

Administration-Health Services

Degrees Offered:	M.S., Ph.D.
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Website:	http://www.uab.edu/shp/hsa/doctoral-programs/ph-d

Program Information

The program offers an interdisciplinary approach that provides advanced studies in the conceptual and applied aspects of health administration and health services. The program's interdisciplinary foundation is based on the active involvement of faculty members who are nationally recognized scholars in their field from a variety of departments across campus, including the School of Health Professions, Collat School of Business, School of Public Health, Heersink School of Medicine, and School of Nursing. The program also draws on the resources of campus-wide centers, such as the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy, Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research and Education, and Center for Aging.

Master of Science in Health Services Research

The Master of Science in Health Services Research (MSHSR) is a graduate degree that provides advanced training in the development, implementation, and management of health services research projects. The MSHSR is only available to students enrolled in the Administration-Health Services, PhD. program. The coursework focuses on the acquisition and development of research skills to study the delivery of health services.

Admission Requirements

An applicant should be accepted to the Administration-Health Services, PhD program prior to applying to the Master of Science in Health Services Research degree program.

Program Requirements

The program consists of 30 semester hours of coursework.

Master of Science in Health Services Research

Requirements	Hours
AH 703 Philosophy of Science	3
AH 705 Health Care Finance	3
AH 707 Research Methods	3
AH 710 Comparative Health Systems	3
AH 722 Regression Analysis	3
AH 727 Applied Multivariate Statistic	3
AH 755 Dissemination and Implementation Science in Health Care	3
AH 788 Independent Studies	3
HA 602 Introduction to Health Care Systems	3

HA 632	Quantitative Methods in Health Services Admin	3
Total Hours		30

Contact Information

UAB School of Health Professions
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Doctor of Philosophy in Administration–Health Services Program Information

The PhD program in Administration – Health Services offers an interdisciplinary approach consisting of advanced studies in the conceptual, philosophical, and applied aspects of administrative processes, within the context of health services, making it relatively unique among doctoral programs in the United States. The program's interdisciplinary foundation is based on the active involvement of faculty members who are nationally recognized scholars in their field from a variety of departments across campus including the School of Public Health, School of Medicine, and School of Nursing. Faculty members are actively involved in teaching, research, and service, and in many cases have ongoing funded research. The program also draws on the resources of campus wide centers, such as the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy, Center for Clinical and Translational Science, Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research and Education, and Center for Aging, to enhance the training environment of the program.

The Ph.D. program in Administration – Health Services is designed to provide students with the necessary tools to conduct research and contribute to the fields of health administration, health informatics, health policy, strategic management, and/or health services research. It consists of three parts: the core courses, research methods and quantitative methods courses, and specialization courses. The pedagogical focus is on developing a strong research orientation through coursework, research seminars, and mentoring relationships with faculty. Students who are interested in pursuing academic careers are also afforded the opportunity to develop their teaching skills through coursework and teaching opportunities. Job placement occurs in regional, national, and international markets. To date, more than 100 graduates have taken positions in academic institutions as well as health service delivery, governmental, and consulting organizations.

Mission, Vision, and Values

Believing that outstanding teaching and research are essential to the future of health care delivery in our nation and abroad, the Ph.D. Program in Administration - Health Services provides doctoral-level training to individuals who will be our future health care leaders in academic and non-academic research organizations. We seek to recruit a diverse and talented group of national and international students who are attracted to careers in research and teaching. The educational experience in the Ph.D. Program is characterized by exposure to the various disciplines relevant to health administration and policy from across the university. Among the most relevant areas where coursework and mentor relationships may be developed are health administration, business, public health, nursing, and medical sociology. Students are expected to work closely with selected faculty in one-on-one mentorship relationships both prior to and during the writing of the doctoral dissertation. These research experiences are expected to serve as a foundation for future

research throughout their careers. Our alumni are partners with us in terms of advising and hiring new graduates, providing feedback to the program, and conducting joint research with faculty associated with our program.

We seek to be a program internationally recognized for excellence in attracting and graduating outstanding students from the U.S. and other countries. In serving the best interest of the State of Alabama and its citizens, we will manage the Ph.D. Program in a way that uses resources efficiently without jeopardizing the quality of the experience from the students' perspective. Our graduates will be placed in academic and non-academic positions in Alabama, the nation, and the world.

Admission Requirements

Prospective students should visit <http://www.uab.edu/shp/hsa/doctoral-programs/ph-d> to obtain specific admissions requirements on how to apply.

