semester. If you should need further information or assistance, please call the Academic Advising Center, (504) 865-5798, so that the academic advisor can assist you with advising and the registration process. Additional inquiries about the BSPH Program can be directed to the, BSPH Program Manager, at the Office of Undergraduate Public Health Studies, (504) 865-5140.

ADVISING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENTS

Students working toward the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) degree are assigned to an academic advisor at New Student Orientation. The academic advisor has expertise in the public health sciences and in answering questions during the initial period of adjustment to the college environment. The academic advisor also offers students information and advice on matters such as selecting appropriate courses, maintaining satisfactory progress, and choosing a major. Meeting with the academic advisor is required for all first year students. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with their advisor at least once a semester for short- and long-term academic program planning, information on course prerequisites, and degree progress audits. Degree audits can also be conducted by the student on the registrar's website. The role of the advisor is to provide information and, when appropriate, offer recommendations. Students have the responsibility for making their own decisions, monitoring their progress toward the baccalaureate degree, and meeting all degree requirements.

Your Academic Advisor is available for consultation Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00 pm CST. Please feel free to contact your advisor with any questions that arise as you plan your first semester's schedule. Your Academic Advisor will also notify you indicating the time and location of your First Year Students' advising session.

- Students can make an appointment to see their advisor online: <http://advising.tulane.edu/>
- The main phone line for Academic Advising is: (504) 865-5798

Tulane Honors Program (www.tulane.edu/~honors)

Students who have been accepted as members of the Tulane Honors Program normally take one honors course each semester. Students pursuing an honors degree in Public Health may count no more than two (2) of their required graduate courses towards their honors requirements. Honors students are encouraged to explore honors courses in other disciplines, so that they may have a rich academic experience. Honors courses are listed in the online course schedule under their own section at <http://www.tulane.edu/~honors/courses.shtml> as well as under individual department headings. You may direct any questions you have about the Honors Program to Dr. Thomas Luongo (tluongo@tulane.edu).

Pre-professional Advising

Students interested in a career in law, medicine, or health-related fields are invited to consult Kathleen Maier, the pre-professional advisor, for additional assistance in scheduling a pre-professional curriculum, or see *Appendix A* for a brief introduction. The Office of Pre-professional Advisors can be reached at (504) 865-5370. You may also go online at <http://advising.tulane.edu/>

Students with Disabilities

Tulane University's office of disability services' philosophy is one that promotes self-advocacy and self-awareness in students, helping to maximize their potential while developing and maintaining their independence. Please refer to *Appendix B* for policies and contact information.

Bachelor of Science in Public Health Competencies

The Tulane Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) degree is an academic degree which addresses the health of populations and communities through instruction, service, and community based research. The degree is firmly grounded in a background of humanities, social science and the liberal arts. The degree fulfills Tulane University's campus-wide undergraduate core proficiency through this background while stressing an additional commitment to quantitative and scientific skills.

Upon completion of the BSPH a student will be able to:

- Recognize the public health problems of populations on a social and community scale
- Describe multidisciplinary and ecological public health issues and concerns
- Explain and compare health promotion and disease prevention
- Recognize the role of quantitative methods in addressing Public Health issues
- Apply cultural competencies to public health problems
- Apply concepts of strategic planning, cost effectiveness analysis and decision analysis in public health

Curriculum & Requirements

The required curriculum for the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) consists of the Newcomb-Tulane Core Curriculum, BSPH Proficiency Requirements, Public Health Basic and Advanced Core Curriculum, a required Public Health capstone, as well as the Public Health Focus courses, in addition to electives. The Newcomb-Tulane Core Competencies incorporate breadth within the liberal arts, while the BSPH Proficiency Requirements include additional coursework in writing, foreign language, mathematics, and communications. Finally, the Public Health Basic and Advanced Core Curriculum and the focus courses provide extensive, specialized knowledge within public health and the chosen focus area itself.

1. Newcomb-Tulane Core Curriculum

- See *Appendix C* or the Newcomb-Tulane College Undergraduate Core Curriculum booklet for more detailed discussion

2. BSPH Proficiency Requirements

- **Writing Intensive Requirement:** 4-credit course designated as “Writing Intensive” (W) or Writing Practicum (1 credit) course attached to a regular 3-credit course taken AFTER Writing 101/119 has been completed; students are encouraged to satisfy the writing-intensive requirement with a course such as a seminar, a capstone course, or a senior honors thesis
- **Foreign Language:** Demonstrated proficiency by completing the 203-level or above (4 credits); students who already meet the proficiency upon matriculation are still required to complete at least one foreign language course at Tulane, as per the Newcomb-Tulane Core Curriculum Requirement
- **Mathematics:** At least one additional 3-4 credit course that meets the guidelines for the BSPH degree. MATH 121 – Calculus and MATH 111 – Probability & Statistics are recommended.
- **Public Health Communication:** A required 3-credit course: *SPHU 430 Public Health Communication*. (Students matriculating before the Fall of 2008: see *Appendix D* for your requirement specifics.)

3. BSPH Curriculum and Public Health Requirements

A. Basic Core Curriculum (18 credit hours):

Students must complete the following undergraduate public health core courses regardless of area of focus. All courses are three (3) credit hours. Basic Core courses do not need to be taken in sequence, but students should take 100 level courses before proceeding to 300 and 400 level courses.

