

**MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ELECTIVE TRACK  
GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING SHEET (Effective Fall Semester 2015)**

**MPH CORE COURSES (24 Credits)**

<u>Course</u>	<u>Semester Offered</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Semester Completed</u>	<u>Year Completed</u>	<u>Grade</u>
HEA520 Public Health Epidemiology	Fall/Spring	3	Fall/Spring	_____	_____
HEA526 Biostatistics for Public Health	Fall/Spring	3	Fall/Spring	_____	_____
ENV530 General Environmental Health	Fall/Spring	3	Fall/ Spring	_____	_____
HEA516 Health Care Management	Fall/Spring	3	Fall/Spring	_____	_____
HEA632 Social and Behavioral Aspects of Health	Fall/Spring	3	Fall/Spring	_____	_____
HEA648 Research Methods in Public Health	Fall/Spring	3	Fall/Spring	_____	_____
<b>HEA649 Applied Learning Experience I (Practicum)</b>	Summer	3	Summer	_____	_____
<b>HEA650 Applied Learning Experience II (Practicum taken during the last semester of the program)</b>	Summer	3	Summer	_____	_____

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REQUIRED COURSES (15 CREDITS)**

<u>Course</u>	<u>Semester Offered</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Semester Completed</u>	<u>Year Completed</u>	<u>Grade</u>
ENV524 Industrial Hygiene	Fall	3	Fall	_____	_____
ENV545 Risk Assessment	Spring	3	Spring	_____	_____
ENV547 or ENV447 Environmental Regulations	Fall	3	Fall	_____	_____
ENV551 or ENV451 Environmental Toxicology	Spring	3	Spring	_____	_____
GEO534 Geographic Information Systems	Fall	3	Fall	_____	_____

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ELECTIVE COURSES (6 CREDITS)**

<u>Course</u>	<u>Semester Offered</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Semester Completed</u>	<u>Year Completed</u>	<u>Grade</u>
ENV533 Water Quality and Health	Summer	3	Summer	_____	_____
ENV570 Emergency Preparedness	Summer	3	Summer	_____	_____
ENV575 Bioterrorism and Public Health	Fall	3	Fall	_____	_____
GEO584 Applications of Geographic Information Systems	Spring	3	Spring	_____	_____
GEO___ Environmental Modeling with GIS	Fall	3	Fall	_____	_____
ENV581 Special Topics	Fall/Spring/Sum	3	Fall/Spring/Sum	_____	_____

**Total of 45 credits for the MPH Program**

**\*The MPH Community Service Requirement is met by completing the Community Service activity in ENV524 Industrial Hygiene.**

**Issues that May Affect Recommended Course Rotations and Delay Graduation  
For MPH Full/Part-Time, MPH Fast Track and MPH Modified Fast Track Students**

The following tables include recommended course rotations for full/part-time, MPH Fast Track and Modified MPH Fast Track students. There are recommended course rotations for fall/spring/summer semester start dates for all MPH students. The following issues will impact on student course selections, may change recommended course rotations and delay graduation.

