

# BIOBEHAVIORAL HEALTH, B.S. (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE)

**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus

**End Campus:** Greater Allegheny, Lehigh Valley, New Kensington

## Program Description

This major provides interdisciplinary training designed to integrate biological, behavioral, and social science approaches to the study of human health and illness. Emphasis is placed on the study of physical health. The goal of this major is to help students gain working familiarity with multiple perspectives, approaches, and methods needed to address and solve problems of human health and illness. Students may select courses in the supporting courses category that will fulfill requirements for admission to graduate and professional programs. This major helps prepare graduates for entry-level jobs in a range of biomedical and health-related areas, including roles as research assistants, laboratory managers, biomedical product representatives, technical support positions in biomedical and health-related fields. This major also will provide excellent preparation for advanced study in natural and social science disciplines and related professional areas such as epidemiology, public health, environmental health and safety, and human services.

## What is Biobehavioral Health?

Biobehavioral Health is the integrative scientific study of the many different factors (e.g., biology, psychology, environment) that affect health. The discipline focuses on how these different factors influence health and the development of interventions to improve health outcomes.

## You Might Like This Program If...

- You are curious about all aspects of health.
- You want to understand the multiple and layered factors that influence health.
- You like to answer important questions by considering different perspectives, and you like to study information from many disciplines (e.g., biology, psychology, neuroscience, sociology, anthropology).
- You want to pursue a health-related career, whether it be in a laboratory, clinical practice, or consulting capacity.

## Entrance to Major

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have at least third-semester classification (<https://www.registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/semester-classification.cfm>).

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major/>)

## Degree Requirements

**For the Bachelor of Science degree in Biobehavioral Health, a minimum of 121 credits is required:**

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Requirements for the Major	97-99

**21-22 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3-4 credits of GQ courses; 9 credits of GN courses; 6 credits of GS courses; 3 credits of GHW courses.**

Per Senate Policy 83.80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. BBH requires students to complete 24 credits for the major through courses taken at University Park, Greater Allegheny, New Kensington and through World Campus. For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for this major.

## Requirements for the Major

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
NUTR 251	Introductory Principles of Nutrition	3
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
BBH 101	Introduction to Biobehavioral Health	3
BBH/AFAM 302	Diversity and Health	3
BBH 310	Research Strategies for Studying Biobehavioral Health	3
BBH 311	Interdisciplinary Integration in Biobehavioral Health	3
BBH 316	Foundations and Principles of Health Promotion	3
BBH 411W	Research and Applications in Biobehavioral Health	3
BBH/HPA 440	Principles of Epidemiology	3
BIOL 110	Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity	4
BIOL 161	Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Lecture	3
BIOL 163	Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Lecture	3
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3
<b>Additional Courses</b>		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
BBH 210	Biobehavioral Aspects of Genetics	
BIOL 133	Genetics and Evolution of the Human Species	
BIOL 222	Genetics	
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
BBH 301W	Values and Ethics in Biobehavioral Health Research and Practice	
PHIL 110	Philosophy of Science	
PHIL 132/ BIOET 100	Bioethics	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
ANTH 21	Introductory Biological Anthropology	
ANTH 22	Humans as Primates	
ANTH 216N	Sex and Evolution	
BIOL 155	Introduction to the Biology of Aging	

