



DREXEL UNIVERSITY  
**Dornsife**  
School of Public Health

MASTERS VIEWBOOK

# URBAN FOCUS. GLOBAL IMPACT.



PROMOTING AND PROTECTING  
BOTH HEALTH AND  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
IS NOTHING SHORT  
OF REVOLUTIONARY FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE.  
- J. MANN, MD, MPH



**PUBLIC HEALTH IS  
A HUMAN RIGHT**

Jonathan Mann, MD, MPH (1947-1998), Dornsife's founding dean, instilled our school with the guiding principle of public health as a human right and the recognition of the importance of social justice as a means to achieve health for all.

## **CONTENTS**

<b>4</b>	<b>ABOUT OUR SCHOOL</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>WHY URBAN HEALTH?</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEALTH IN PRACTICE</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>SCHOOL DEPARTMENTS</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>GLOBAL HEALTH</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>RESEARCH CENTERS &amp; PROGRAMS</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>YOUR FUTURE</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES / CONTACT</b>



A photograph of a young woman with curly hair and glasses, wearing a dark graduation cap and gown. She is smiling broadly and has her hands clasped in front of her. The background is a large, golden university seal with the year '1891' and the letters 'AHT' visible. The entire image has a blue color cast.

**"Our graduates are entering public health at an unprecedented time. The Dornsife community is confident that our graduates have much to contribute to current, ongoing, and future public health problems."**

**Ana V. Diez Roux, MD, PhD, MPH,**  
Dana and David Dornsife Dean and Distinguished  
University Professor of Epidemiology



## ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

# **The Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University — Philadelphia's #1 school of public health — prepares ambitious public health professionals, researchers, and advocates to take on today's public health challenges at a local, national, and global level.**

Dornsife's experiential approach to learning offers students opportunities to acquire specialized skills from the moment they begin earning their degree by engaging in real-world experiences to study, protect, and promote population health.

Our school is a center of excellence in urban health and policy-relevant research and training.

We stand at the forefront of addressing many of the public health challenges we face today through science, partnerships, and policy in Philadelphia and all over the world.





**WHERE COMMUNITY AND ACADEMICS COME TOGETHER**

Dornsife maintains close partnerships with over 100 organizations across the Philadelphia region. These relationships provide the opportunity for relevant public health research and allow students to experience public health in the real world, start networking in the city, and broaden their career possibilities.

# OUR MISSION. OUR VALUES.

Dornsife has a strong mission and set of values:

- › **To work with others to improve urban health in our city and in communities all over the world;**
- › **To promote a view of health as a human right and to recognize the critical role of social justice to health; and**
- › **To train our students in ways that allow them to act on the world in an immediate and transformative way.**

Our school encourages each individual to bring their whole self to their work in order to sustain our very best public health teaching, practice and research.

By valuing diversity and inclusion, we collectively foster our vision of health as a human right and advance our goals of eliminating health disparities and improving health within cities.



## **A SHARED PASSION FOR HEALTH AS A HUMAN RIGHT**

To welcome new students, faculty and staff, Dornsife holds a Pinning Ceremony, which is a longstanding school tradition. New members of our community receive Dornsife's pin and recite the preamble of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.





## **THE DORNSIFE DIFFERENCE**

Award-winning faculty focused on research and practice in urban, community, and global public health.

---

Real-world immersion and hands-on practice experiences as key program components.

---

A school located and deeply engaged in the East Coast's second largest city, where students can build lifelong relationships with highly motivated, diverse peers.

---

A curriculum grounded in health as a human right and a commitment to health equity.

During her MPH practice experience at a Philly union, Chelsi Defoe, MPH '20, used her Dornsife training to improve health and working conditions for hotel workers. "Dornsife gave me the exposure and the guidance I needed" in the field of the occupational health. "It was rewarding to represent a vulnerable population."





# Why focus on health in cities?

Dornsife's focus on urban health is one of the most important parts of our identity.

