

Public Health *Dental Emphasis*

program guide



A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF HEALTH MANAGEMENT

ATSU

Table of Contents

- From the Chair. 1
- A.T. Still University 2
- School of Health Management 2
- Curriculum. 2
- Requirements for Admission 2
- Program Statistics 3
- Application Information. 3
- Tuition and Expenses 3
- Financial Assistance 3
- Accreditation 3
- Course Descriptions 4
- Program Electives 5
- Administration 8

ATSU Mission Statement

Consistent with the University’s heritage as the founding school of osteopathic medicine, the mission of A.T. Still University is to educate students to become competent healthcare professionals who continuously develop and demonstrate compassion, integrity, and ability while advancing osteopathic principles and philosophy. The institution is committed to scholarly inquiry that anticipates and addresses society’s healthcare needs. The University encourages its constituencies to become leaders in improving community health and wellness with a comprehensive appreciation of the interaction of body, mind, and spirit.



From the Chair

Thank you for considering SHM's dental M.P.H. program. Our courses use real-life examples and literature to truly immerse you in dental public health. This program is a unique opportunity for working professionals who wish to expand their knowledge related to public health functions and how that knowledge impacts the dental profession.

In our program, you will complete the entire curriculum from your hometown – no traveling at any time during your coursework; all courses are online, enabling you to balance your professional and personal life with your education.

Also, for dentists who are interested in becoming board eligible in dental public health, our accredited program is a great start toward eligibility.

Don Altman, D.D.S., M.P.H., M.B.A., M.A.

Program Chair

Master of Public Health – Dental Emphasis (M.P.H.)

A.T. Still University

Established in 1892 by the founder of osteopathy, A.T. Still, M.D., D.O., ATSU began as the nation's first college of osteopathic medicine and has evolved into a leading university of health sciences. Today, ATSU is comprised of five schools: Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona, Arizona School of Health Sciences, Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health, and School of Health Management.

ATSU offers more than 20 master's degrees across allied healthcare disciplines; doctorates in health education, health sciences, physical therapy, and audiology; the doctor of dental medicine (D.M.D.); and the doctor of osteopathy (D.O.).

School of Health Management

The School of Health Management offers master's degrees in health administration, health education, geriatric health, and public health; and a doctoral degree in health education. SHM educates and prepares current and future health professionals for management positions in a variety of healthcare settings via comprehensive online programs.

Curriculum

SHM's online master's degree in public health with a dental emphasis prepares students who have an interest in the dental industry for leadership in the field of public health. This 15-course program integrates web-based instruction, directed readings, email, and chat room interactions among students and faculty. The School uses mission-driven, context-based curriculum design and assesses student learning through authentic embedded assessments.

Requirements for Admission

1. Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited university. Applicants who graduated from a university outside the United States must provide a degree equivalency evaluation.
2. Completed admissions application.
3. Official transcript from degree-granting institution.
4. Non-refundable application fee submitted with application.
5. Minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 2.5 (4.0 scale).
6. Completion of SHM 101 New Student Orientation with a score of 80 percent or higher.
7. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for applicants when English is a second language. The Computer Based Test (CBT), Internet Based Test (iBT), or the Paper Based Test (PBT) will be accepted. The following are the minimum required score based on test type:
 - CBT - minimum total score of 213
 - iBT - minimum total score of 80
 - PBT - minimum total score of 550

Program Statistics

Student to Faculty Ratio	18:1
Average Student Age	32
Average Cumulative Graduate GPA.	3.71
Length of Program	15 courses, 18-42 months

Application Information

Applications are available online at www.atsu.edu, or you may contact an online enrollment counselor at 866.331.8444 or shmonlineadmissions@atsu.edu.

Tuition and Expenses

To apply to the School of Health Management, a \$60 non-refundable application fee is required. Tuition is charged per course, not per credit hour. Tuition is to be paid in full on or before the first day of classes. Federal Financial Aid is available to students who qualify. Students are responsible for the purchase of their classroom materials, Internet service fees, and computer hardware and software fees. SHM tuition rates are competitive. Contact your admissions representative at 866.331.8444 or shmonlineadmissions@atsu.edu for more information. All fees are subject to change.

Financial Assistance

Scholarship and financial assistance opportunities are listed on the SHM web page at www.atsu.edu. Veterans Administration (VA) benefits may also be used.

Accreditation

A.T. Still University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, phone 800.621.7440.

Master of Public Health – Dental Emphasis Curriculum

Online Learning

Course Descriptions

Course descriptions, course durations, and related information are subject to change.

MPH 736 Introduction to Dental Public Health: This course is a comprehensive introduction to public health and dental public health within the context of the U.S. healthcare system. Course content includes basic organizational arrangements of health services in the United States; the concept of public health, its problems in the context of social and community factors, its development from a historical perspective, and the role and mission of public health organizations, science, philosophy, and practice of dental public health.

MPH 737 Practical Dental Research, Planning, and Design I: Students develop and implement a dental public health research project, enhancing their skills related to search strategies, problem statements, literature review, protocol preparation, and how they relate to their research projects.

