COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL HEALTH

Program Director: Garry Ladd, DHSc
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Degree: Master of Science

Introduction
The Online Master’s in Community and School Health program is designed for nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, counselors, psychologists, and others with a bachelor’s degree and the appropriate science and health background. The program is ideal for working professionals who need to balance work, family and a continuing education, since it can be completed entirely online.

Graduates of the Master’s in Community & School Health program will:
- Have excellent knowledge surrounding health, education, health services, nutrition and wellness, and social services, health promotion, and family and community involvement.
- Be well prepared to participate in the development of policy within the workplace, as well as healthcare systems at the community, state or national level.

Upon completion of the Master’s in Community and School Health program, graduates will be prepared for positions in:
- Nursing /Healthcare Administration.
- School, Corporate, and Public Health Education and Wellness Programming.
- Healthcare Management and Leadership.
- Health Policy Application.

Admission
Applications are processed on a rolling basis and are considered as they are received for each of our terms. We recommend submitting all material required for admission at least 30 days prior to the start of the term you wish to begin. Earlier application will ensure the best scheduling options, as some course sections may become unavailable. Terms are eight weeks in length, and students may start in the fall, spring, or summer semesters. The on-line application can be submitted with no application fee.

To qualify for admission, all students must:
- Complete the graduate admissions application.
- Submit one (1) official undergraduate transcript showing completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher learning with a minimum GPA of 2.70.
- Submit two (2) letters of recommendation.
- Submit a current resume.
- Provide a statement of purpose of approximately 500 words explaining your motivation for pursuing the MS in Community and School Health at Canisius College. The statement may be submitted in the essay section of the graduate application.

• Complete a phone or face-to-face interview with the program director or a department representative.

Transfer credit: Previous graduate level transfer credits will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Program Details
Academic Standing
Students must maintain a GPA of 3.00 to graduate from the program. If the GPA drops below 3.00, the student will be placed on academic probation. If the student does not bring his/her cumulative GPA above 3.00 by the end of the next term, the student may be dismissed from the program. A student may also be academically dismissed from the program by receiving more than 2 grades below B-. More information can be found at the program website (https://www.canisius.edu/academics/programs/community-school-health).

Curriculum
Total credit hours = 33. Each student must complete all of the courses in the curriculum, including a guided elective selected with his or her academic advisor.

Learning Goals & Objectives
Learning Goal #1 (KNOWLEDGE – OBSERVED IN WRITING)
Candidates in the CSH program will have the opportunity to demonstrate content knowledge, pedagogical, and professional knowledge necessary for successful performance in their field. ALL COURSES
Students will have the opportunity to:
- Understand and promote continual and sustainable programs surrounding health education, physical education, health services, nutrition services, counseling, psychological and social services, health promotion, and family and community involvement.
- Understand how community and school (district) policies protect the health, welfare, and safety of its populations.
- Understand how communities and school districts are governed and how policy establishes the foundation for administrative roles, responsibilities, and initiatives.

Learning Goal #2 (KNOWLEDGE – OBSERVED SKILLS AND DISPOSITIONS)
Candidates in the CSH program will have the opportunity to demonstrate professional skills and dispositions necessary for successful performance in their field. ALL COURSES
Students will have the opportunity to:
- Demonstrate leadership initiative in community and school health programs and policies.
- Collaboratively develop and articulate their perceptions and understanding of community and school health programs and policies during class discussions and presentations.
- Respond to community and school health-related interests and needs by building and sustaining productive relationships with community and school partners.

Learning Goal #3 (SERVICE)
Candidates in the CSH program will have the opportunity to demonstrate willingness to use their skills to benefit and serve society. Within the contexts of their work, candidates promote authentic learning, social and emotional development, and a commitment to social justice in environments that foster respect for diversity and the dignity of all.
Students will have the opportunity to:
- Understand moral and ethical implications of policy options and political strategies.
- Understand and advocate for community and school (district) students, families, and caregivers by acting to influence local, district, state, and national decisions affecting adult learning in a community environment and student learning in a school (district) environment.
- Understand and mobilize community resources by promoting an understanding, appreciation, and use of diverse cultural, social, and intellectual resources within the local community and school (district).

Learning Goal #4 (PROFESSIONALISM)
Candidates in the CSH program will have the opportunity to demonstrate self-reflection as a habit of mind, continuously assessing and refining their professional practice as they construct a rich repertoire of research-based knowledge, skills, and attitudes for effective performance ensuring that all students and/or clients have optimal opportunities to learn and grow. ALL COURSES
Students will have the opportunity to:
- Act with integrity and fairness to ensure community and school (district) accountability for every adult and student’s academic and social success while modeling principles of self-awareness, reflective practice, transparency, and ethical behavior.

Learning Goal #5 (LEADERSHIP)
Candidates in the CSH program will have the opportunity to become adept at applying their acquired knowledge in the process of evaluating their own professional performance and decision-making with respect to its impact on students and/or clients, organizations, and the wider community.
Students will have the opportunity to:
- Understand and evaluate potential moral and legal consequences of health-related decision making in communities and schools (districts) and will promote social justice to ensure that individual community member and student needs address all aspects of health throughout the lifespan.
- Understand, anticipate, and assess emerging trends and initiatives in order to adapt community and school (district)-based leadership strategies in an effort to improve individual and community health and well-being.

Courses
In addition to the courses listed below, courses for this program with the Allied Health (ALH) prefix can be found on the Professional Studies page (http://catalog.canisius.edu/graduate/school-education-human-services/professional-studies/#coursestext).

CSH 520 Leadership Initiatives in Community and School Health 3 Credits
This course is designed to expand the student’s knowledge of a variety of leadership concepts and explore how these concepts can be integrated into community and school health settings. Students will examine organizational systems and structures, leadership styles, change theory, conflict and power, and coalition building.
Offered: every fall, online only.

CSH 530 State of the Nation’s Child 3 Credits
An exploratory course on the national and statewide issues of poverty, child welfare, and youth at risk impacting the nation’s children.
Offered: every fall, online only.

CSH 550 Health Impacts on Academic Success K-12 3 Credits
This course addresses the growing number of health issues unique to the school age child K-12. Topics such as expanding chronic health problems and diseases linked to teen lifestyle choices will be explored and discussed.
Offered: every spring, online only.

CSH 670 Health Care and Public Policy 3 Credits
This course expands the student’s knowledge of the U.S. healthcare system and fosters understanding of the process of public policy development. Political policy debates related to school health are discussed.
Offered: every spring, online only.