- SPHU 101 Epidemics, Revolutions & Response: The Historical Development of Public Health (fall)
- SPHU 102 The Cell, The Individual, and The Community (spring)
 - ❖ (CELL 101 or the equivalent is a recommended prerequisite for SPHU 102)
- SPHU 201 Disease Ecology and Public Health Concepts (fall)
- SPHU 301 Public Health Systems Design and Decision Analysis (fall)
- SPHU 302 Knowledge and Information in the Practice of Public Health (spring)
- SPHU 401 Foundation and Formulation of Public Health Policy (fall)

B. Advanced Core Curriculum (15 credit hours)

Beginning in the junior year, students will take five advanced public health core courses as part of their undergraduate experience. These courses will also serve as a bridge for those wishing to enter the 4+1 BSPH/Master's program. Courses are taught every semester, including summer.

- ENHS 603 Survey of Environmental Health Sciences
- HSMG 603 Principles of Health Systems Administration and Management
- SPHL 603 Social and Behavioral Aspects of Global Health
- BIOS 603 Introductory Biostatistics
 - ❖ Students are strongly recommended to take SPHU 302 before BIOS 603
- EPID 603 Epidemiologic Methods
 - ❖ Students are strongly recommended to take SPHU 302 before EPID 603

C. BSPH Focus Area (9 credits minimum)

The BSPH Focus provides specialized knowledge in the field of public health. Students must complete all requirements for at least one focus.

Environmental Health Sciences Focus

The Environmental Health Science (ENHS) focus applies the principles of toxicology, industrial hygiene, policy, oncology, and disaster management to equip students with knowledge and skills to prevent, detect, and mitigate environmental public health problems and threats locally and globally. Students in this track will achieve the following competencies in addition to their general BSPH competencies:

- Describe the effects of environmental factors on public health
- Explain approaches to mitigate and/or prevent environmental health problems

Environmental Health Sciences Required Courses

SPHU 315 (3 credits): Global to Local: Air, Water, Soil, and Food

(should be taken after ENHS 603: Survey of Env Health Sciences)

SPHU 421 (3 credits): Health and Environmental Risk Assessment

SPHU 491 (3 credits): Independent Study (students will work closely with their faculty advisor to develop an independent project)

Health Informatics Focus

The Health Informatics (HIFO) focus prepares students for a variety of careers within public health, other health sciences, and in careers requiring quantitative skills that are outside the health field. Students develop analytical skills valuable for the solution of a wide variety of problems both within and beyond the health sciences. They learn how computer applications relate to the acquisition, management, analysis, and dissemination of information. Emphasis is placed on the effective use of information and information technology, as well as the effective management of information technology projects. Specific Health Informatics competencies include being able to:

- Describe how information systems are used to acquire, manage, summarize and disseminate public health data
- Utilize information systems to characterize public health problems and solutions

Health Informatics Required Courses

SPHU 322/BIOS622 (3 credits): Database Management

SPHU 431 (3 credits): Topics in Public Health Informatics

SPHU 432 (3 credits): Introduction to Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics

Global and Community Health Focus

The Global and Community Health (GCHS) focus educates students in the biologic and behavioral determinants of important public health problems in both developed and developing countries and discusses disease prevention strategies at the levels of communities and populations. Students learn how the biological sciences and the social sciences (such as psychology, sociology, and economics) can be applied in developing public health policies and in planning, implementing, and managing prevention programs. Global and Community Health focuses on the factors underlying domestic and international public health challenges. Specific Global and Community Health competencies including being able to:

- Describe methods related to planning, implementation and evaluation of global public health policies and programs
- Describe socio-economic factors influencing health in diverse populations

Global and Community Health Required Courses

SPHU 311 (3 credits): Local Solutions to Global Health Problems: Case Studies

SPHU 312 (3 credits): From Biology to Policy: Issues and Strategies in Public Health

SPHU 420 (3 credits): Implementing Evidence-Based Public Health

D. Capstone (3 or 7 credits)

The Capstone experience is designed to integrate, synthesize, and apply knowledge as developed through a student's academic program. Students are eligible to complete their capstone after completing four semesters of university coursework.

The undergraduate student has four options for completion of the capstone requirement:

Public Service Internship and a weekly internship seminar offered through the Center for Public Service. This option is an excellent opportunity to build professional skills through real world experiences. There are many exciting local opportunities, or students may participate in an internship outside New Orleans during the summer.

Student Independent Research - Working one on one with a faculty member, a student does a high-level research paper. Students should seek out a sponsoring faculty mentor and speak to the Program Manager to register for credit.

Study Abroad Experience - Tulane's Office of Study Abroad works with several international programs which can count for a capstone. To complete this type of capstone, their experience needs to be approved by the department faculty. Students should first speak with the Office of Study Abroad and the Program Manager to enroll in an international capstone course.

Honors Thesis (7 credits) - This option is open only to students who are part of Tulane's Honors Program. The Honors thesis requires two semesters of work with a three-member faculty thesis committee. This option can be very rewarding for students who are interested in graduate school. Interested students should speak to a faculty member during their third year at Tulane about this option, as well as the Honors Program. Students will register for SPHU 499 and 500 for a total of 7 hours.

Students must resolve all incompletes before registering for the capstone.

Students may register and begin the capstone only after they have completed four semesters of coursework. Usually the capstone experience takes place in the semester before graduation. However, it is never too early to start thinking about and investigating opportunities to fulfill this requirement.

All capstone experiences must be approved before a student starts their work or leaves the country. Please see the Undergraduate Public Health Studies program manager for any questions.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH MINOR

The Public Health Minor has been designed for students who are looking for an introduction to the field and its disciplines. This minor offers a complementary curriculum for students who are on a pre-medical track or those majoring in fields, such as environmental sciences or policy, which may incorporate a health focus. The coursework for the minor offers exposure to the concepts and applications of public health in a variety of the specific disciplines which make up the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

The Public Health Minor requires a minimum of 18 credits in undergraduate Public Health courses. Students are required to take the following courses for a total of 9 credits:

- SPHU 101 Epidemics, Revolutions, and Response
- SPHU 102 The Cell, The Individual, and The Community
- SPHU 201 Disease Ecology and Public Health Concepts

Students are required to take any one of the following courses for 3 credits -

- SPHU 301 Public Health Systems Design and Decision Analysis
- SPHU 302 Knowledge and Information in the Practice of Public Health
- SPHU 401 Foundation and Formulation of Public Health Policy

Students may take any two additional Public Health courses not already completed for the six additional credits. Students may choose from all undergraduate Public Health courses or any of the five graduate-level courses required for the BSPH degree.

