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
- Official transcripts from all institutions(s) of enrollment
- Social Work application
- Three letters of reference
- Personal statement

**Master of Public Health**

- Application for admission at www.sau.edu/apply
- Official transcripts from all institution(s) of enrollment
- Personal statement
- Three letters of reference
- GPA of 3.0 or higher
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 ..................................................... 6

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 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.

For Further Information
School of Social Work ................................................... 563-333-3910
St. Ambrose University, 518 W. Locust St., Davenport, Iowa 52803
msw@sau.edu
www.sau.edu/msw

Master of Public Health ............................................... 563-333-5769
St. Ambrose University, 518 W. Locust St., Davenport, Iowa 52803
HorbergKatelynH@sau.edu
www.sau.edu/mph

Additional information at www.sau.edu/msw-mph.

Or contact
Graduate Admissions Office .......................................... 563-333-6308
gradprog@sau.edu

* Substitution with MPH available. See 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.