68% of the world's population is projected to live in urban areas by 2050, according to United Nations data. These demographics mean that cities will continue to offer complex public health challenges and varied opportunities for impactful solutions.

Our school's vision of healthy cities in a healthy world is informed by work in communities all over the globe.

Dornsife courses focus on all aspects of urban health, including health equity, health disparities, social determinants of health, health impacts of racism and discrimination, the health of workers, the fight against hunger, the right to health care, and many other topic areas.

## **GROUNDING IN PHILADELPHIA**

Our faculty and students do research and practice in cities across Latin America and in rural communities in Africa, among many other areas, but our school's deepest roots are in the city of Philadelphia.

The fact that Dornsife is so grounded in Philadelphia means that students get to experience all of the opportunities and challenges of an urban environment, working with many of our faculty who are engaged in community work.

Our school trains urban health leaders to be creative, innovative, and energetic as they look toward the future.



More than  
**92%**  
of full-time  
master's students  
receive some type  
of scholarship  
funding.

## MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

**The Drexel Dornsife master's curriculum allows students to design highly personalized academic programs across a variety of disciplines.**

Dornsife master's programs offer a flexible curriculum. You can choose from several degree options and timelines for your plan of study.

There are also a wide range of graduate minors to complement your training.



# MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Drexel Dornsife's Master of Public Health (MPH) program prepares students to make an impact and tackle tough public health challenges in the United States and around the world.

Dornsife students learn the knowledge and skills they need to address real-world problems and learn how to work on an interdisciplinary team. Students develop the skills required for a public health career in the 21st century.

Dornsife's flexible, interdisciplinary curriculum offers students opportunities to specialize in a wide range of areas of public health, learn through practice experiences, and engage in research activities.

Depending on your plan of study, you can complete your MPH degree in as little as 12 months.

## CORE CURRICULUM

All students begin their studies with core courses in Public Health Foundations and Systems and Research Methods. These courses include the breadth and depth of relevant skills that all MPH graduates will need regardless of their chosen discipline.

## ON CAMPUS

Master of Public Health | 4 majors:

- Community Health and Prevention
- Environmental and Occupational Health
- Epidemiology
- Health Management and Policy

Timeline: 12 / 18 / 21-month options

## ONLINE

Master of Public Health in Epidemiology

Master of Public Health in Global Health

Timeline: 12 / 18 / 21 / 33-month options

Global Health MPH students have an additional 24-month option

Master of Public Health in Urban Health

Executive MPH (with residency component)

"Studying and working here at Drexel has broadened my possibilities for my future — of what I can actually do, where I can work, what communities I can help."

**CLAUDIA ZUMAETA CASTILLO**

Dornsife International Research Fellow, MPH '20, pictured here with her faculty mentor, Ana Martinez-Donate, PhD.



# MASTER OF SCIENCE

Dornsife's Master of Science (MS) degree programs offer students a great range of opportunities to specialize in subjects critical to public health practice and research.

While all Drexel Dornsife students have opportunities to conduct research, students in MS programs are able to work closely with expert faculty on specific areas of interest.

In addition, students who have PhDs, MDs, or other advanced degrees, may find that an MS provides a unique opportunity to investigate and become an expert in topics that inform public health aspects of medicine, nursing, law, or other fields.

All MS students complete a research project under the supervision of a faculty advisor.