Please note the following before applying to the Public Health Minor:

- Applicants must have junior standing and be in good academic standing with an overall GPA of 2.0 or better.
- All minor courses must be taken for a letter grade, with an overall GPA of 2.0 or better.

Activities outside the classroom

- **The Tulane Public Health Society (TUPHS)**

Tulane University Public Health Society was founded in the Spring of 2006. The organization offers a fun way for students to keep up to date on exciting developments and issues in the field of public health globally, and find out about new and exciting opportunities here at Tulane. Some of the things TUPHS has done in the past (and plans to continue in the future) include: movie screenings, guest speakers, and volunteer projects. TUPHS also serves as an information source for students about opportunities for graduate studies, career information, and information on summer programs.

For more information visit our website at www.tulane.edu/~tuphs or e-mail us at tuphs@tulane.edu.

The 2009-2010 President of TUPHS is Kelley McDonough (kmcdonou@tulane.edu)

- **Public Health Student Government (PHSGA)**

The Undergraduate Student Government facilitates and encourages the interests and activities of all undergraduate students in the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. The group plans roundtable discussions, social activities, fundraisers, and Public Health Week--a celebration of public health including information on staying healthy, food, guest speakers, and activities.

The 2009-2010 student officers are:

President: Jennifer Chadd

Vice President: Daniel Waren

Treasurer: Jiwon Bae

Secretary: Amanda Fay

Senior Class Representative: Tracy Blackerby

Junior Class Representative: Jennifer Del Rossi

Sophomore Class Representative: Ali Doppelt

Students interested in participating in Student Government can email President Jenny Chadd - jchadd@tulane.edu

- **Center for Public Service (CPS)**

The inauguration of the Center for Public Service reflects Tulane University's renewed sense of purpose within a city and region rising from devastation. Recognizing that active, civic engagement builds strong, healthy communities and responsible citizens, the Center for Public Service merges academic inquiry with sustained civic engagement. The Center is a forum for students, faculty, and community partners to work together to address urgent and long-term social challenges and opportunities.

The Center for Public Service administers the Public Service requirement of the undergraduate core curriculum. The guiding principle of the Center includes the belief that public service--rooted in an

academic context, yet growing into other areas of service--contributes to the development of student civic engagement.

Several Undergraduate Public Health classes are also service-learning courses which have been developed with the assistance of the Center for Public Service. Students can find out more about service-learning courses on the CPS' website: <http://tulane.edu/cps/>

As students go forward with their studies, they are encouraged to consider doing a public service internship to fulfill their capstone. CPS administers this program and keeps up community connections with New Orleans organizations. Some examples of local organizations with public-health-oriented internships include: City of New Orleans Environmental Affairs, the Louisiana Public Health Institute, Children's Hospital, Covenant House Clinic, The Mary Amelia Center for Research on Women's Health, Planned Parenthood, Louisiana Bucket Brigade, and Gulf Restoration Network.

Students can also turn to CPS for information about volunteering without receiving academic credit. For volunteer opportunities in the New Orleans area, please see the CPS's website (<http://cps.tulane.edu/>) or contact Avery Brewton (abrewton@tulane.edu).

- **Office of Study Abroad**

The Office of Study Abroad (OSA) oversees a diverse portfolio of study abroad options for Newcomb-Tulane College. Over 80 study abroad programs in 30 countries throughout Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East are available to qualified undergraduates. We partner with top universities and study abroad organizations to make the highest quality overseas educational experiences available to Newcomb-Tulane students.

Within the Tate House, the OSA maintains a resource library with information on approved Newcomb-Tulane Study Abroad Programs and their host countries. Advising sessions, informational meetings, and peer advising takes place on the second floor of the Tate House (7008 Zimple St.), behind the Tilton Memorial Library.

Public Health students who are interested in doing international study should begin their research by contacting the Office of Study Abroad: <http://global.tulane.edu/studyabroad/> or (504) 865-5339.

When planning to study abroad, remember that specific Undergraduate Public Health credit for work done by students must be approved by departmental faculty. This means that students must plan ahead and seek approval for coursework before leaving Tulane to be assured that their international studies will count towards their degree program.

Students should visit the office of study abroad and then speak to the Undergraduate Public Health program manager for guidance on getting specific course credit approved for their degree program.

Planning for Your future

A. CAREER COUNSELING

As you begin to consider what the future holds after you finish your Public Health undergraduate degree, keep in mind that Tulane has resources available to help you decide how to go forward.

- Tulane Career Center

The Tulane Career Center offers services to students for a variety of career needs, such as how to choose a major or a career path which best suits their interests, skills, and personal values. We provide access to job and internship resources, help with résumés and cover letters, conduct mock interviews, offer advice for Graduate School preparation, and much more. We also help students streamline their job search strategies to optimize future success.

The Tulane Career Center is ready to assist employers with recruiting and staffing needs. We are committed to maximizing employer opportunities to recruit Tulane talent.