An applicant should already possess a master's degree in a relevant discipline or have completed an undergraduate program with an outstanding record. The application deadline is March 1. Although applications may be considered after March 1, admission and financial aid priority is given to those applicants whose materials are complete by March 1. Applications submitted after March 1 would be considered on a space-available basis only.

Admission recommendations are made by the Admissions and Policy Committee after examination of the candidate's qualifications. All applicants whose first language is not English, visit: <https://www.uab.edu/gradadmissions/apply/international-applicants> for additional requirements.

Various forms of financial aid are available to students. Departmental research assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis and carry an obligation of 20 hours of work per week. Assistantships are awarded to incoming students for a period of one year and may be renewable for a second year based on satisfactory work and academic progress, depending on the availability of funds. Some students are able to secure funding for additional years in the program through research assistant positions or other part-time jobs funded by faculty members' grants and contract activities. Other forms of financial assistance include paid teaching opportunities in selected undergraduate programs and federal student loans.

Additional Information

Deadline for Entry Term(s):	January 1
Deadline for All Application Materials to be in the Graduate School Office:	March 1
Number of Evaluation Forms Required:	3
International Applicants:	https://www.uab.edu/gradadmissions/apply/international-applicants
Comments:	Stipend support available

Prerequisites

Prerequisite requirements include one graduate-level statistics course with computer usage, one graduate-level course on the U.S. health care system, and an introductory healthcare finance course. Incoming students who have not met these prerequisites during a master's program

may take courses prior to entering the program or during their first year of study in the program.

Program of Study

The program of study consists of five components

1. Courses in administration and health systems,
2. Courses in research methodology and statistics,
3. Elective specialization courses,
4. Comprehensive examinations,
5. The doctoral dissertation.

Student chooses the topic in which they will specialize and take elective courses in the area, under the guidance of a curriculum committee of three faculty members. Students must complete all coursework in administration and health systems, methodology and statistics, and in their area of specialization and pass a comprehensive exam in each of the areas before work can officially begin on a dissertation proposal and dissertation. The investigation and other special work leading to the dissertation must be performed directly under the guidance and supervision of a five-person committee of the UAB graduate faculty. The normal minimum period in which the doctoral degree can be earned is three to five years of full-time study.

If entering with a baccalaureate degree, a student is required to earn a minimum of 72 credit hours comprised of the following:

1. Completion of 48 credit hours of course work prior to candidacy
 - Up to 16 credits of the 48 can be non-dissertation research credits
 - Up to 10 credits can be lab rotation, seminar, or directed study credits
2. Completion of 24 credit hours of research-based work which can be designated as either:
 - Completion of at least two semesters in candidacy and accumulation of at least 24 semester credit hours in 799 dissertation research **OR**
 - Completion of at least two semesters in candidacy and accumulation of at least 12 semester credit hours in 799 dissertation research **AND**, either during or before candidacy, 12 semester credit hours in other appropriate research-based coursework which has been approved by the graduate student's program

If entering with a previously earned master's degree appropriate to the doctoral degree field, a student is required to earn a minimum of 51 credit hours comprised of the following. These requirements also apply to students with previously earned M.S., D.V.M., D.M.D., D.D.S., etc.:

1. Completion of 27 credit hours of course work prior to candidacy
 - Up to 6 credits of the 27 can be non-dissertation research credits
 - Up to 6 credits can be lab rotation, seminar, or directed study credits
2. Completion of 24 credit hours of research-based work which can be satisfied by either:
 - Completion of at least two semesters in candidacy and accumulation of at least 24 semester credit hours in 799 dissertation research **OR**
 - Completion of at least two semesters as a student in candidacy and accumulation of at least 12 semester credit hours in 799 dissertation research **AND**, either during or before candidacy, 12 semester credit

hours in other appropriate research-based coursework which has been approved by the graduate student's program.