## ON CAMPUS

Master of Science in Biostatistics

Master of Science in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences

Master of Science in Epidemiology

Master of Science in Population Health Sciences

## ONLINE

Master of Science in Global Health

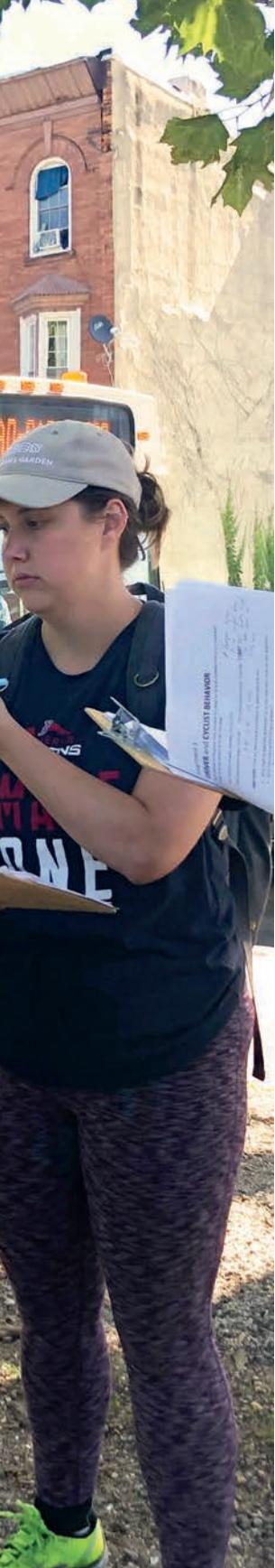


"My favorite part of Dornsife was that everyone was welcoming and willing to help me succeed in my career."

ELINA PAUL, MPH '19

**ADVOCATING FOR PHILADELPHIANS ON THE MOVE**  
**Anthony Goetz, MPH '20**, used his applied practical experience at the Clean Air Council to make the city a safer place for Philadelphians. As part of an outreach team he advocated for sustainable and fair transportation policy.





# 96%

of students report that their practical experience work made a meaningful contribution to an organization or community.

## PUBLIC HEALTH IN PRACTICE

# MPH students at the Dornsife School of Public Health don't just learn — THEY DO.

The Dornsife curriculum gives students multiple distinct opportunities to acquire professional skills from the moment they begin earning their degree.

Working with one of the school's partner organizations from various disciplines, students explore and develop innovative solutions to critical public health challenges.



Beginning on day one, MPH students have the opportunity to **track their practice activities**, including lectures, volunteerism, and community service, that they choose based on their interests and the needs of our community partners. Past students have worked with our local partners in collecting data on Philadelphians experiencing homelessness, delivering health education to community members, and assessing the availability of healthy food in local stores.

After completing foundational coursework, all students complete an **Applied Practical Experience** — a supervised, hands-on public health experience within a public health practice setting, alongside one of our community partners in the form of an internship or a project.

Towards the end of their program, students engage in an **Integrated Learning Experience (ILE)** which is the culminating project for the MPH and gives students the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills from their program to a real-world public health research or practice challenge.

Whether it's designing new initiatives to address the COVID-19 pandemic, evaluating a program that addresses opioid addiction, or developing resources to help communities recover from a natural disaster, MPH students get hands-on experience that prepares them for their career in public health.

# 300

**Approximate number of hours students engage in hands-on learning**





Dornsife's annual Public Health Student Case Competition challenges teams to create innovative solutions to address a real-life public health issue impacting Philadelphia. Students present to panel of judges for a chance to win prize money.

# Drexel Dornsife departments cover the five core areas of public health—

- › Community Health and Prevention
- › Biostatistics
- › Epidemiology
- › Environmental and Occupational Health
- › Health Management and Policy

# 8:1

student to faculty ratio for more personal mentorship from faculty





Research and service initiatives led by the Department of Community Health and Prevention faculty include substance use and misuse in Philadelphia's Kensington neighborhood, which has been hit hard by the opioid-related overdose crisis.

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION**

The Department of Community Health and Prevention promotes health through the scientific study of how social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors influence health.

---

Our work also focuses on the human rights and social justice aspects of public health in order to secure the conditions in which people and populations can be healthy.

Our multidisciplinary work is reflected in programs and policies that build upon community values, strengths, and assets to improve the public's health. Our training programs provide a diverse student body with the chance to learn and practice rigorous behavioral and prevention science methodologies to become experts in a range of community health areas.