Students can browse job listings, get advice on searching for a job, or see sample resume styles--all online. Students can also set up an appointment to meet with a career counselor online. Visit the Career Center's website at: <http://hiretulane.com>

- Public Health Career Counseling

The Undergraduate Public Health Studies Program has a dedicated career counselor who has been working for years with graduate-level students at the downtown School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Kathy Ball, the Director of SPHTM Career Services, offers workshops and assistance for resume writing, interview preparation, job searching, and career information and development. She is available to meet with students either on the downtown campus (Mondays – Thursdays) or on the uptown campus (Fridays). The downtown office is located in room 2461 of the Tidewater Building on Canal Street. The uptown campus office is 201D Fortier Hall. Students can schedule an appointment by emailing kball@tulane.edu.

In addition, the Undergraduate Public Health Studies website has a well-developed career section, with internship listings from around the country, information on public health career fields, sample job announcements, and more. Students are encouraged to browse the career section of the website at <http://www.sph.tulane.edu/bsph/career.htm>.

B. 4+1 JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM

The 4+1 joint degree program allows outstanding BSPH students to complete the class requirements for both undergraduate and master's degrees at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in a period of approximately five years. With permission of the deans of undergraduate and graduate admissions at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine (SPHTM), students may opt to study towards the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) and Master of Public Health (MPH) *or* Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) degrees. Fifteen credit hours of graduate core coursework taken while completing the BSPH applies towards the BSPH and the MPH (or MSPH) for those accepted into the joint degree program. The MSPH and MPH degree offerings at SPHTM require 42 to 45 credit hours of graduate coursework.

Students apply for the 4+1 joint degree program through the SOPHAS system during the spring semester of their third undergraduate year, or one year before completion of the BSPH degree, whichever is applicable. Applications will also be accepted during the summer to accommodate international study and other special needs, but 4+1 applications will be accepted no later than July 15th. Admissions requirements for the master's component of the 4+1 program are identical to those for admission into the School's regular master's programs. Program admission takes effect upon receipt of the BSPH degree conditional to acceptance by the Dean of Graduate Admissions. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with their academic advisers to ensure that the requirements of the BSPH degree, and the MPH or MSPH degree are all successfully met.

The general outline of the 4+1 program is as follows:

Years 1 to 4: Minimum total of 120 credit hours and completion of BSPH requirements. During Year 3, the student must apply to the 4+1 program by July 15th.

Year 5: - Fifteen credit hours of graduate core coursework taken while completing the BSPH applies towards the BSPH and the MPH (or MSPH) for those accepted into the joint degree program. All 4+1 students take a minimum of 42 to 45 graduate credit hours for their graduate degree, depending on their program. No more than fifteen (15) of these credit hours may be from credit hours earned during the BSPH degree. All degree programs offered by the School are considered professional degree programs for which students must complete the entire public health graduate core. Completion of a practicum and the culminating experience are requirements for all students. 4+1 students must meet all other graduate degree requirements. These degree requirements vary by department. Students should consult their department as well as the student and practicum handbooks. These documents can be found on the SPHTM website:

<http://www.sph.tulane.edu/main/academics/handbooks.htm>

- * *Note that depending on the timing of the practicum and culminating experience requirements by the student, completion of an MPH may take some additional time after the 5th academic year. Students should work closely with their advisors.*

4+1 Admissions:

In order to apply for the 4+1 joint degree program, the following materials must be submitted to the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine using the Schools of Public Health Online Application Service (SOPHAS - <http://www.sophas.org/>):

- SOPHAS on-line Application and fee (note that this application includes a career statement essay, three letters of recommendation, and official transcripts due upon graduation)

- GRE or MCAT scores (GMAT scores are acceptable for the department of Health Systems Management)

Application Timeline:

BSPH undergraduate students must apply for graduate admissions during the spring semester of their junior (third) year in order to be eligible for the 4+1 joint degree program. BSPH students who do not apply to the MPH/MSPH by July 15th of the academic year preceding their intended year of admission are NOT eligible for the 4+1 program. Students must be accepted by their graduate department of choice, and they must meet minimum admissions standards at the time of acceptance as well as upon completion of their BSPH degree.

For example – if a Tulane student graduates with a BSPH degree in Spring 2011, they must apply for admission to the MPH program between January 1st, 2010 and July 15th, 2010 in order to start their Masters program in Fall 2011.

Students admitted with 4+1 status may defer their program start date for up to two academic years from the date of original scheduled admission. No further deferral from the 4+1 program is possible, and students who do not matriculate within two years are not eligible for 4+1 credits. Deferral requires written notice to the Director of Graduate admissions. Written notice must be received by the Office of Graduate Admissions before the original date of matriculation. For example, the student noted above must submit written notice of deferral by Day 1 of fall 2011 semester, and must begin their graduate program by fall 2013. If this example student is accepted but does not enroll or file a letter of deferral by Day 1 of fall 2011 semester, the student automatically becomes ineligible for the 4+1 joint degree program. .

The 4+1 program may not be combined with any other joint degree program offered through TUSPHTM.

School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine's Degrees

The following specializations are available at the master's level and open to 4+1 students:

- Biostatistics-MSPH
- Community Health Sciences-MPH
- Environmental Health Sciences-MPH, MSPH
- Epidemiology-MPH
- Health Systems Management-MPH
- International Health and Development-MPH
- Tropical Medicine-MSPH

Questions about the Master of Public Health program should be directed to: Director of Admissions to SPHTM, Office of Admissions - (504) 988-8876, or to the Undergraduate Public Health Studies Program Manager – (504) 865-5140

Appendix A: Services for Students With Disabilities

Tulane recognizes that a growing number of people with disabilities have joined the University community in recent years as students, faculty, and staff. The University welcomes these individuals, seeks to support their particular needs and rights, and works to ensure that they have an equal opportunity to participate in the University community.