BIOL 162	Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Laboratory
BIOL 164	Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Laboratory
BIOL 220W	Biology: Populations and Communities
BIOL 230W	Biology: Molecules and Cells
BIOL 240W	Biology: Function and Development of Organisms
BIOL 409	Biology of Aging
BIOL 422	Advanced Genetics
BMB 211	Elementary Biochemistry
CHEM 110	Chemical Principles I
CHEM 111	Experimental Chemistry I
CHEM 112	Chemical Principles II
CHEM 113	Experimental Chemistry II
CHEM 130	Introduction to General, Organic, and Biochemistry
CHEM 202	Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry I or CHEM 210 Organic Chemistry I
CHEM 203	Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry II or CHEM 213 Laboratory in Organic Chemistry
CHEM 212	Organic Chemistry II
EARTH 100	Environment Earth
EARTH 100H	Environment Earth: Environment and Energy
EARTH 103N	Earth in the Future: Predicting Climate Change and Its Impacts Over the Next Century
EGEE/MATSE 101	Energy and the Environment
EGEE 101H	Energy and the Environment
EGEE 102	Energy Conservation for Environmental Protection
EGEE 102H	Energy Conservation for Environmental Protection
EMSC 101	
FDSC 404	Sensory Evaluation of Foods
FDSC 405	Food Engineering Principles
FDSC 406W	Physiology of Nutrition
FDSC 407	Food Toxins
FDSC 408	Food Microbiology
GEOG 110	
GEOG 110H	
GEOG 314	Biogeography and Global Ecology
MICRB 106	Elementary Microbiology
MICRB 107	Elementary Microbiology Laboratory
MICRB 201	Introductory Microbiology
MICRB 202	Introductory Microbiology Laboratory
PHYS 250	Introductory Physics I
PHYS 251	Introductory Physics II
PSYCH 260/ BBH 203	Neurological Bases of Human Behavior
PSYCH 460	Comparative Psychology
PSYCH 461	Advanced Conditioning and Learning
PSYCH 462	Physiological Psychology
PSYCH 464	Behavior Genetics
PSYCH 470	Abnormal Psychology
PSYCH 473	Behavior Modification
VBSC 211	The Immune System and Disease
VBSC 230	The Science of Poisons
VBSC 231	

Select 9 credits from the following:		9
CSD 100	Vocal Health for Life	
CSD 146	Introduction to Communication Sciences and Disorders	
CSD 218	American Sign Language I	
CSD 230	Introduction to Audiology	
CSD 269	Deaf Culture	
HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	
HDFS 239	Adolescent Development	
HDFS 249N	Adult Development and Aging	
HDFS/WMNST 250	Sexual and Gender Identity Over the Lifespan	
HDFS 302A	Leadership and Technology Skills for Human Services Professionals A	
HDFS 311	Human Development and Family Studies Interventions	
HDFS 315	Family Development	
HDFS 405	Gender and Social Development	
HDFS 416/ SOC 411	Racial and Ethnic Diversity and the American Family	
HDFS 418	Family Relationships	
HDFS 428	Infant Development	
HDFS 429	Advanced Child Development	
HDFS/SOC 431	Family Disorganization: Stress Points in the Contemporary Family	
HDFS 433	Developmental Transition to Adulthood	
HDFS 445/ PSYCH 416	Development Throughout Adulthood	
HPA 57	Consumer Choices in Health Care	
HPA 101	Introduction to Health Services Organization	
HPA 310	Health Care and Medical Needs	
KINES 100	The Cultural and Behavioral Foundations of Kinesiology	
KINES 101	The Biophysical Foundations of Kinesiology	
KINES 203	Medical Terminology for Allied Health Professionals	
KINES 356	Activity and Disease	
KINES 358	Ergogenic Aids	
NURS 401	Concepts of Health	
NURS/BBH/ WMNST 452	Women's Health Issues	
NUTR 358	Assessment of Nutritional Status	
NUTR 360	Nutrition Education and Behavior Change Theory	
PSYCH 212	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	
PSYCH 243	Introduction to Well-being and Positive Psychology	
PSYCH 270	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
HDFS 129	Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies	
HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	
HDFS 239	Adolescent Development	
HDFS 249N	Adult Development and Aging	
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	3-4