Our faculty are renowned for their innovative strategies in health promotion and public health practice. They work closely with our students and community partners to break new ground in the investigation of the impact of community factors on health.

## EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIostatISTICS

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics applies, develops, and teaches the skills needed to understand the determinants of disease and improve health.

---

The department's epidemiology program focuses on descriptive and analytical approaches used to understand the complex causes of major public health problems and to develop effective strategies to prevent them.

The department's biostatistics program centers on the development and application of theory and methods in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data used in public health and other biomedical sciences.

The faculty conduct pioneering research in many areas, including aging, autism, biostatistical methods, cancer, cardiovascular disease, environmental risk factors, infectious disease and prevention, and social and neighborhood determinants of health.

# 25+

years of training Dornsife public health students using a curriculum focused on problem solving and real-life practical experiences

Within a year of graduation 87% of Dornsife master's degree students are employed and using their knowledge and tools to make a difference in public health practice, infrastructure, and policy.





## **HEALTH MANAGEMENT AND POLICY**

The Department of Health Management and Policy prepares the next generation of public health practitioners and leaders to take on management and policy roles that will improve population health and health care delivery at the local and national levels.

---

Students prepare to plan, implement, evaluate and operate effective, community-responsive programs and organizations that can bring about positive change.

Recognizing that almost all policy impacts health, faculty train students to develop skills in management, organization, finance, advocacy, political action, research, and public policy analysis.

Faculty research interests include the impact of the health care system on health and health care policy, health disparities, the dissemination of research to policymakers, and the impact of urban policies on health.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**

The Department of Environmental and Occupational Health trains students in core disciplines applicable to practice and research in environmental health, including toxicology, exposure science, epidemiology, risk assessment, and policy.

---

Students explore the multiple ways that chemical, radiological, and biological factors in the community and workplace impact health.

The curriculum emphasizes preventive actions focused on creating healthier environments for communities and workers.

The research interests pursued by our faculty include the health impact of air pollution, pesticides and other environmental exposures, environmental policy, approaches to injury prevention, and environmental contributors to health disparities.



## GLOBAL HEALTH

# The Office of Global Health educates and trains new leaders, scholars, and researchers to address current and emerging global public health issues facing the world today.

Global health initiatives at the Dornsife School of Public Health are grounded in the school's tenants of health, human rights, capacity building, social justice and community collaboration.

Through our School's global health programs and classes, students learn to see the connections between health challenges in Philadelphia and health challenges all over the world:

**Learn locally and apply globally. Learn globally and apply locally.**





Dornife's Office of Global Health encourages students to take advantage of field experiences like this Intensive Course Abroad to Cuba through Drexel's Office of Global Engagement.

# RESEARCH IN CRITICAL AREAS OF URBAN AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The research centers and programs at Drexel Dornsife support faculty research in critical areas of urban and public health, nationally and internationally, and engage students in key areas of public health research and practice.

They reflect the school's commitment to generating actionable evidence and partnering with communities, policymakers, and other stakeholders.

- › **The A.J. Drexel Autism Institute** applies a public health science approach to understanding and addressing the challenges of autism spectrum disorders.
- › **The Biostatistics Scientific Collaboration Center** provides high quality data analysis, biostatistical computing, and data management services to a wide range of clients in biomedical and public health research.
- › **The Center for Firefighter Injury Research & Safety Trends (FIRST)** supports the fire and rescue service through objective data collection and analysis on safety culture, stress, mental health, and injury.
- › **The Ubuntu Center on Racism, Global Movements and Population Health Equity** advances solutions to society's most pressing public health problems as they impact communities of color.