Doctor of Philosophy in Administration-Health Services

Requirements	Hours	
AH 703	Philosophy of Science	3
AH 705	Health Care Finance	3
AH 707	Research Methods	3
AH 710	Comparative Health Systems	3
AH 712	Research in Organizational Behavior	3
AH 715	Research in Organizational Theory	3
or HI 725	Information Systems Theory and Practice	
AH 720	Continuing Seminar	2
AH 722	Regression Analysis	3
AH 727	Applied Multivariate Statistic	3
AH 755	Dissemination and Implementation Science in Health Care	3
AH 775	Strategic Planning and Management Health Care Organizations	3
AH 777	Mixed Methods Research I: Introduction	3
AH 788	Independent Studies (Health Policy)	3
GRD 717	Principles of Scientific Integrity	3
HA 602	Introduction to Health Care Systems	3
HA 632	Quantitative Methods in Health Services Admin	3
HI 617	Principles in Health Informatics	3
HPO 704	Health Economics and Public Health Policy	3
HRP 705	Teaching in Health Professions	3
AH 798	Non-Dissertation Research	1-9
AH 799	Dissertation Research	1-9
Specialization Electives ¹		15
Total Hours		73-89

¹ The specialization electives should be 600+ level and chosen with one's curriculum committee. The elective courses can be AH courses or in another school/department. It is highly recommended for students focusing on strategy to take AH 716 Macro-Environmental Analysis (3) as an elective.

Typical Plan of Study

First Year

First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours	Summer Term	Hours
HA 602 ¹	3	AH 720	2	AH 705	3
HA 632 ¹	3	AH 722	3	AH 715 or HI 725	3
HPO 704	3	AH 788 (Health Policy)	3	AH 727	3
AH 755	3	HI 617	3		
GRD 717	3	Elective	3		
	15		14		9

Second Year

First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours	Summer Term	Hours
AH 703	3	AH 707	3	AH 798	1-9
AH 710	3	AH 720	2	Electives	6
AH 712	3	AH 777	3		
HRP 705	3	Elective	3		

Elective	3 AH 775	3	
	15	14	7-15

Total credit hours: 74-82

¹ Prerequisite courses may be waived by the program director based on prior coursework or qualifications.

Additional Required Courses

AH 798 Non-dissertation Research (12) and AH 799 Dissertation Research (12).

Degree Completion

The granting of the Ph.D. degree is based on completion of all required coursework, comprehensive examinations, dissertation requirements, and the recommendation of the Administration-Health Services graduate program director and the dissertation committee.

Contact Information

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Degrees Offered:	Graduate Certificate
Director:	Nataliya V. Ivankova, PhD, MPH
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Website:	https://www.uab.edu/shp/hsa/graduate/mixed-methods-research

Graduate Certificate in Applications of Mixed Methods Research

Requirements	Hours	
Required Coursework 12 Hours		
NRM 777	Mixed Methods Research I: Introduction to the Field	3
NRM 778	Mixed Methods Research II: Designing and Conducting a Mixed Methods Study	3
AH 779	Mixed Methods Applications in Action and Community-Based Participatory Research	3
AH 783	Writing Effective Mixed Methods Grant Proposals	3
Elective Coursework 3 hours (Select 1 Course)		3
NRM 783	Foundations of Qualitative Research	
HPO 628	Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research in Public Health	
or HPO 728	Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research in Public Health	
AH 785	Qualitative Research: Analysis and Interpretation	
Total Hours		15

The Graduate Certificate in Applications of Mixed Methods Research is an interdisciplinary certificate program that provides researchers with applied knowledge and skills to plan, design, conduct, evaluate, and report mixed methods research in the context of the research topic of interest. The curriculum for the certificate is offered online. The four required mixed methods courses are designed as independent courses and can be taken in any sequence. Each course has a different focus

and objectives, and each course covers different aspects and practices of mixed methods research that can be successfully mastered within a separate course. One elective qualitative research course can be selected from the list of recommended courses based on the student's proficiency in qualitative research methods.

Admission

Students holding a master's or other post-bachelor's degree and meeting qualifications for admission to the UAB Graduate School can be admitted for the fall, spring, or summer terms.

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Degrees Offered:	Graduate Certificate
Director:	Ria Hearld, PhD
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Website:	https://www.uab.edu/shp/hsa/graduate/di

Graduate Certificate in Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) Science in Health Care

The Graduate Certificate in Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) Science in Health Care is a new educational program that provides advanced training in dissemination and implementation research in health care. It is a 15-credit hour online program consisting of courses in foundational D&I concepts, advanced D&I research designs and methods, and elective courses to address unique training needs and interests. The program culminates in a D&I grant writing course that allows students to apply program content to their specific research interests. At the end of the program, students will be equipped with the essential tools needed to design and execute dissemination and implementation science research studies.