- **Self Advising:** Students who fail to follow the advising sheets for their tracks and select courses that do not apply to their track requirements will not be cleared for graduation until the required courses are completed. It is the student's responsibility to meet with their advisor to ensure appropriate courses are selected for their track in appropriate sequence. **Advisors are not responsible for student course choices when students decide to select courses without advisement and enroll in courses that are not track or MPH core requirements.**
- **Failure to register for courses on time:** All students accepted into the MPH Program (with paid admission fee) can register on the first day of course registration online through MYWCU. Students who fail to register on time may be closed out of required courses and delay their time to graduation. If students have problems with online registration they should contact their advisor immediately through email for help with enrollment. Students should meet with advisors in advance of registration to select appropriate courses for the upcoming semesters.
- **Newly admitted students and course registration:** Newly admitted students accepted into the MPH Program after the start of registration may not be able to select their courses in the recommended course rotations due to closed courses. These students should contact their advisor as soon as they receive the Welcome email. Advisors will work with newly admitted students to select an alternative course schedule based on the course availability at the time of registration.
- **Required undergraduate statistics requirement not met at the time of enrollment:** The recommended course rotations will change if the undergraduate statistics requirement is not met at the time of enrollment. Students will need to meet with advisors to work on an alternative course schedule. Students should complete this undergraduate statistics requirement as soon as possible. MAT121 Introduction to Statistics is offered at WCU. Also students can take an equivalent statistics course at a Community College and transfer the credit into the program.
- **Failure to take required prerequisite courses in recommended sequence:** Students need to complete prerequisite courses in appropriate order. Please refer to the course rotation tables for notes on course prerequisites.
- **Completion of the Applied Learning Experience (HEA649 and HEA650):** HEA 649 and HEA650 are completed during consecutive semesters. All students are required to complete HEA649 and HEA650 **in one or two semesters (depending on traditional or accelerated ALE options)**. No extensions will be granted to complete these courses unless there are emergency situations and extreme circumstances. All courses need to be completed before the start of HEA650 Applied Learning Experience II (no exceptions).
- **Delay in Completing the MPH Community Service Requirement:** All MPH students need to complete a community service requirement. For students in the Environmental Health Track, this requirement is met through completing the community service activity in ENV524 Industrial Hygiene. This requirement needs to be completed for students to be cleared for graduation.

**Important Note on Winter and Summer Course Offerings**

MPH core and Community Health Track elective courses may be offered during the winter/summer semesters. Students should not plan on course offerings during these semesters as **these courses are scheduled on an as needed basis and course availability is always contingent upon enrollment**. Students need to contact advisors to check on updated plans for course offerings during winter/summer semesters.

**RECOMMENDED COURSE ROTATION TO COMPLETE THE DEGREE WITHIN SIX SEMESTERS (TWO YEARS),  
WITH A FALL SEMESTER START**

*Students in this rotation will generally take three courses a semester (except for summer sessions) - recommended for students who are full-time or graduate assistants. In most cases the time commitment will be two-three nights a week for fall/spring semesters and variable for each summer course.*

<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year One</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year One</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year One</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV447 Environmental Regulations</li> <li>• ENV530 General Environmental Health</li> <li>• HEA520 Public Health Epidemiology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV451 Environmental Toxicology</li> <li>• HEA526 Biostatistics in Public Health</li> <li>• HEA516 Health Care Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV533 Water Quality &amp; Health (*EH Elective)</li> <li>• ENV570 Emergency Prep (*EH Elective)</li> </ul>
<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year Two</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year Two</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year Two</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV524 Industrial Hygiene</li> <li>• ENV575 Bioterrorism &amp; Biocrises in Public Health (*EH Elective)</li> <li>• GEO534 Geographic Information Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV545 Risk Assessment</li> <li>• HEA632 Social/Behavioral Aspects of Health</li> <li>• HEA648 Research Methods in Public Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA649 Applied Learning Experience I</li> <li>• HEA650 Applied Learning Experience II</li> </ul>

**Notes:**

- ENV courses (except ENV530) must be taken in the indicated semester as they are only offered once per year. Alternate combinations of MPH core courses may fit this schedule.
- A total of two \*EH Elective Courses (6 credits) are required; three courses (9 credits) are shown.
- HEA649 and HEA650 are only offered for Environmental Health Track students during the summer.
- MPH core, EH required and EH elective courses may be offered during the summer as options; summer course availability is always contingent upon enrollment.