MPH 756 Dental Epidemiology: General principles of epidemiology, including research methods, study designs, sampling, data analysis, interpretation of data, and application of findings to dental public health policy, are explained. This course closely examines distribution and determinants of oral disease such as caries, periodontal disease, and oral cancer.

MPH 766 Dental Public Healthcare Policy and Management: This course focuses on the application of general management concepts including management process, descriptions of management functions, managerial roles, and organizational culture. It includes practical aspects of planning, staffing, financing, implanting, evaluating, and communicating dental public health programs at the local, state, and federal levels. A practical look at dental public health policy-making and how best to translate policy into practice is provided.

MPH 777 Behavior Sciences and Educational Concepts: An overview of the social and epidemiological basis of health education is provided. Tools are developed for assessing community, institutional, and individual educational needs. Planning, implementation, and evaluation of dental health education programs develop and reinforce positive health promotion and prevention practices.

MPH 870 Public Health Biology: This course explains the role of biology in the ecological model of population-based health. This course integrates the general biological and molecular concepts into public health and looks at how biological, chemical, and physical agents affect human health.

MPH 746 Biostatistics for Dental Research: Key statistical tools and concepts used by managers in dental public health are examined. Concepts covered include descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, probability, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis.

MPH 775 Environmental Health Sciences: This course introduces ecology and ecological principles and examines how human population pressures affect them. Man's impact on biotic and abiotic components of the earth is examined, as well as environmental factors affecting public health. Particular emphasis is placed on the impact of anthropogenic, chemical, and physical stressors, and their impact on various ecosystem components and man.

ATSU 820 History of Osteopathic Medicine: This course examines the history of osteopathic medicine. An overview of whole person healthcare is provided, enhancing students' understanding and appreciation for the mission of A.T. Still University.

MPH 796A Community-Based Programs: This course looks at various community-based programs and how best to develop, implement, and evaluate these programs as well as financing these programs. Students work with a local organization/ institution/agency to develop a comprehensive oral health plan for a community.

MPH 796B Community-Based Programs: This course looks at various community-based programs and how best to develop, implement, and evaluate these programs as well as financing these programs. Students work with a local organization/ institution/agency to develop a comprehensive oral health plan for a community.

MPH 806 Financing Dental Care: This course examines the various ways in which dental care is financed, including mechanisms of payment for providers, third-party plans, salaried and public-financed programs, and federal systems such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Program Electives

A.T. Still University's School of Health Management requires students to complete their program of study by selecting three elective courses that are of interest to them or meet their career needs. Electives are grouped by areas of focus. Students may choose to take all three courses from within the same focus grouping, or may choose to further customize their learning experience by selecting three courses from varying focus groups.

Health Program Planning

SHM 850 Community Health Assessment: Needs and capacity assessment strategies are designed for people planning to practice within the fields of public health, health promotion, or health education. Students take an in-depth look at individual, group, and self-directed assessment strategies. This course gives students an opportunity to practice learned skills, decipher what assessments are best for a given situation, and learn how to implement their new skills within their professional environments.

SHM 851 State and Local Health Planning: This course reviews the role of social and community factors in both the onset and solution of public health problems. It also identifies critical stakeholders for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health programs, policies, and interventions. This course shows students how to interpret results of statistical analyses found in public health studies and to recognize the importance of epidemiology for informing scientific, ethical, economic, and political discussions of health issues.

SHM 852 Evaluation of Community Health Services: Evaluation of health promotion programs in a variety of settings serve as a guide for the development and evaluation of health promotion programs that give students an opportunity for practical application in their work environment. Analysis and evaluation of a health program and its success after implementation are the focus of this course.

Health Policy

SHM 853 Public Health Finance and Policy: This course is an application of policy analysis to the financing of public health in the United States. It examines healthcare from a public policy perspective to understand the underlying social and economic issues that frame the political finance debates.

SHM 854 Public Health Policy and Politics: This course discusses the structure of the political process in health policy making. It covers the political roles of selected health professionals and the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government in health policy. This course provides practical mechanisms to intervene on behalf of programs or institutions.

SHM 855 Public Health History: This course examines the health of human populations from a historical perspective and will investigate the science of improving human health. Case studies are provided that will focus on the roots of contemporary public health knowledge and health policy. Topics include responses to epidemics, racial and economic disparities in healthcare services, the development of policy infrastructures, and global health.

Geriatric Health

SHM 856 Community Based Healthcare: The development and maintenance of a community-based healthcare model are the focus of this course. Administering programs to sustain and promote a state of healthy well-being in the community and activate community resources are discussed as well as the impact of emerging models of community based healthcare programs.

SHM 857 Cultural Change in Geriatrics: Cultural changes have affected the perceptions of aging and its impact on intergenerational relationships. This course examines the impact those cultural changes may have on the future direction of the healthcare industry.

SHM 858 Death and Dying: Life and Living: Learners review death, dying, and bereavement. During the exploration of these topics, this course also covers the developmental perspective, legal and moral issues, and current events.