- › **The Center for Hunger-Free Communities** is a community-based research, service, advocacy, and policy center that develops science-based solutions to the challenges of hunger and poverty, focusing on the human experience.
- › **The Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice** works to promote health, nonviolence, and social justice through trauma informed practice, research, professional development, and advocacy for policy change.
- › **The Center for Public Health Practice** translates knowledge into practice by creating a bridge between academia and the public health workforce.
- › **The Center for Public Health Readiness and Communication** conducts research and provides service and education in the field of public health emergency preparedness.
- › **The Council on Black Health** and its partners foster dialogue on Black health issues and generate and disseminate solutions to achieve healthy Black communities.
- › **The Jonathan Mann Global Health and Human Rights Initiative** provides technical support to human rights organizations, supports student training in rights-based advocacy, and conducts research on health and human rights.
- › **The Maternal Child Health Program** promotes education and research, informs policy, and trains leaders to improve the health and well-being of women, children, and families.
- › **The Urban Health Collaborative** leverages the power of data, research, education, and partnerships in order to make cities healthier, more equitable, and environmentally sustainable.
- › **The Drexel Medical Cannabis Research Center** conducts science-based research studies on medical cannabis and disseminates this knowledge.



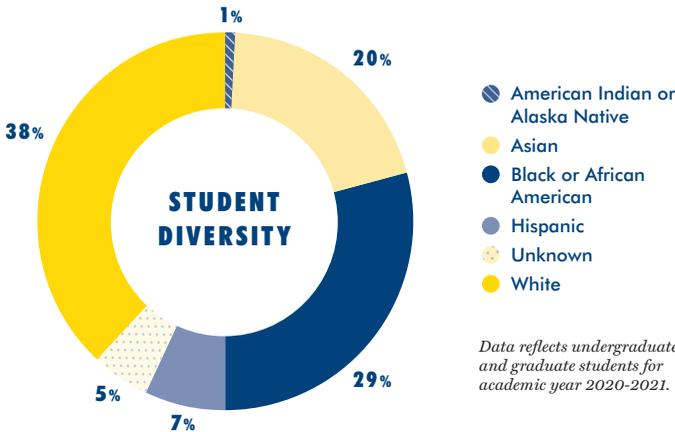
**STUDENT LIFE**

# Dornsife students become part of a close-knit and diverse community of Drexel Dragons.

The student experience extends beyond classrooms and labs to include clubs, recreation, campus performances, school-wide events, and many other ways to get involved.

Our diverse student body comes from many parts of the United States and from many different countries all over the world.

Students bring their experiences, curiosity, ambition, and life stories to Drexel Dornsife, where they can create a unique identity and grow as individuals.



*Data reflects undergraduate and graduate students for academic year 2020-2021.*





Dornsife works with students through each step of their career, offering individual appointments and workshops on preparing application materials, networking, interviewing, and negotiating salary. Our Student Life team helps students achieve their professional, academic, and personal goals, including:

**Career planning** ▶ **Connecting with alumni** ▶ **Connecting with employers** ▶ **Academic support** ▶ **Student wellness** ▶ **Student diversity and inclusion** ▶ **Navigating Drexel and Philly**

Dornsife graduates stay connected and involved through recruitment, mentoring, events, our alumni network, and more.



# YOUR FUTURE

Students get all the benefits of career development during their time at Dornsife through the School's connections with the city of Philadelphia, collaboration with research institutions, and a very large network of community partners in Philadelphia and overseas.

As a result, they leave Drexel Dornsife fully prepared to apply public health principles to real-world challenges and build a successful and meaningful public health career.

# 93%

of students reported learning skills relevant to career goals in placements

**"Dornsife was the right place for me because it offered experiences while you're in school...I worked for a large nonprofit in Philadelphia in a program that helped people sign up for health insurance. As a requirement, I was supposed to work about 130 hours, but once I finished those hours it turned into a [job] offer."**

**DARLICE ROCHA**

MPH '18





“Dornsife professors have extensive local and global networks and they can really help students connect the dots and introduce them to unique opportunities.”