or STAT 250	Introduction to Biostatistics	
Select 3-4 credits from the following:		3-4
BIOL 230W	Biology: Molecules and Cells	
CHEM 101	Introductory Chemistry	
CHEM 110	Chemical Principles I	
CHEM 110H	Chemical Principles I - Honors	
CHEM 130	Introduction to General, Organic, and Biochemistry	
MICRB 106	Elementary Microbiology	
Select 12 credits from the following (at least 6 credits must be at the 400 level):		12
BBH 203/ PSYCH 260	Neurological Bases of Human Behavior	
BBH 251	Straight Talks I: Advanced Sexual Orientation/ Gender Identity Peer Education	
BBH/AFR 305	Introduction to Global Health Issues	
BBH 315	Gender and Biobehavioral Health	
BBH 324	HealthWorks Peer Education Training	
BBH 325	Health Promotion Services Training	
BBH 368	Neuroanatomy, Behavior, and Health	
BBH 370	Environmental Health and Sustainability	
BBH 390A	Preparation for Global Health Field Experience	
BBH 402	African Health & Development	
BBH 407	Global Health Equity	
BBH 410	Developmental and Health Genetics	
BBH 416	Health Promotion II: Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation	
BBH 417	Advanced Applications in Health Promotion	
BBH 432	Biobehavioral Aspects of Stress	
BBH 446	Human Sexuality as a Health Concern	
BBH 451	Pharmacological Influences on Health	
BBH/WMNST 452	Women's Health Issues	
BBH/WMNST 458	Critical Feminist Issues in Reproduction	
BBH 468	Neuroanatomical Bases for Disorders of Behavior and Health	
BBH/BIOL 469	Neurobiology	
BBH/BIOL 470	Functional and Integrative Neuroscience	
BBH 490	Introduction to Internship Experience	

### Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 3 credits in health promotion from approved list, in consultation with adviser 3

Select 12 credits in University-wide offerings from approved list, in consultation with adviser (Students may apply 6 credits of ROTC.) 12

## General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements ([https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-](https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/)

[education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/](https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/)) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

### Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

### Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

### Integrative Studies

- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

### Exploration

- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

## University Degree Requirements

### First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

### Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

### Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

### Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

## Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

## Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

## Integrated B.S. in Biobehavioral Health and M.P.H. in Public Health

Requirements for the Integrated B.S. in Biobehavioral Health and M.P.H. in Public Health can be found in the Graduate Bulletin (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/public-health/#integratedundergradgradprogramstext>).

## Program Learning Objectives

- **Critical Evaluation of Research:** Critically evaluate current empirical research on health and disease, explaining implications and limitations to the lay public.
- **Disparity Mechanisms:** Explain how the fundamental processes underlying health and disease can interact to produce individual differences in health, and health disparities among groups.
- **Ethics:** Understand and apply ethical principles in the conduct of research and professional practice and in the analyses in implementations of health-related policies and programs.
- **Health Factors:** Describe and understand the fundamental biological, behavioral, social, cultural and environmental processes that influence health and disease.
- **Promotion/Prevention:** Plan, implement, and evaluate health promotion/disease prevention programs for diverse populations.

## Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

## Greater Allegheny

Advising Office  
Academic Affairs

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4000 University Drive  
McKeesport, PA 15132  
412-675-9140  
GA-Academics@lists.psu.edu

## Lehigh Valley

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## New Kensington

**Penelope Morrison**  
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New Kensington, PA 15068  
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## Harrisburg

**Weston Kensinger, Ph.D., CHES**  
Program Coordinator of Biobehavioral Health  
Olmsted Building, W319  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6515  
wsk120@psu.edu

## University Park

**BBH Academic Advising**  
219 Biobehavioral Health Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-7256  
BBHAdvising@psu.edu

## World Campus

**Undergraduate Academic Advising**  
301 Outreach Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-3283  
advising@outreach.psu.edu

## Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2024-25 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

## Biobehavioral Health, B.S. at Greater Allegheny Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

**First Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 <sup>‡</sup>	3 CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C <sup>†</sup>	3
HDFS 129 <sup>†</sup>	3 BIOL 230W or MICRB 106 <sup>*†</sup>	3-4
BBH 101 <sup>*</sup>	3 PSYCH 100 <sup>*†</sup>	3
BIOL 110 <sup>*†</sup>	4 Basic Science <sup>1</sup>	3
General Education Course (GQ) <sup>‡</sup>	3 General Education Course	3
PSU 8	1	
	<b>17</b>	<b>15-16</b>