**RECOMMENDED COURSE ROTATION TO COMPLETE THE DEGREE WITHIN EIGHT SEMESTERS (THREE YEARS) WITH A SPRING SEMESTER START**

*Students in this rotation will generally take two courses a semester - recommended for students who are working part-time towards the degree. In most cases the time commitment will be two or three nights a week for fall/spring semesters and variable for each summer course.*

<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year One</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year One</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year One</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV530 General Environmental Health</li> <li>• ENV451 Environmental Toxicology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV533 Water Quality &amp; Health (*EH Elective)</li> <li>• ENV570 Emergency Prep (*EH Elective)</li> </ul>
<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year Two</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year Two</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year Two</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV524 Industrial Hygiene</li> <li>• ENV447 Environmental Regulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA526 Biostatistics in Public Health</li> <li>• HEA516 Health Care Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GEO534 Geographic Information Systems</li> <li>• HEA520 Public Health Epidemiology</li> </ul>
<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year Three</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year Three</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year Three</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA632 Social/Behavioral Aspects of Health</li> <li>• ENV575 Bioterrorism &amp; Biocrises in Public Health (*EH Elective)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV545 Risk Assessment</li> <li>• HEA648 Research Methods in Public Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA649 Applied Learning Experience I</li> <li>• HEA650 Applied Learning Experience II</li> </ul>

**Notes:**

- ENV courses (except ENV530) should be taken in the indicated semester as they are only offered once per year. Alternate combinations of MPH core courses may fit this schedule.
- A total of two \*EH Elective Courses (6 credits) are required; three courses (9 credits) are shown.
- HEA649 and HEA650 are only offered for Environmental Health Track students during the summer.
- MPH core, EH required and EH elective courses may be offered during the summer as options; summer course availability is always contingent upon enrollment.

**RECOMMENDED COURSE ROTATION TO COMPLETE THE DEGREE WITHIN NINE SEMESTERS (THREE YEARS), FALL SEMESTER START**

*Students in this rotation will generally take one or two courses a semester - recommended for students who are working part-time towards the degree. In most cases the time commitment will be one or two nights a week for fall/spring semesters and variable for each summer course.*

<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year One</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year One</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year One</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV530 General Environmental Health</li> <li>• ENV447 Environmental Regulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV451 Environmental Toxicology</li> <li>• HEA520 Public Health Epidemiology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV533 Water Quality &amp; Health (*EH Elective)</li> </ul>
<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year Two</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year Two</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year Two</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV524 Industrial Hygiene</li> <li>• GEO534 Geographic Information Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA526 Biostatistics in Public Health</li> <li>• HEA516 Health Care Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV570 Emergency Prep (*EH Elective)</li> </ul>
<b>FALL SEMESTER – Year Three</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Year Three</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Year Three</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA632 Social/Behavioral Aspects of Health</li> <li>• ENV575 Bioterrorism &amp; Biocrises in Public Health (*EH Elective)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV545 Risk Assessment</li> <li>• HEA648 Research Methods in Public Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA649 Applied Learning Experience I</li> <li>• HEA650 Applied Learning Experience II</li> </ul>

**Notes:**

- ENV courses (except ENV530) should be taken in the indicated semester as they are only offered once per year. Alternate combinations of MPH core courses may fit this schedule.
- A total of two \*EH Elective Courses (6 credits) are required; three courses (9 credits) are shown.
- HEA649 and HEA650 are only offered for Environmental Health Track students during the summer.
- MPH core, EH required and EH elective courses may be offered during the summer as options; summer course availability is always contingent upon enrollment.

**MPH UNDERGRADUATE FAST TRACK PROGRAM : RECOMMENDED COURSE ROTATION TO COMPLETE THE DEGREE WITHIN FOUR SEMESTERS (WITH UP TO FOUR COURSES TAKEN DURING SENIOR UNDERGRADUATE YEAR)**

*Students in this rotation will generally take four or five courses a semester – recommended ONLY for full-time students who are not otherwise employed. In most cases the time commitment will be four nights a week plus some days, for fall/spring semesters and variable for each summer course.*

**NOTE:** All students in the Fast Track option must apply for graduate admission and separately, the MPH Fast Track. A maximum of two undergraduate courses (with properly completed application forms to take undergraduate classes for graduate credit) may be applied to the MPH. At least two graduate courses must also be taken during the senior undergraduate year.