**EVANETTE K. BURROWS**

EMPH '18

“The Dornsife environment gave me the momentum I needed to start this venture. I was equipped with the necessary tools to create public health solutions in novel ways.”

**JOHN MARSHALL**

MPH '19, who launched OTbar, a granola bar business that helps combat hunger in Philadelphia.

“Dornsife’s deep roots with public health research in Philadelphia communities guided me to choose the school as my new home.”

**ISABEL DE RAMOS**

MS in Epidemiology, who received an award to conduct epidemiological research on HIV/AIDS in the city’s low income neighborhoods.

## **MASTER'S DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES**

The Drexel Dornsife curriculum provides students with the flexibility to design academic programs across a variety of disciplines.

---

### **Master of Public Health Degrees**

#### **Master of Public Health (MPH)**

Community Health and Prevention  
Environmental and Occupational Health  
Epidemiology\* (online or in-person)  
Global Health\*  
Health Management and Policy  
Urban Health\*  
Executive Program (EMPH)\*

### **Master of Science Degrees**

Master of Science (MS) in Biostatistics  
Master of Science (MS) in Epidemiology  
Master of Science (MS) in  
Environmental and Occupational  
Health Sciences  
Master of Science (MS) in  
Global Health\*  
Master of Science (MS) in Population  
Health Sciences

### **Dual Degrees**

Doctor of Medicine and Master of Public  
Health (MD/MPH)  
Juris Doctorate and Master of Public  
Health (JD/MPH)

### **Minors**

Arts in Public Health  
Biostatistics  
Environmental and Occupational Health  
Global Health  
Health Economics  
Human Health Risk Assessment  
Infectious Disease and Population  
Health  
Latino/Immigrant Health  
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and  
Transgender Health  
Maternal and Child Health  
Program Monitoring and Evaluation  
Public Health Emergency Preparedness  
Public Health Ethics and History  
Substance Use and Misuse  
Social Justice Policy  
Urban Health

### **Online Graduate Certificates\***

Disability and Health Equity Policy  
Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Global Health  
Infectious Disease Prevention  
and Control  
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and  
Transgender Health  
Maternal and Child Health  
Public Health  
Urban Health

\* Denotes online

# APPLY NOW

In general, master's degree applicants are asked to submit an online application, official transcripts, three letters of recommendation, their resume, and a personal statement.

Standardized test scores are not required.

## APPLY

[drexel.edu/dornsife/admissions/apply/](https://drexel.edu/dornsife/admissions/apply/)

## LEARN MORE

[drexel.edu/dornsife](https://drexel.edu/dornsife) or email [sphadmissions@drexel.edu](mailto:sphadmissions@drexel.edu).

 [drexelpublichealth](https://www.instagram.com/drexelpublichealth)

 [drexelpublichealth](https://www.facebook.com/drexelpublichealth)

 [drexelpublichealth](https://twitter.com/drexelpublichealth)

 [drexelpublichealth](https://www.youtube.com/drexelpublichealth)

 [linkedin.com/school/11204281](https://www.linkedin.com/school/11204281)

## SIGN UP FOR OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

[drexel.edu/dornsife/news/publications/subscribe/](https://drexel.edu/dornsife/news/publications/subscribe/)

**PHOTO CREDITS:** cover Margo Reed; inside front cover mural by Brianna Protesto; page 2 Margo Reed; 5 Halkin Mason Photography; 6-8 Margo Reed; gatefold Five Five Collective, Margo Reed; 12 Emily Gallagher; 14 Five Five Collective; 16-18 Margo Reed; 21 Idris Robinson; 25 (clockwise from top left) Margo Reed, Margo Reed, Third Eye Productions, Idris Robinson, Third Eye Productions; 26 Five Five Collective; back cover Third Eye Productions



DANA AND DAVID BORNSTEIN  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
NEEDHAM HALL  
DREXEL UNIVERSITY