Tulane's diverse student population includes well-qualified students with documented disabilities who may require learning, sight, hearing, manual, speech, or mobility accommodations to ensure fair access to educational and residential resources. These students are intelligent and capable, and have met the same rigorous standards for admission as other students. To provide students with disabilities every opportunity to explore educational opportunities and demonstrate their talents and intellect on a level playing field with their peers without disabilities, the University makes available reasonable accommodations in accordance with Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The University's Office of Disability Services (ODS) serves as the central campus resource for Tulane students with documented disabilities or with disability concerns. ODS is a part of the Educational Resources and Counseling office and is located in the Mechanical Engineering Building. **ODS can be contacted by telephone (504) 862-8433 or in person, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and also can be found on the Web at <http://erc.tulane.edu/disability>.** ODS works in partnership with students, faculty, and staff to develop successful strategies for maximizing students' academic achievement and participation in extracurricular activities and programs.

Students with disabilities who believe that they require reasonable accommodations must register with ODS *as soon as possible* and follow all ODS procedures for requesting accommodations. Because current clinical documentation is required before ODS can consider any requests for reasonable accommodation, newly matriculating students who have documented disabilities should contact ODS and submit all necessary forms and documentation at least one month *before* arriving on campus--if possible.

Students should be aware that they are responsible for making requests for reasonable accommodations and for submitting all necessary documentation in support of those requests. While ODS can help students articulate their needs, will engage with students in an interactive discussion about possible accommodations, and can assist students in communicating any approved accommodations to instructors or staff, students remain ultimately responsible for complying with ODS and University procedures and for ensuring that the University is aware of the need for accommodations in the first place.

Any student with specific questions about ODS procedures and policies should contact: David Tylicki, Director at (504) 862-8433 or dylicki@tulane.edu.

Appendix B: Newcomb-Tulane Core Curriculum

(See Newcomb-Tulane College Undergraduate Core Curriculum for more detailed discussion)

- **Writing (4 credits):** Competency may be attained by successful completion of either English 101 or a 119 writing-across-the-curriculum course; 4+ AP English score or 5+ higher-level IB English score; B+ or better in the English Department examination
- **Foreign Language (4-8 credits):** Competency may be achieved by 4+ AP Score; 640+ SAT II Subject Test score; passing score on a Tulane-administered test; passing grade in a 102/112-level language course. All students must take at least one foreign language course at Tulane.
- **Scientific Inquiry (9-12 credits)**
 - **Quantitative Reasoning (3-4 credits):** Competency may be met by 4+ Calculus AP score; 3+ BC AP Score; 4+ Statistics AP score; completion of one course in mathematics (see "Mathematics Requirement" section for relevant courses)
 - **Physical and Life Sciences (6-8 credits):** Competency may be attained by 4+ AP Science score; 5+ higher-level IB Science score; successful completion of 2 approved science courses
 - Acceptable Departments: Astronomy, Cell and Molecular Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Mathematics, Neuroscience, Physics, Psychology
 - *One science course must have an approved laboratory, see Newcomb-Tulane Undergraduate Core Curriculum.*
 - *Public Health Majors may NOT use public health courses to fulfill this requirement*
- **Cultural Knowledge (12 credits)**
 - **6 credits in Humanities/Fine Arts**
 - **Humanities:** African and African Diaspora Studies, Arabic, Architectural History/Theory, Chinese, Classical Studies, Communication, English, French, German, Greek, Haitian, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Jewish Studies, Latin, Literature, Philosophy, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese
 - **Fine Arts:** Architectural Visual Media, Architectural Digital Media, Art History, Art Studio, Dance, Music, Theatre
 - **6 credits in Social Sciences**
 - Anthropology, Architectural Urban Studies, Economics, History, International Development, Latin American Studies, Law, Political Economy, Political Science, *Public Health**, Social Work, Sociology, Women's Studies
 - *Public Health Majors may NOT use public health courses to fulfill this requirement.*
 - **European & Outside European Traditions:** *Of the 12 credits mentioned above (humanities/fine arts & social sciences) , one course must be chosen from a list of courses in Perspectives in the European Tradition and one must be chosen in Perspectives outside the European Tradition. See your academic advisor for questions about these requirements.*

- **Public Service**

To complete the Public Service graduation requirements students must:

- Successfully complete one service learning course at the 100-, 200-, or 300-level before the end of their sophomore year or fourth semester on campus.
- During their junior or senior year (after four semesters of coursework), participate in one of the following Center for Public Service approved programs (at the 300-level or above):
 - Service learning course (300 level or above)
 - Academic service learning internship
 - Faculty-sponsored public service research project
 - Public service honors thesis project
 - Public service-based international study-abroad program.
 - Capstone experience with public service component
- **TIDES Seminar (1 credit)**
 - Must be completed the first semester of Freshman year
- **Capstone – Undergraduate Public Health Studies**

The Capstone experience is designed to integrate, synthesize and apply knowledge as developed through a student's academic program. Students are eligible to complete their capstone after completing four semesters of university coursework.

 - *See page 10 in this handbook for a detailed discussion of the capstone requirement for a BSPH degree.*

Appendix C: BSPH Proficiency Curriculum

A. Writing Core Competency and Writing Intensive Proficiency Requirements

The School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine requires that you complete the **First-Year Writing Core Competency by the close of your second semester**. There are many ways to fulfill the first-year writing core competency requirement.