**Second Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 311 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH 316 <sup>*</sup>	3
BIOL 161 <sup>*†</sup>	3 BIOL 163 <sup>*†</sup>	3
STAT 200 or 250 <sup>*†</sup>	3-4 BIOL 222 or BBH 210 <sup>5</sup>	3
Health and Developmental Science Course <sup>2</sup>	3 ENGL 202A <sup>‡</sup>	3
Supporting Course from University-Wide Offerings <sup>3</sup>	3 NUTR 251 <sup>†</sup>	3
	<b>15-16</b>	<b>15</b>

**Third Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 302 <sup>*6</sup>	3 BBH 310 <sup>*</sup>	3
BBH Course <sup>*6</sup>	3 General Education Course	3
Basic Science <sup>1</sup>	3 BBH Course <sup>*6</sup>	3
Health and Developmental Science Course <sup>2</sup>	3 BBH 301W <sup>4</sup>	3
General Education Course	3 Supporting Course from University-Wide Offerings <sup>3</sup>	3
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Fourth Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 440 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH 411W <sup>*</sup>	3
400-level BBH Course <sup>*6</sup>	3 BBH 416 or PSYCH 441 <sup>7</sup>	3
Basic Science <sup>1</sup>	3 400-level BBH Course <sup>*6</sup>	3
Health and Developmental Science Course <sup>2</sup>	3 Supporting Course from University-Wide Offerings <sup>3</sup>	3
General Education Course	3 Supporting Course from University-Wide Offerings <sup>3</sup>	3
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total Credits 122-124**

- \* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major  
 ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education  
 # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement  
 † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

<sup>1</sup> **Supporting Basic Science Course:** 9 credits are required in Supporting Basic Science courses; some courses in this category also satisfy GN requirements. Choose from CHEM 110 GN (3), CHEM 111 GN(1), CHEM 112 GN(3), CHEM 113 GN(1) CHEM 202(3) or CHEM 210(3), CHEM 203(3) or CHEM 213(2), CHEM 212(3), MICRB 106 GN(3), MICRB 107 GN(1), MICRB 201 GN(3), MICRB 202 GN(2), PSYCH 260(3), ANTH 021 GN(3), ANTH 022 GN(3), ANTH 216 GN;GS(3), B M B 211(3), BIOL 155 GN(3), BIOL 129 GN(4), BIOL 142(1), BIOL 220W GN(4), BIOL 230W

GN(4), BIOL 240W GN(4), BIOL 422(3), BIOL 409(3), BIOL 479(3), EARTH 100 GN(3), EARTH 103N GN(3), EGEE 101 GN(3), EGEE 102 GN(3), EM SC 101 US;IL(3), FD SC 404(3), FD SC 405(3), FD SC 406(3), FD SC 407(2), FD SC 408(3), GEOG 110 GN(3), GEOG 314 GN(3), PHYS 250 GN(4), PHYS 251 GN(4), PSYCH 460(3), PSYCH 461(3), PSYCH 462(3), PSYCH 464(3), PSYCH 470(3), PSYCH 473(3), VB SC 211 GN(3), VB SC 230(3), VB SC 231(3)

<sup>2</sup> **Supporting Health and Developmental Science Course:** 9 credits are required in Health and Developmental Science courses; some courses in this category also satisfy GS requirements. Choose from Select 9 credits from: CSD 100 GHA;US(3), CSD 146 US;IL(3), CSD 218(3), CSD 230(3), CSD 269 GH;US;IL(3), H P A 057 GHA(3), H P A 101(3), H P A 310(3), HD FS 229 GS(3), HD FS 239 GS(3), HD FS 249 GS(3), HD FS 250 US(3), HD FS 302A(3), HD FS 311(3), HD FS 315 US(3), HD FS 405 US(3), HD FS 416 US(3), HD FS 418(3), HD FS 428(3), HD FS 429(3), HD FS 431(3), HD FS 433(3), HD FS 445(3), HD FS 468(3), KINES 100(3), KINES 101(3), KINES 141 US;IL(3), KINES 180(3), KINES 203(3), KINES 356(3), KINES 358(1), NUTR 111 GH;US(3), NUTR 358(2), NUTR 360(3), PSYCH 212 GS(3), PSYCH 243 GS(3), PSYCH 270(3)

<sup>3</sup> **Supporting course from University-wide offerings:** 12 credits are required from University-Wide Offerings; courses must be selected from the department list of approved offerings, in consultation with adviser.

