



Social work and public health have many areas of mutual concern, such as improving quality of life, achieving social justice, and engaging in interventions aimed at addressing the social determinants of national and global health.

Today, health social work includes medical social work, public health social work, and many subtypes of practice dedicated to specific diseases. Roughly half of all social workers—about 300,000 practitioners—work in healthcare, and that number is expected to grow to 75% over the next decade. A social work perspective on health focuses on the systems that support health such as housing, transportation, education, and nutrition, which empower you to deliver compassionate, ethical care to the most vulnerable in society.

## Dual Program Goals and Objectives

The dual master's degree program incorporates competencies of public health and social work education and practice to provide an epidemiologic/populations-based approach to preventing, addressing, and solving social health problems. This dual degree trains students in population-based prevention and multi-level intervention. Additionally, students gain practical experience in inter-professional practice, cultural competency, social justice, empowerment, leadership and management, research and evaluation, and policy development.

Dual degrees lower the total cost of both degrees (when taken separately) and articulates an intentional path for social workers wanting to explore the practice of public health. Together, these

two degrees elevate social work's strengths in cultural and community responsiveness, empowerment, inter-professional teamwork, and care coordination through public health's strategic and epidemiological approach to caring for the underserved and most vulnerable.

## Admission Requirements

Students typically enter the dual degree via the MSW Program then apply to the MPH program in their first year of MSW studies. Staggering application meets admissions standards for both programs and multiple decision points for students. Please see the MPH or MSW director if you wish to begin with the MPH.

### Master of Social Work

- > Application guidelines at [www.sau.edu/msw](http://www.sau.edu/msw)
- > Official transcripts from all institution(s) of enrollment
- > Social Work application
- > Three letters of reference
- > Personal statement

### Master of Public Health

- > Application for admission at [www.sau.edu/apply](http://www.sau.edu/apply)
- > Official transcripts from all institution(s) of enrollment
- > Personal statement
- > Three letters of reference
- > GPA of 3.0 or higher

# Master of Social Work Master of Public Health Dual Degree



## Curriculum

### Year 1 FALL SEMESTER

MSW 510	Generalist Practice I	.3
MSW 610	Human Behavior Theories	.3
MSW 710	Social Work Research Design	.3
MSW 810	Social Welfare Policy	.3
MSW 591	Field Instruction and Seminar I	.3
Total semester hours		15

### Year 1 SPRING SEMESTER

MSW 520	Generalist Practice II	.3
MSW 620	Diversity and Social Systems	.3
MSW 720	Social Work Program Evaluation	.3
MSW 820	Social Policy Analysis	.3
MSW 592	Field Instruction and Seminar II	.3
Total semester hours		15

### Year 2 FALL SEMESTER I

MPH 510	Global Public Health	.3
MPH 515	Health Promotion and Communication	.3
MPH 516	Applied Practicum Experience Planning	.1
(All MPH courses are online and asynchronous unless noted)		
Total semester hours		7

### Year 2 FALL SEMESTER II

MPH 520	Epidemiology	.3
MPH 540	Behavioral-Social-Environmental Health	.3
Total semester hours		6

### Year 2 SPRING SEMESTER I

MPH 525	Biostatistics-Quant Research	.3
*MPH 620	Global Health Policy	.0
Total semester hours		3

### Year 2 SPRING SEMESTER II

MPH 530	Qualitative Research	.3
MPH 670	Public Health Equity and Ethics	.3
Total semester hours		6

### Year 2 SUMMER SEMESTER I

MPH 610	Evidence-Based Practice	.3
MPH 670	Global Health Systems	.3
Total semester hours		6

### Year 2 SUMMER SEMESTER II

MSW 550	Empowerment Social Work in Mental Health	.3
Total semester hours		3

### Year 3 FALL SEMESTER

MSW 530	Empowerment Practice I	.3
MSW 593	Field Instruction III	.4
(Aligned with MPH 695 Applied Practice Experience)		

MSW 603	Field Seminar III: Social Work Ethics	.2
MPH 670	Community Health Analysis and Promotion	.3
(Counts as MSW elective—first 8 weeks)		
MPH 680	Management and Leadership in PH Systems	.3
(Counts as MSW elective—first 8 weeks)		
Total semester hours		15

### Year 3 SPRING SEMESTER

MSW 540	Empowerment Practice II	.3
*MSW 594	Empowerment Specialization Field Instruction II	.4
*MSW 604	Field Seminar IV: Ethical Decision Making	.2
(Capstone project to be focused on public health social work and must align with MPH 700 Integrative Learning Experience)		
MSW ***	Elective	.3
Total semester hours		12

Total MSW-MPH dual degree credits .88

MPH credits 34 (+9 from MSW)

MSW credits 54 (+6 from MPH)

Course substitutions 15

**Financial Assistance** St. Ambrose University has a limited number of research assistantships available. Please check the Human Resources website at [www.sau.edu/employment](http://www.sau.edu/employment) for details.

**International Students** Visa holders are subject to federal nonimmigrant laws that vary based on visa type. For information on admission requirements and academic guidelines for specific visa types, contact International Admissions at [international@sau.edu](mailto:international@sau.edu).

### For Further Information

School of Social Work . . . . . 563-333-3910

St. Ambrose University, 518 W. Locust St., Davenport, Iowa 52803

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[www.sau.edu/mph](http://www.sau.edu/mph)

Additional information at [www.sau.edu/msw-mph](http://www.sau.edu/msw-mph).

Or contact

Graduate Admissions Office . . . . . 563-333-6308

[gradprog@sau.edu](mailto:gradprog@sau.edu)

\* Substitution with MPH available. See [www.sau.edu/msw](http://www.sau.edu/msw) for details.

The material presented here is for informational purposes and does not substitute for the catalog. Consult the official university catalog for complete program requirements. 05.19