- 1 If you earned a 4 or 5 on the AP English Language and Composition exam or the AP English Literature and Composition exam, you have fulfilled the core competency requirement. In addition, a 5 or higher on the higher-level International Baccalaureate (IB) English exam will fulfill this requirement.
- 2 A passing grade on the first-year Tulane writing examination, administered at the beginning of the fall semester by the English department, will fulfill the first-year writing core competency requirement. You are eligible to take this examination if you meet the following requirements: (1) You have an SAT verbal score of 670 or above or an ACT score of 29 or above and (2) you have NOT already taken the AP exam in English. If you are interested in the option, please consult the New Wave Orientation Schedule for time and location. The Tulane English Examination will test your ability to analyze expository prose and to develop a coherent argument. Bring with you at least two examination books (also called "blue books"), which may be purchased at the Tulane University Bookstore in the University Center. The Tulane English Examination will be administered only once for the year. Check your schedule for the administration date, time and place.
- 3 You may also fulfill the writing core competency requirement by taking and passing either a First-year Writing Seminar, offered in many departments and designated by the number 119, or by taking and passing ENGL 101 offered by the English department. More information on these courses follows.

MORE ABOUT WRITING CORE COMPETENCY COURSES

The First-Year Writing Seminars and the English 101 classes each carry four credits, meet for four contact hours a week, and are limited to an enrollment of 14-15 students per seminar. Each class demands the same amount of writing. Generally, you will be asked to write, at a minimum, four formal essays (a minimum 5,000 words) including a researched essay that requires you to become familiar with our library, with various research techniques, and with the demands of academic honesty and the seriousness of the crime of plagiarism. You will be asked to write much more in terms of informal response papers, peer review analyses, in-class writing assignments, and examinations.

Both the First-Year 119 Writing Seminars and the English 101 classes require a variety of writing, and both focus on the writing tasks commonly assigned in college-level courses. For example, your instructors will introduce discussions of the conventions of academic writing, the types and varieties of academic argumentation, and correct usage (including grammar, paragraphing, diction, and style). Both require rewriting and revision as one component of the course.

The difference between the 119 Writing Seminars and the English 101 classes is one of disciplinary emphasis. The 119 Writing Seminars are offered through various departments, and thus the content and

disciplinary perspective of these courses will shape the writing assignments you are asked to complete. For instance, if you were to enroll in a history class on the American Civil War, the various writing assignments would have as their subject matter the American Civil War through the lens of history as an academic discipline. Most English 101 classes are also thematic, meaning that the subject matter focuses on a particular topic, but through the lens of literary and rhetorical analysis.

For the most up-to-date descriptions of the first-year writing core competency classes, visit the registrar's home page under "Class Schedules". Those sections labeled "Honors" after the title earn honors credit. Note that some first-year writing seminars earn credit toward a major in the department that sponsors it. Those sections that do NOT earn major credit are so labeled.

Shortly before early registration begins, students who did not complete their first-year writing core competency requirement in the fall will be able to review complete descriptions of the first-year writing core competency offerings – both ENGL 101 and 119 seminars – for the upcoming spring semester (including new call numbers and times) on the Registrar's website.

REMINDERS ABOUT THE WRITING CORE COMPETENCY

- If you have fulfilled the first-year writing core competency requirement with a sufficient AP/IB score or with a passing grade on the First-Year Tulane Writing exam, you may not take a first-year seminar or an English 101 class.
- Both the First-Year Writing Seminars and the English 101 classes are limited to an enrollment of 14-15 students, and thus they fill rapidly. Before you begin to register, make a list of 5 or 6 first-year writing seminars and English 101 classes that you would be happy to take. If you are flexible in your choices, you are more likely to get a class that suits you.
- Remember, too, that you may fulfill the core competency requirement in writing during either the fall semester or the spring semester of your first year.
- Finally, you may enroll in an English 101 class or a First-Year Writing Seminar, but you may not enroll in both. You may not enroll in two first-year writing seminars or in two English 101 classes.
- Neither the 119 Writing Seminar nor English 101 is a basic skills class. It is assumed that you are entering Tulane with some facility in writing. Therefore, you may be asked to write a diagnostic essay during the first days of class to determine that you are ready to take English 101 or a 119 Writing Seminar.
- Transfer Credit: If you have taken an English course for which you intend to request transfer credit for English 101, please be advised that, because of the rigor of the courses, Tulane's four credits for English 101 and First-Year Writing Seminars 119 represent more than a standard one-semester composition course elsewhere. Thus, the First-Year Writing Core Competency Requirement may be satisfied by a two-semester or two-quarter composition course elsewhere.

WRITING INTENSIVE REQUIREMENT

The Writing Intensive requirement will be satisfied by taking one writing course of the following three kinds: (1) a four-credit course officially designated as a W course; (2) a one-credit Writing Practicum

attached to a regular three-credit course – that is, to a three-credit course not itself approved as a W course; (3) or an honors thesis.

Writing intensive courses of any kind must be approved by the Liberal Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee. Enrollment in either the W-course or the Writing Practicum will normally require permission of the instructor and be limited to twenty students.

Students enrolled in writing courses and practicum must complete a total of 5,000 words (approximately 20 pages) which may be one project or several. Additionally, at least one or more projects totaling 2,500 words must be completely revised based on detailed evaluation of the course instructor.

Writing Practicum are self-contained courses that extend or parallel the subject matter and the writing assignments offered in the course to which they are appended. At the instructor's discretion, a writing practicum may be either optional or required of all students in the course. English 101 or equivalent is a prerequisite to enrollment in courses that meet the writing intensive requirement.

The language of the writing requirement may be English in a writing course at any level or--with the approval of the instructor--it may be a foreign language in a writing course at the 300-level and above.

B. Foreign Language Proficiency

The School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine requires that all students complete three 4-credit courses, or the equivalent, in one foreign language. Placement beyond the introductory course, however, may reduce the total number of semesters you are required to complete.