Through this program, students learn how to:

- **Apply Core Dissemination & Implementation Science**
Principles:#Develop the skills to conceptualize, design, and execute impactful D&I research, applying relevant theories, frameworks, and methodologies to drive practice change.
- **Navigate Contextual Factors:**#Gain a deep understanding of how healthcare and community settings shape implementation.
- **Build Powerful Stakeholder Partnerships:**#Learn proven strategies for engaging stakeholders at every stage of the research and implementation process, ensuring your work is relevant and sustainable.
- **Apply Systems Thinking for Real-World Impact:**#Develop a systems-level perspective to understand complex health systems

and design effective implementation strategies that drive meaningful change.

- **Secure Funding for Research:**#Learn the essential skills for writing fundable dissemination and implementation science grant proposals, turning your research ideas into funded projects.

This certificate program offers comprehensive and flexible support for both early career scientists and experienced researchers who are new to D&I research.

- Focused, long-term mentorship from D&I experts
- Courses delivered virtually and asynchronously to accommodate diverse work and educational schedules
- Courses designed to be applied to topics of interest to each individual student

Admission Requirements

- Baccalaureate degree (or international equivalent) from an accredited university
- Personal statement (500 words or less)
- Current Curriculum Vitae (CV) or Resume
- Official transcript(s)
- International Applicants must provide TOEFL, IELTS, or TWE scores
- Application Fee

Graduate Certificate in Dissemination and Implementation Science in Health Care

Requirements		Hours
AH 755	Dissemination and Implementation Science in Health Care	3
AH 779	Mixed Methods Applications in Action and Community-Based Participatory Research	3
AH 772	Grant Writing for Dissemination & Implementation Scientists	3
AH 774	Advanced Methods in Dissemination & Implementation Science	3
Elective (Choose one of the following)		3
NUR 742	Program Evaluation and Methods	
NUR 744	Program Evaluation and Methods	
HB 617	Implementation Science and Disability Health	
HB 636	Developing Interventions to Promote Public Health	
HB 639	Survey Design and Analysis in the Social and Behavioral Sciences	
HB 643	Health Program Evaluation	
HB 736	Advanced Research Intervention Design	
HB 737	Advanced Intervention Implementation and Evaluation	
HPO 609	Public Health Program Planning, Implementation and Evaluation	
Total Hours		15

Courses

AH 701. Administrative Theory. 3 Hours.

History of, recent contributions to, and current issues in administrative theory and management; focus on evolution of management thought and research and on developing areas of research interest that will contribute to field.

AH 703. Philosophy of Science. 3 Hours.

Systems of thought and activities in theory-building process, deriving hypotheses from literature, understanding scientific theory, philosophy of science; applications to health services administration.

AH 705. Health Care Finance. 3 Hours.

Financial management functions, third-party reimbursement, determination of costs and charges, analysis of financial positions, working capital management, budgeting, capital expenditure analysis, and case studies.

AH 706. Strategic Management Theory and Research. 3 Hours.

Current and historically important research in field of strategic management, including major streams of research, role of strategic management in management disciplines, relationships to other disciplines, and pedagogical approaches used in graduate and undergraduate strategy courses.

AH 707. Research Methods. 3 Hours.

Issues of research design and research methods for organizational studies and health services research; integration of knowledge from quantitative courses with areas of research interest in students' chosen fields.

AH 710. Comparative Health Systems. 3 Hours.

This course allows students to compare the U.S. health care delivery system with approaches used in other countries and to identify health system reform efforts occurring in selected global regions. Emphasis will be placed on the role of the health system within selected forms of government and at various levels of economic development.

AH 712. Research in Organizational Behavior. 3 Hours.

Examination of topics and empirical research in organizational behavior; emphasis on important issues in field, including areas of controversy and contemporary interest.

Prerequisites: AH 706 [Min Grade: C]

AH 715. Research in Organizational Theory. 3 Hours.

Topics and research in organization and management theory applied to health services organizations, including organization-environment relations, population ecology, interorganization relations, and strategic alliances.

AH 716. Macroenvironmental Analysis. 3 Hours.

Examination of research literature that addresses external and internal environmental factors affecting strategic management.

Prerequisites: AH 706 [Min Grade: C]

AH 720. Continuing Seminar. 2 Hours.

Presentations by faculty and Ph.D. candidates concerning issues in particular areas of specialization. May be repeated for credit.

AH 722. Regression Analysis. 3 Hours.

Various approaches to regression analysis, including ordinary least squares and probability models, such as logit and probit.

AH 727. Applied Multivariate Statistic. 3 Hours.

This is a survey course on the application of multivariate techniques in health care management research. The course focuses on application of multivariate statistical methods to health administration research questions, with emphasis on interpretation within real healthcare management problems.

AH 755. Dissemination and Implementation Science in Health Care. 3 Hours.