**Courses eligible to be completed during senior undergraduate year (must complete four courses during academic year, with a maximum of two at the undergraduate level as noted above; must also complete at least one course during summer):**

<b>FALL SEMESTER – Senior Year</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Senior Year</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Between Senior Year and Graduate Year</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV530 Gen Environmental Health</li> <li>• ENV447 Environmental Regs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV451 Environmental Toxicology</li> <li>• HEA526 Biostatistics in Public Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV533 Water Quality &amp; Health (*EH Elective)</li> <li>• ENV570 Emergency Prep (*EH Elective)</li> </ul>

**Courses during graduate student year (must complete 10 courses):**

<b>FALL SEMESTER – Graduate Year</b>	<b>SPRING SEMESTER – Graduate Yr</b>	<b>SUMMER SEMESTER – Grad Yr</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA520 Public Health Epidemiology</li> <li>• ENV524 Industrial Hygiene</li> <li>• ENV575 Bioterrorism &amp; Biocrises in Public Health (*EH Elective)</li> <li>• GEO534 Geographic Information Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV545 Risk Assessment</li> <li>• HEA630 Health Care Administration</li> <li>• HEA632 Social/Behavioral Aspects of Health</li> <li>• HEA648 Research Methods in Public Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEA649 Applied Learning Experience I</li> <li>• HEA650 Applied Learning Experience II</li> </ul>

**Notes:**

- ENV courses (except ENV530) must be taken in the indicated semester as they are only offered once per year. Alternate combinations of MPH core courses may fit this schedule.
- A total of two \*EH Elective Courses (6 credits) are required
- HEA649 and HEA650 are only offered for Environmental Health Track students during the summer.
- MPH core, EH required and EH elective courses may be offered during the summer as options; summer course availability is always contingent upon enrollment.

**IMPORTANT ADVISING INFORMATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STUDENTS**

**Advising:** Dr. Charles V. Shorten is the assigned advisor for all Environmental Health MPH students. Other Environmental Health faculty (Dr. Maura J. Sheehan, Dr. Robin Leonard and Dr. Gary Coutu) are available for additional advising as needed. Advising appointments are recommended to help students make appropriate elective choices and plan for course sequencing.

**Undergraduate Statistics Requirement:** Students who have not had an introductory course in statistics will need to complete this course before enrolling in HEA520 –Public Health Epidemiology and HEA526 –Biostatistics for Public Health. Students have the option of enrolling in MAT121 – Introduction to Statistics at West Chester University or enrolling in a similar course at a community college or another university.

**Statistics Competency Examination:** Students have the option of completing a Statistical Competency Examination (administered by the Department of Health, under the direction of Dr. Stacie Metz). This exam is scheduled at the start of fall/spring semesters. A score of 85 or better will be accepted as a replacement for the undergraduate statistics requirement. This option should only be considered if the student has previous experience with introductory statistics through other courses that may not appear on the transcript as traditional statistics courses. If students are considering this option, please contact Dr. Stacie Metz (email: [smetz@wcupa.edu](mailto:smetz@wcupa.edu)) for more information about the competency exam.

Students may begin the MPH Program (without the undergraduate statistics requirement) if other academic requirements are met, however students will be admitted under provisional status. To remove the provisional status and be eligible to register for HEA 520 and HEA526, proof of statistics course completion or the Statistics Competency Examination score is needed by submitting a copy of a transcript or score to the Department of Health and the Office of Graduate Studies.

Students who complete HEA520 and HEA526 without the undergraduate statistics course will not be able to obtain **Degree Candidacy** and will remain in provisional status. We strongly encourage students to complete this undergraduate course as soon as possible. If students do not obtain Degree Candidacy they will not be able to complete the degree.