The foreign language proficiency requirement at Tulane SPHTM may be satisfied by completion of a foreign language at the 203 level or above. The foreign language department in which you will choose to study will determine your placement level on the basis of the online placement information questionnaire, your high school performance, and the results, if any, of the foreign language achievement tests which you may have taken. If you have a score of 640 or above on an SAT II Foreign Language Subject Exam or a 4/5 on an AP Exam, you will be exempt from Tulane's foreign language core competency requirement. For continuing students, the exam will be offered throughout the academic year at scheduled times posted on their website (<http://www.tulane.edu/~llc>). *Regardless of your exempt or possible exempt status, you must complete and submit the online form.*

If you wish to register for a foreign language that you have not previously studied, complete and submit the online form, indicating the language you have selected. You will then be placed in a beginning foreign language course in the department you have chosen. Also, any foreign language literature course beyond the 200-level will count towards the completion of the Humanities requirement of the Newcomb-Tulane core requirement.

- 1 **Foreign Language Courses**—all students must complete the foreign language proficiency requirement by the close of the fifth full-time semester to advance to the sixth semester. The typical three-course sequence is: 101, 102, 203 or equivalent such as H204 or 205. Students choosing Vietnamese and Arabic to fulfill this requirement will be required to complete up to the 204 level. (Contact Sarah Wilson in the Language Lab with questions, swilson@tulane.edu or 504-865-5879 with questions) Enrollment should not be postponed as students beginning a new language will need three semesters of passing coursework to fulfill the core competency and proficiency requirements. Additionally, in some departments, language courses are offered only once per academic year. Postponing enrollment in a language course could result in scheduling problems in later semesters. Languages which may be taken to complete the proficiency requirement are: Chinese, German, Hebrew, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Greek, Italian, Latin, Russian, and Vietnamese. You should already have obtained a foreign language

placement through the Language Learning Center website, <http://languageplacement.tulane.edu>.

If you have not yet obtained a foreign language placement, please do so immediately. If you are unable to access the website or have questions about your placement, please call the Language Learning Center at (504) 865-5879. Do not enroll in a foreign language course for which you have not obtained a placement; you will not receive credit for your work in the class.

- 2 **SAT II Foreign Language Exam**—if you have a score of 640 or above on the SAT II foreign language exam, you have fulfilled the competency requirement, but you must still complete at least one foreign language course at Tulane prior to graduation. Your exemption will appear on your fall registration program as LATN (Latin) 203.99, SPAN (Spanish) 203.99, etc. An exemption carries no academic credits, but it does fulfill the foreign language requirement and permits you to register for courses beyond the 203 level listed in the schedule. You should consult the appropriate foreign language department for advice about upper-level courses.
- 3 **Advanced Placement Exam**—If you have a score of 4 or 5 on the foreign language AP exam (Language or Literature), you will receive 4 hours of academic credit for that language, and your Fall registration will show the credits as FREN (French) 203.98, GERM (German) 203.98, LATN (Latin) 203.98, or SPAN (Spanish) 203.98 with 4 credits. This will also fulfill the foreign language proficiency requirement and allow you to take upper-level courses in that language if you wish to do so. You should consult the chair of the appropriate foreign language department for placement and/or advice about upper-level courses. Remember, you must complete at least one foreign language course at Tulane in order to graduate.
- 4 **Tulane's Foreign Language Exam**— Students with a placement at the 203 level (or equivalent) of a foreign language may take an optional exam to try to place into a higher level course. Exams will be given during the orientation period and periodically throughout the academic year. *You must be placed in a 203-level (third semester) foreign language course in order to be eligible for the exam.* You will need your social security number and some form of photo identification. All materials you need to take the exam will be furnished. The fee for standardized exams in Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Latin and Spanish is \$20.00 (cash only). There is no charge for departmental or special exams in other languages.
- 5 **Native and Fluent Speakers of a Foreign Language Offered at Tulane**—Unless you are exempt from the foreign language proficiency requirement because of AP or achievement test scores, or have a TOEFL or TESL score report confirming your status as a native speaker, you must take the Foreign Language Proficiency Exam to confirm your exempt status. Meanwhile, register for a 203-level course in the language in which you are proficient. If the exam confirms your proficiency, you will need to drop the 203-level course during Orientation. You should then add another course of your choice to replace the foreign language course. (NOTE: Native speakers of Spanish are not permitted to enroll in Spanish courses below the 400-level.)
- 6 **Native and Fluent Speakers of a Foreign Language Not Offered at Tulane**—if you are proficient in a language not offered at Tulane, see the advisor about instructions for making arrangements for a special Proficiency Exam. Meanwhile, if you feel that your proficiency may not be confirmed, you should register for a foreign language course and then drop it when and if your exemption (without credit) is verified.

C. Mathematics Requirement

The Mathematics requirement for the BSPH degree is a minimum of 6 credits in Mathematics (two courses) or one additional course beyond Newcomb-Tulane's core for quantitative reasoning. Please note that Symbolic Logic (PHIL 121) cannot be used towards the BSPH degree.

Suggested Mathematics Courses for BSPH requirement (2 courses):

- **MATH 121 Calculus I (4 credits)**
 - **Or - Math115/116 Long Calculus (3 credits each, equal the MATH 121 course)**
- **A second MATH course taken in consultation with your advisor. MATH 121 - Probability and Statistics**

Students with advanced interests in mathematics, or students planning to pursue a career in health informatics/biostatistics are encouraged to consider taking further advanced mathematics courses, such as:

- **MATH 131 Consolidated Calculus (4 credits)**
- **MATH 301 Probability and Statistics (3 credits)**

Further questions about fulfilling the mathematics requirement should be brought to the student's academic advisor. Students can call (504) 865-5798 to make an appointment with their advisor.

For questions regarding the content and difficulty of these courses, see the Mathematics Department website (<http://math.tulane.edu/>) or call (504) 865-5727.

