



American Indian PUBLIC HEALTH

The American Indian Public Health specialization of North Dakota State University’s Master of Public Health program addresses important issues facing a significant and underrepresented sector of our society. With this track of study, your work will have an impact; you will make a difference.

American Indians endure some of the worst public health disparities in the nation. For example, in the Northern Plains, including North Dakota, the Native population has the highest death rates due to diabetes, cancer, infant mortality, unintentional injuries, suicide and other diseases. Risk factors and social determinants include high rates of poverty, inadequate nutrition, historical trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, smoking, substance abuse and other circumstances that need to be confronted in the public health arena.

In addition, unique American Indian health policy considerations and the federal trust responsibility to provide health services to the Native population are poorly understood among most public health leaders.

NDSU offers the only Master of Public Health program in the nation with a curriculum specifically designed to prepare graduates to work with and improve the health of American Indian populations. Current faculty are Donald Warne, MD, MPH (Oglala Lakota); and Donna Grandbois, Ph.D., MS, RN (Turtle Mountain Chippewa Nation). Linda Frizzell, Ph.D. (Cherokee/Lakota) is the American Indian data coordinator.

Students in this track will take the required core MPH course work (biostatistics, epidemiology, leading and managing public health systems, environmental health, social and behavioral sciences in public health, and healthcare delivery in the United States). Students also will be required to complete the MPH practicum and the master’s paper – each focused on American Indian Public Health.

You can apply now for this noteworthy track of the Master of Public Health program, which is scheduled to begin during fall semester 2013. To begin the process, visit the NDSU Graduate School website at www.ndsu/gradschool. For more information on the Master of Public Health program, go to www.ndsu.edu/publichealth.

The 18-credit American Indian Public Health specialization curriculum includes:

Credit Hours	Course
MPH 771 American Indian Health Policy	3
MPH 772 American Indian Health Disparities.....	3
MPH 773 Cultural Competence in Indian Health	3
MPH 774 Research Issues in Tribal Communities	3
MPH 775 Case Studies in Indian Health	3
Elective Courses	
<i>Choose three credits from the following:</i>	
Indigenous Food Systems and Nutrition	3
American Indian Elder Care	3
Other MPH Specialization Course	3

Traditional symbols and art hold deep, personal meaning for many Native Americans. This is the Lakota Medicine Wheel, which is described by Dr. Donald Warne in this video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIGrFHy463g.