Education Research

SHM 859 Multivariate Analysis of Learning: This course examines factor analysis, profile analysis, discriminatory analysis, and multidimensional scaling as applied to student learning research. Students need to use a statistical program (Microsoft Excel® or other program) to assist with computations.

SHM 860 Research Design and Analysis: Principles of research design applications are discussed. Design and analysis of non-experimental research, laboratory experiments, field experiments, field studies, and survey research are examined. Quasi-experimentation analysis and design issues for field research are explored and evaluated. Students need to use a statistical program (Microsoft Excel® or other program) to assist with computations.

SHM 861 Research Writing: Strategies designed to efficiently and effectively communicate written research results are presented and analyzed. Students need to use a statistical program (Microsoft Excel® or other program) to assist with computations.

Curriculum and Instruction

SHM 862 Quality Assurance and Accountability: This course provides an overview of the various quality assurance theories and policy systems in the U.S. higher education system. The topics of quality programming, including the development of goal achievement and outcomes, value-added assessment, and the impact of quality on reputation are discussed. This course traces the philosophical heritage and analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of quality assurance policy systems such as accreditation, rankings and ratings, outcomes, licensure, program reviews, follow-up studies, and total quality management.

SHM 863 Instructional Technology in Course Development: This course examines the use of instructional technology and its application to course development. An overview of the various technological tools for instruction is provided. Topics include historical, theoretical, and philosophical applications of instructional technology, and a review and evaluation of success in an instructional technology case study are provided.

SHM 864 Diversity and Multiculturalism in Curriculum Development: This course provides students with a theoretical foundation and practical application for effective use of strategies that promote curriculum development reflecting various cultural learning styles and the diverse characteristics of students. The multicultural curriculum should provide all students with opportunities to develop a better sense of self.

Executive Coaching

SHM 865 Ethical and Professional Principles of Executive Coaching: This course provides an overview of coaching, its history, value, and appropriate uses within the realm of health management. Various types of coaching and the creation of environments conducive to coaching are covered. Basic coaching skills are addressed.

SHM 866 Interpersonal Communication Skills in Coaching: An understanding of personal behavioral and communication styles, learning to read behavioral and communication styles of others, and the amazing power of skillful listening are the focus of this course.

SHM 867 Problem-Solving Skills in Coaching: The what, why, when, and how model for coaching is introduced. This course covers how to help others meet their goals, how to coach yourself through your own needs and goals, how to work through anger (self and others), and how to deal with a range of emotions. Influencing others with power versus persuasion and coaching groups in collaborative problem-solving situations provides students with practical skills that can be applied in any setting.

Administration



Kimberly O'Reilly, D.H.Ed., M.S.W.

Dean, SHM
koreilly@atsu.edu

Kimberly O'Reilly, D.H.Ed., M.S.W., holds a doctorate of health education and a master of social work, with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a history minor. Dr. O'Reilly is an alumna of Purdue University, Indiana University, and A.T. Still University. She practiced in the field of mental health for five years prior to entering higher education.

Since 2004, she has worked in online education teaching, creating assessment plans, developing and designing curriculum, developing programs and individualized education plans, and providing both faculty and student support services.

Dr. O'Reilly's areas of interest include improving the quality of higher education, educational technologies, bridging the gap between traditional and non-traditional educational practices, decreasing parental rights termination through proactive interventions, and improving quality of life for the terminally ill and aging populations.



Deanna Hunsaker, D.H.Ed.

Associate Dean
dhunsaker@atsu.edu

Deanna Hunsaker, D.H.Ed., holds a doctorate of health education and master of business administration. She has more than 12 years' experience working in not-for-profit public and private educational institutions as an instructor, course developer, manager of curriculum design, course designer, and financial aid administrator. She is an expert in the creation of standard operating procedures, curriculum design standards, and training programs, as well as the development of quality

control initiatives and course review processes.

Dr. Hunsaker has made several research presentations in the field of curriculum development and has served as member of several professional organizations including the Adair County United Way, the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel Professional Development Committee, and Blackboard's Exemplary Course Program.



Don Altman, D.D.S., M.P.H., M.B.A., M.A.

Program Chair

daltman@atsu.edu

Don Altman, D.D.S., M.P.H., M.B.A., M.A., holds a dental degree as well as master's degrees in public health, business administration, and bioethics. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Dental Public Health and has worked in the dental public health field for more than 26 years.

Dr. Altman has taught dentists and dental hygienists in the classroom for many years and has been teaching online since 2006. He has taken a general M.P.H. curriculum and tailored

it for individuals interested in dental public health. Dr. Altman is not only the program chair for the dental M.P.H. program, but is also an associate professor and director of public health and research at ATSU's Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health, and is director of the National Oral Health Leadership Institute. He previously worked for local and state governments as well as private industry.

His areas of interest include professionalism and ethics, community-based dental programs, leadership for the dental professional, and quality assurance.

866.331.8444 | shmonlineadmissions@atsu.edu | www.atstu.edu

ATSU

**A.T. STILL
UNIVERSITY**