**MPH Community Service Requirement:** All students in the MPH Program need to complete a Community Service Requirement. This requirement is found within track courses. For students in the Environmental Health Track, this requirement will be met when students complete the assigned community service activity in **ENV524 Industrial Hygiene**. Students will not be eligible for graduation until this requirement is met.

**Course Sequencing:** The core and elective courses in the MPH program are offered once a year. Please refer to the advising sheet for course sequencing. Students who miss a course may **delay** their graduation date. Please check with advisors to make sure that courses are taken in appropriate sequence. Course sequence may be change so always check with your advisor for appropriate course sequences.

**Summer Courses:** Summer courses are offered in various formats including multiple evenings and distance education; some day-long classes for fieldwork may be scheduled occasionally. The faculty will make every effort to inform students about the times and dates for these courses so that appropriate notification can be given to employers. Students should be notified about summer school schedules before the end of the fall semester.

**Course Prerequisites for HEA648 – Research Methods in Public Health**

HEA520- Epidemiology in Public Health and HEA526- Biostatistics in Public Health need to be completed before registering for HEA648- Research Methods in Public Health

**Course Prerequisites for HEA649 - Applied Learning Experience I (ALE- I)**

Applied Learning Experience I and II are culminating experiences and are the final courses taken before graduation during two consecutive semesters. The purpose of ALE-I is to prepare students for Applied Learning Experience II which is the culminating experience (major project report and poster session) and practicum (implementation of major project at the practice site). During ALE-I, students will also be introduced to the role of the agency in the community setting with completion of the Agency Interview Reaction Paper, Agency Report and Major Project Program Plan. Students will select their community practice site for the practicum experience

under the supervision of the Applied Learning Experience Faculty Advisor. All arrangements with the site (i.e. completing forms, letters of agreement, etc.) must be completed with the Applied Learning Experience Faculty Advisor and Site Supervisor during ALE-I. Please plan appropriately. **Please obtain a copy of the Guidelines for the Applied Learning Experience I and II (copies available in the Department of Health or the MPH Website/D2L) for detailed course information, requirements and course forms.**

Students will need to complete 30 credits before registering for ALE-I. It is important to note that each track may have specific courses that need to be completed before the start of ALE-I and students are responsible for meeting with their faculty advisors to ensure that courses are completed in appropriate sequence before the start of ALE-I. All students (regardless of assigned track) will need to complete the following courses before the start of ALE-I as these courses serve as a foundation for developing the Major Project Plan.

HEA520 Epidemiology in Public Health  
HEA526 Biostatistics in Public Health  
HEA648 **Research Methods in Public Health\***

**\*Students are strongly encouraged to take all of the course prerequisites during the first year of the program. If this is not possible due to scheduling conflicts students will have the option of registering for HEA648 Research Methods in Public Health during the same semester as HEA649 Applied Learning Experience I (this situation usually applies to full time students who need to maintain 9 credits per semester). HEA648 Research Methods in Public Health is an accelerated course offered in the first half of the semester and if students register for both courses in same semester they will not begin their Major Project Plan for HEA649 Applied Learning Experience I until after the completion of HEA648. The Applied Learning Experience Faculty Advisor will require students to be prepared to develop their Major Project Plan with the skills and knowledge on research methods acquired during HEA648.**

#### **Course Prerequisites for HEA650 - Applied Learning Experience II (ALE-II)**

All MPH core and elective courses need to be completed before the start of ALE-II. **There are no exceptions made for this prerequisite.** Students are responsible for meeting with their faculty advisors to ensure that courses are completed in appropriate sequence before the start of ALE-II.

#### **Applied Learning Experience I and II Time Commitments**

It is important to note that many students in the program have full time jobs and will need to complete a total of 300 hours for ALE-I and II. Students who are employed may need to make arrangements for time off from work to complete their projects during the ALE-I and II. Students are expected to spend time at the agency to complete their projects and projects should focus on research problems and/or practitioner issues in public health. The student and Agency Site Supervisor will need to be in agreement about the time needed to be spent on site during the start of the ALE-I and II. **Students will need to remember that this experience is 300 hours and is to be completed over two consecutive semesters, with 100 hours for ALE-I and 200 hours for ALE-II.** Arrangements for time at the site should be flexible. The student and the Agency Site Supervisor need agree about the time commitment at the agency.

