

PHD IN MANAGEMENT AND POLICY STUDIES: HEALTH ECONOMICS/HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH TRACK

The PhD program in Management and Policy Studies, Health Economics/Health Services Research is a minimum 48 semester credit hours and emphasizes the study of cost, access, outcomes, and quality within health care systems. Students focus on understanding decision-making processes among consumers, providers, institutions, and policy makers, and pursue advanced study that leads to original research.

Special Entrance Requirements

Applicants to the PhD program must have an appropriate post-bachelor’s degree in the social sciences, economics, policy, law, management, clinical sciences or public health. Also, applicants must have an advanced knowledge of quantitative methods; preferred applicants have strong math and/or statistics backgrounds. For more information, see the Admissions (<https://catalog.uth.edu/public-health/admissions/>) section.

Course of Study

The following courses are required for a PhD in Management and Policy Studies, Health Economics/Health Services Research Track:

Code	Title	Hours
Required for all School of Public Health Students		
PH 101	Foundations of Public Health ¹	0
Leveling and Other Required Courses ²		
ECON 6485	Microeconomic Analysis ³	
POLC 6312	Public Finance ³	
ECON 6465	Econometrics ⁴	
ECON 7351	Development Economics: Microeconomic Issues	
ECON 515	Labor Economics	
Before Preliminary Exam		
PHD 3910	Health Economics	3
PH 3915	Methods for the Economic Evaluation of Health Programs	3
PH 3920	Health Service Delivery and Performance	3
PHD 3926L	Health Survey Research Design	3
PHD 3930	Econometrics in Public Health	3
PH 3940	Health Care Outcomes and Quality Research	3
Epidemiology Course Requirement ⁵		
PHM 2612L	Epidemiology I	3
Select one of the following Track Areas: ⁶		
Health Economics Track		
PHD 3935	Advanced Health Economics	
Health Services Research Track		
PHD 3945	Adv Hlth Services Research Methods	
Select 3 credits of the following:		
PH 3736L	Healthcare Payment Systems and Policy	
PHD 3810	Health Policy in The United States	

PHD 3812	Comparative Health Systems	
PH 3815	Health Policy Analysis	
PH 3818	Texas Health Policy: Emerging Issues and New Approaches	
PHD 3922	Economic and Social Determinants of Health	
PHD 3931	Advanced Econometrics	
PHD 3935	Advanced Health Economics	
PH 3941	Claims Data in Healthcare Research	
PHD 3945	Adv Hlth Services Research Methods	
Minor ⁶		9
Breadth or second minor ⁶		9
Dissertation		
PHD 9999	Dissertation Research	3
Total Hours		48

- ¹ Online, not-for-credit course
- ² Academic credits from leveling courses do not count towards the total required credits for the degree program.
- ³ Offered by the University of Houston. Students are eligible to enroll through the Gulf Coast Consortium Agreement.
- ⁴ Offered by Rice University. Students are eligible to enroll through the Gulf Coast Consortium Agreement.
- ⁵ All students are required to complete an Epidemiology course during their course of study. If students choose to complete PHM 2612L Epidemiology I, the credit hours will not count toward the total credit hours required for this doctoral degree. The epidemiology requirement can be fulfilled if the student takes an epidemiology course through the minor and/or breadth requirements. Students are required to complete the minimum 48 credit hour requirement for their degree.
- ⁶ Students are encouraged to select methodology courses appropriate for their dissertation topic.
 - Students who elect to complete two minors must complete at least one minor outside of the department of MPCH.
 - Students who elect to complete one minor and one breadth: Students who elect a primary minor within the MPCH department must complete at least two courses of the breadth outside of the department
Students who elect a primary minor outside of the MPCH department may complete breadth coursework in any department.

For a sample course of study, see the PhD in Management and Policy Studies, Health Economics/Health Services Research Track degree planner (https://web.sph.uth.edu/student-forms/Academic_Requirements/Degree%20Programs%20&%20Planners/Planner.PhD.HEHSR.2024-2025.docx).