Historical, scientific, and theoretical underpinnings of dissemination and implementation science; conceptual and methodological challenges of conducting dissemination and implementation science research.

AH 760. Foundations for Health Policy Research and Evaluation. 3 Hours.

Provide historical, theoretical, and analytical foundations to conduct research in health policy.

AH 770. Special Topics in Administration - Health Services. 1-4 Hour.

Exploration of current issues in Administration - Health Services.

AH 772. Grant Writing for Dissemination & Implementation Scientists. 3 Hours.

In-depth examination of the research designs, measures, and approaches typically applied in dissemination and implementation science research studies.

Prerequisites: AH 755 [Min Grade: C] and AH 774 [Min Grade: C]

AH 774. Advanced Methods in Dissemination & Implementation Science. 3 Hours.

In-depth examination of the research designs, measures, and approaches typically applied in dissemination and implementation science research studies.

Prerequisites: AH 755 [Min Grade: C]

AH 775. Strategic Planning and Management Health Care Organizations. 3 Hours.

Assessment of strategic management literature applied to health services organizations, exploration of strategy formulation, strategic content, and implementation and evaluation of topics for health care organizations.

AH 777. Mixed Methods Research I: Introduction. 3 Hours.

Introduction to mixed methods research: essence of mixed methods research, rationale for using it, fundamental principles and key characteristics, major design applications, and means of assessing the quality of mixed methods inferences.

AH 778. Mixed Methods Research II: Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Study. 3 Hours.

Knowledge and skills of designing and conducting mixed methods studies in social and health sciences: types of research problems addressed, specification of mixed methods purpose statements and research questions, types of mixed methods designs, data collection and analysis strategies within mixed methods designs, procedures for reporting and evaluating mixed methods studies, and visually presenting mixed methods procedures.

AH 779. Mixed Methods Applications in Action and Community-Based Participatory Research. 3 Hours.

Overview of how mixed methods can be applied in designing and conducting community-based action research studies: community-based action research, its purposes and cross-disciplinary utilization; a mixed methods methodological framework for action research; steps in designing and conducting mixed methods action research studies in community settings; specific types of mixed methods action research designs; sampling, data collection, analysis, validation, and evaluation of mixed methods action research projects.

AH 781. Designing Qualitative Studies in Health Sciences: Principles and Procedures. 3 Hours.

The course will provide applied knowledge and skills of designing qualitative studies in health sciences. Students will learn about different qualitative approaches in health sciences research - qualitative descriptive, case study, ethnography, grounded theory, phenomenology, and rapid qualitative assessment – with specification of study purpose, research questions and aims, data collection and analysis methods, and presentation and evaluation of findings within each approach. The course will provide a structured experience of developing a proposal for a qualitative study using a select qualitative approach.

AH 782. Collecting Qualitative Data in Health Sciences Research. 3 Hours.

The course will provide a detailed overview of and applied skills with qualitative methods of data collection in health sciences research, including interviews, focus group discussions, ethnographic observations, document and media analysis. Students will learn how to develop qualitative data collection tools and apply them to collect data in the context of health sciences research. Approaches to qualitative sampling, strategies for participant recruitment, techniques for managing qualitative data collection, and procedures for appraising data quality and maintaining qualitative ethical standards will be discussed.

AH 783. Writing Effective Mixed Methods Grant Proposals. 3 Hours.

Logistics of developing competitive mixed methods grant applications for K and R type funding mechanisms; special focus on specific aims, innovation and significance, research plan, human subject protection, project team, resources, and budget; integrating multiple methods and data sources, establishing analytical rigor, and addressing reviewer feedback.

AH 785. Qualitative Research: Analysis and Interpretation. 3 Hours.

Applied knowledge of data analysis and interpretation in qualitative inquiry as related to its five basic approaches (narrative, case study, ethnography, grounded theory, and phenomenology). Students will develop basic skills in using qualitative research software NVivo for data organization, management and analysis.

AH 788. Independent Studies. 3 Hours.

AH 790. Independent Study and Research. 1-12 Hour.

Independent Study and Reserch in Administration Health Services. Can be taken from 1-12 hours graduate credit.

AH 798. Non-Dissertation Research. 1-9 Hour.

Non dissertation research credits. Can be taken for 1 to 9 graduate credits.

AH 799. Dissertation Research. 1-9 Hour.

Dissertation Research. Must be admitted to doctoral candidacy. Must have 2 semesters before graduation.

Prerequisites: GAC Z