<sup>4</sup> **Ethics Course:** Choose from BBH 301W, PHIL 100, PHIL 132, RLST 131

<sup>5</sup> BIOL 133 may be taken instead but students may not take this course if they have already completed BIOL 220W, BIOL 230W, or BIOL 240W.

<sup>6</sup> 12 credits are required from BBH electives; at least 6 credits must come from 400-level courses. Choose from the list in the bulletin and note that some also require a C or higher grade.

<sup>7</sup> Select 3 credits in health promotion at 400 level from approved list, in consultation with adviser.

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

## Biobehavioral Health, B.S. at Lehigh Valley Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

### First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 101 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH 301W	3
PSYCH 100 <sup>**†</sup>	3 CHEM 110 or BIOL 230W <sup>**†</sup>	3-4
BIOL 110 <sup>**†</sup>	4 HDFS 129, 229, 239, or 249N <sup>**†</sup>	3
ENGL 15 or 30H <sup>‡</sup>	3 NUTR 251 <sup>†</sup>	3
PSU 8 (or General Education Course)	3 General Education Course	3
	<b>16</b>	<b>15-16</b>

### Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 311 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH 316 <sup>*</sup>	3
BIOL 161 <sup>†</sup>	3 BIOL 163 <sup>†</sup>	3
BIOL 162 (Recommended Basic Science)	1 BIOL 164 (Recommended Basic Science)	1
STAT 200 <sup>**†</sup>	4 CAS 100A <sup>‡</sup>	3
University-wide Offerings	3 Health and Developmental Science	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>

### Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ENGL 202A <sup>‡</sup>	3 BIOL 133 or 222	3
BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH 310 <sup>*</sup>	3
BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3
Basic Science	3 General Education Course	3
Health and Human Development	3 University-wide Offering	3
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

### Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 411W	3 BBH 416	3
BBH 440 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3
Basic Science	3 Basic Science	3
BBH Elective	3 University-wide Offerings	3
University-wide Offerings	3 General Education Course	3
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

### Total Credits 124-125

\* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

### University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

## Biobehavioral Health, B.S. at New Kensington Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 101 <sup>*†</sup>	3 HDFS 129 <sup>*†</sup>	3
PSYCH 100 <sup>*†</sup>	3 CHEM 110/101/BIOL 230W <sup>*†</sup>	3
BIOL 110 <sup>*†</sup>	4 NUTR 251 <sup>†</sup>	3
ENGL 15 or 30H <sup>‡</sup>	3 General Education Course or General Quantification	3
General Education Course or General Quantification	3 General Education Course or General Quantification	3
<b>16</b>		<b>15</b>
Second Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 161	3 BIOL 163	3
BBH 311 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH 316 <sup>*</sup>	3
STAT 200 <sup>‡</sup>	4 CAS 100 <sup>‡</sup>	3
University-Wide Offerings	3 Health and Developmental Science	3
Health and Developmental Sciences	3 Scientific Thought and Philosophy	3
<b>16</b>		<b>15</b>
Third Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3
BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3
ENGL 202A <sup>‡</sup>	3 BIOL 133 or 222 <sup>*†</sup>	3
Basic Science	3 University-Wide Offerings	3
Healthy and Developmental Science	3 General Education Course or General Quantification	3
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>
Fourth Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBH 440 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH 411W <sup>*</sup>	3
BBH 310 <sup>*</sup>	3 BBH Elective Course <sup>*</sup>	3
Basic Science	3 Basic Science	3
Health Promotion	3 University-Wide Offerings	3
University-Wide Offerings	3 General Education Course or General Quantifications	3
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Total Credits 122</b>		

\* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

### University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

## Career Paths

Students with a B.S. in Biobehavioral Health have been successful in establishing careers in a variety of fields. Four example areas of employment include: clinical professions in health care, biomedical and pharmaceutical research support, health advocacy and consulting, and public health. Advanced career tracks may require a graduate or professional degree. Students are encouraged to engage in practical learning experiences that complement formal classroom learning. These can include training at the University Health Services or a hospital, working in a research laboratory, and/or a health-related internship or travel experience. Several engaged learning experience programs available include: BBH Internship program, Global Health minor, BBH research laboratory assistant, Clinical Volunteer Training, and HealthWorks.