D. Public Health Communications Requirement

Beginning in fall 2008 all matriculating BSPH students will be required to meet the professional communications requirement with **SPHU 430 Public Health Communication**. All students who matriculated before fall 2008 (classes of 2010 and 2011) may elect to meet this requirement through either the approved list of classes OR SPHU 430.

Professional Communication – a required three-credit course from the approved list of courses:

COMM 105-Introduction to Personal Communication
COMM 110-Introduction to Mass Communication
COMM 223-Interpersonal Communication
COMM 220-Organizational Communication
COMM 225-Public Address
COMM 321-Principles and Practice of Argument
COMM 322-Small Group Communication
COMM 324-Interaction Analysis
COMM 351-Environmental Communication
COMM 426-Communication, Culture, and the Body
COMM 421-Persuasion
COMM 436-Introduction to Cultural Criticism
COMM 445-Communication, Language, and Gender
COMM 460-Intercultural Communication
COMM 462-Women, Development, and Communication in the English-Speaking Caribbean

COMM 464-Communication and Cultural Identity in the English-Speaking Caribbean

COMM 484-AIDS and the Media (instructor approval required)

SOWK 230- Communication With & Social Welfare of Tibetan Refugees

**Other courses not listed above may be acceptable for fulfillment of the Professional Communications requirement, with approval, by the Office of Undergraduate Public Health Studies.*

Beginning in fall 2008 all matriculating BSPH students will be required to meet the professional communications requirement with **SPHU 430 Public Health Communication**. All students who matriculated before fall 2008 (classes of 2010 and 2011) may elect to meet this requirement through either the approved list of classes OR SPHU 430.

Appendix D: Transfer Credit Policy

The School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine has distinct policies regarding transfer credit. Courses taken since high school graduation and courses taken during high school enrollment are evaluated according to the following standards:

Courses taken since graduation from high school: If you have already earned college credit or are currently enrolled in college courses, you may be eligible for transfer credit toward your School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine degree. The transfer credit policy for the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine requires an official transcript, a statement of good standing from the institution in which you were enrolled, and course descriptions from the summer brochures or college catalogs which correspond to the courses on your transcript. When this official transcript (not a grade report or a transcript “issued to student”) is received and your courses have been approved by the appropriate academic department as equivalent to Tulane coursework, we will adjust your School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine transcript to reflect the academic credit awarded to you in transfer. Please be advised that for courses taken after you graduate from high school you must earn a C- or better in each course, and grades are not transferred with the credits.

Courses taken concurrently during enrollment in high school: Courses sponsored by a college or university but taught at high schools by high school teachers in classes composed primarily of high school students will not be considered for transfer credit at Tulane, even if a college transcript is issued for these courses. College credits earned by Tulane students while enrolled in high school will be considered for transfer credit at Tulane only if the courses meet all of the following requirements:

- (1) The courses were listed in the official catalog of the college/university from which you earned credit,
- (2) The courses were composed primarily of degree-seeking college students,
- (3) The courses were taught by faculty of that college/university on that institution's campus, and
- (4) You earned a grade of "B-" or above in each course.

In order to process transfer credit for college courses taken while in high school, Tulane College requires:

- (1) Transfer Credit Eligibility Form to be completed by the student
- (2) Transfer Credit Eligibility Form Supplement to be completed by the institution
- (3) Official transcript issued to Tulane (not a grade report or transcript “issued to student”)
- (4) Course descriptions from the summer brochures or college catalogs that correspond to the courses on your transcript.

Please note that while incoming students are eligible to receive transfer credit for courses taken at 2-year, community, or junior colleges, students may NOT receive credit for courses taken at these types of institutions after they have enrolled at Tulane.

APPENDIX E: Pre-professional Advising

Pre-Law

Law school admissions committees are looking for bright, well-rounded individuals who have a solid general education and who have taken courses that require reading comprehension, writing, essay examinations, presentations, and case analysis. A strong academic record and high scores on the Law School Admissions Test are important.

Students intending to go to law school may major in any discipline. Courses in fields such as history, political economy, and political science may be of particular interest to pre-law students. English and philosophy courses are also recommended for their enhancement of analytical, writing, and communication skills. Specific courses that may be helpful include ethics, critical thinking, symbolic logic, philosophy of law, and social policy, among many others.

Pre-Medicine

Students intending to go to medical school or other health professional schools may major in any discipline. A strong foundational knowledge in the sciences is required; however, studies in the humanities and liberal arts will broaden a student's perspective and prepare him or her for the non-scientific aspects of a medical career. Premedical courses should be completed concurrently with other degree requirements during the first three years of college. The following courses will help prepare students for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) and are required by most medical schools:

- Biology (2 semesters with labs)
- Physics (2 semesters with labs)
- General Chemistry (2 semesters with labs)
- Organic Chemistry (2 semesters with labs)
- English (2 semesters; English 101 or 119 may be counted as one)
- Math (varies with medical schools, typically 2 semesters with at least 1 being calculus)

Students who are interested in Tulane's Creative Premedical Scholars early acceptance or joint degree programs should complete all of the premedical course requirements by the end of the sophomore year and earn a very high grade point average.

Students interested in pre-medicine should also be aware that medical schools have varying policies regarding Advanced Placement credit. Some medical schools require that students complete their premedical course work at the college level in letter-graded courses even if they already have Advanced Placement credit for biology, chemistry, or physics. Thus, students with AP credit in those fields may find they need to complete higher-level lab course work in the same subjects, depending on the policies of their intended medical school(s). AP credit cannot be deleted once it is awarded.

Questions about either of these programs should be directed to: Kathleen Maier in the Office of Pre-professional Advising at (504) 865-5370.