#### **Applied Learning Experience at Student's Place of Employment**

Students who are employed at an agency/institution/facility may complete their Applied Learning Experience at their place of employment. However, the experience cannot be related to their current job responsibilities. For example, a student who is working in a county health department in the area of maternal/infant health may not complete his/her project in that division or department. However, the student can select a different department (i.e., chronic disease prevention and control) to complete their project with a site supervisor not related to the student's current position.

#### **Grade Point Average Requirements for Applied Learning Experience I and II**

To maintain the integrity of the program, students are expected to achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 after completion of all required core courses and track courses for the MPH Program. A minimum grade point average of 3.00 is needed to be eligible for Applied Learning Experience I and II. The MPH Program is dedicated to a quality educational experience that prepares students for professional positions upon graduation. A program's reputation and quality is reflected by its graduates.

**Degree Candidacy:** Degree candidacy application must be made immediately upon completion of 12–15 semester hours of course work. Every student must file an application for degree candidacy with the Dean of Graduate Studies. Students will receive a letter from the Dean of Graduate Studies approving or denying their degree candidacy. (Refer to WCU Graduate Catalog for more information about degree candidacy.)

**Time Needed to Complete the Degree:** All requirements for the master's degree including course work and the Applied Learning Experience must be completed within six years immediately prior to the expected date of graduation. It is important to note that this advising sheet offers two course rotations to complete the degree within four semesters or two years. Students do have the option of taking one course a semester but this may take up to six years for program completion.

**Application for Graduation:** Information, fees and forms for graduation are found on line under the Office of Graduation Studies' webpage. Students will need to follow the deadlines listed below. Failure to apply by the deadline will delay the student's graduation date to the following semester.

**Graduation Application Deadlines**

Spring Semester	May Graduation	February 1st
Summer Semester	August Graduation	June 1st
Fall Semester	December Graduation	October 1 <sup>st</sup>

If students do not complete their Applied Learning Experience within the semester of the planned graduation date, they do not need to reapply. The graduation date will be then scheduled for the next semester. Students can contact Michelle Auciello (email: [mauicello@wcupa.edu](mailto:mauicello@wcupa.edu)) in the Office of Graduation Studies for additional information about graduation policies.

**WCU ACADEMIC PROBATION/DISMISSAL POLICY:** Graduate students whose cumulative grade point average falls below 3.00 will be placed on academic probation. Graduate students must raise their GPA to 3.00 by the end of the next semester (or full summer term) in which they register. An additional probationary semester may be granted at the discretion of the graduate dean. If a student fails to meet the conditions of academic probation he/she is subject to dismissal. Graduate students earning a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or lower will be dropped from their graduate program without a probationary period. A graduate student earning an F grade in any course will be dismissed from the University. Exceptions may be made for a course outside the student's discipline upon the recommendation of the graduate coordinator and the approval of the graduate dean. An F earned at West Chester University may not be made up at another institution of higher learning for the same course. Grades earned during summer sessions count the same as grades earned during the academic year. All grades recorded determine the student's academic status, even if a student changes degree programs. Students dropped from a graduate program due to unsatisfactory work will not be permitted to take courses for credit towards a graduate degree in that department beyond the semester in which they are dropped. Individual programs may have higher GPA minimums or additional requirements. To be eligible to receive the master's degree, graduate students must complete all requisite courses and credits with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00. Students holding graduate assistantships who fail to maintain a 3.00 cumulative GPA will have their assistantships revoked or will not have them renewed. This policy includes courses taken during summer sessions. Departments also may stipulate higher academic standards for maintaining assistantships.