## Careers

Examples of careers that BBH graduates might pursue include:

- Clinic Professions in Health care: physician assistant, physician, pharmacist, nurse, health care support staff
- Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Research Support: laboratory manager, study coordinator, research assistant
- Health Advocacy and Consulting: health education specialist, social worker, genetic counselor
- Public Health: public and community health worker, epidemiologist, substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE BIOBEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM (<https://hhd.psu.edu/bbh/undergraduate/internships-and-career-opportunities/career-areas-major/career-opportunities/>)

## Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Depending on your career goals, BBH students might consider completing a graduate degree in biomedical, pharmaceutical or related health services research (e.g., M.S., Ph.D.), a clinical graduate program (e.g., M.D., D.O., P.A., Pharm. D.) or a professional degree in public health, health administration, social work, public policy or administration or law (e.g., M.P.H., M.H.A., M.S.W., M.P.A., M.P.P., J.D.)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://hhd.psu.edu/bbh/graduate/>)

## Professional Resources

- Explore Health Careers (<https://explorehealthcareers.org/>)
- National Institutes of Health Postbaccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award (<https://www.training.nih.gov/research-training/pb/pb/>)
- American Academy of Physical Assistants - 5 Tips for Getting into PA School (<https://www.aapa.org/news-central/2014/06/5-tips-for-getting-into-pa-school/>)
- Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling – List of Accredited Programs (<https://www.gceducation.org/students-volunteers/#program>)
- American Physical Therapy Association – List of Accredited Programs (<https://aptaapps.apta.org/accreditedschoolsdirectory/captedirectory.aspx>)
- American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc (<https://www.aota.org/>)
- Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (<https://aspph.org/student-journey/>)
- Honoring Diversity in BBH (<https://hhd.psu.edu/bbh/honoring-diversity/>)

## Contact

### Greater Allegheny

101 Frable Building  
4000 University Drive  
McKeesport, PA 15132  
412-675-9140  
GA-Academics@lists.psu.edu

<https://greaterallegheny.psu.edu/academics/biobehavioral-health>  
(<https://greaterallegheny.psu.edu/academics/biobehavioral-health/>)

### Lehigh Valley

2809 Saucon Valley Road  
Center Valley, PA 18034  
610-285-5123  
sab705@psu.edu

<https://lehighvalley.psu.edu/academics/degrees/biobehavioral-health>  
(<https://lehighvalley.psu.edu/academics/degrees/biobehavioral-health/>)

### New Kensington

3550 Seventh Street Rd.  
New Kensington, PA 15068  
724-334-6719  
pkm20@psu.edu

<https://newkensington.psu.edu/academics/4-year-biobehavioral-health>  
(<https://newkensington.psu.edu/academics/4-year-biobehavioral-health/>)

### Harrisburg

SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION  
Olmsted Building W314  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6742  
rlp26@psu.edu

<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/behavioral-sciences-education/biobehavioral-health-bs> (<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/behavioral-sciences-education/biobehavioral-health-bs/>)

### University Park

DEPARTMENT OF BIOBEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
219 Biobehavioral Health Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-7256  
pennstatebbh@psu.edu

<https://hhd.psu.edu/bbh> (<https://hhd.psu.edu/bbh/>)

### World Campus

DEPARTMENT OF BIOBEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
219 Biobehavioral Health Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-5949  
mad193@psu.edu

<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/penn-state-online-biobehavioral-health-bachelor-of-science-degree> (<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/penn-state-online-biobehavioral-health-bachelor-of-science-degree/>)