

Survey of Course Offerings at Accredited ASPH Schools of Public Health For “Genetics” Related Courses

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Method of Search: Mainly, searches were performed by scanning current course offering guides under the key words of “genetics”, “genomics”, or “ethics”. Often times, department websites at the school of interest were used to navigate and identify offered courses. Calls were also made to registration and administrative offices when materials were difficult or not clearly located. Due to problems in accessing course offering guides, course catalogs were not located for University of Massachusetts and the National Institute for Public Health (mainly due to translational challenges). Centers with a primary focus in genetics were located by performing searches within the school websites.

Categorical Assignment of Classes: Based on the course title, and course description if available, the “genetics” classes were further categorized by either being “epidemiologically, biostatistically, biologically, or genetic counseling based” (EBBG) or “health management, law, or ethics based” (HLE). Sums were then calculated for each category. See results in **Table 1**.

Category	# Courses
EBBG	172
HLE	21
Total Number of “Genetics” courses	193

Table 1. Summary of categorical assignments to accessed “genetics” coursework in 38 ASPH schools.

Analysis of Coursework Distribution: Of the 193 “genetics” courses offered (and accessed) by ASPH member schools, 172 of them had either an epidemiological, biostatistical, biological, or genetic counseling focus and approach; hence accounting for 89.11% of the offered courses. The remaining “genetics” courses, categorized as being either health management, law, or ethically oriented accounted for 10.88% of the total genetics courses.

Personal Reflection on Distribution: The importance of courses examining ethical, social, and legal implications of genetic information should not be dismissed. While I support the proliferation of genetics courses examining the “hard science” aspects, we must match these courses with academic experiences that frame both the direct and indirect implications of genetic technological advances in the light of ethical, social, and legal challenges. It frustrates me that only 10% of the genetics courses offered in ASPH member schools of public health focus on ELSI issues. [Ashley]

Summation of Centers with a Primary Focus in Genetics: Based on the titles and aims available, centers were counted if they directly promoted advancements in genetics. Of the 38 member schools evaluated, 10 centers were found that focus on genetics.

Columbia Mailman:	Imprints Center for Genetic and Environmental Lifecourse Studies
Johns Hopkins:	Genetics and Public Policy Center
U.C. Berkley:	Chlamydia Genome Project
UCLA:	Center for Environmental Genomics
U. Iowa:	Iowa Registry for Inherited and Congenital Disorders
U. Michigan:	Michigan Center for Public Health and Community Genomics Center for Statistical Genetics
U. Texas:	Human Genetics Center
U. Washington:	Institute for Public Health Genetics
Yale:	Yale Center for Statistical Genomics and Proteomics

Prevalence of “Genetic-based” Programs offered within SPH: Of the 38 member schools, only 7 offered tracks that focused on genetics.

Columbia Mailman:	Statistical Genetics, M.S.
Harvard:	Genetics and Complex Disease, PhD track.
Johns Hopkins:	Genetic Counseling track
Johns Hopkins	International Collaborative Genetic Research Training Program
U. Iowa:	Program in Public Health Genetics
U. Michigan:	Genetics Interdepartmental Concentration
U. Pittsburgh:	Human Genetics Department within SPH
U. Washington:	Institute for Public Health Genetics

*Disclaimer: Since this was not the primary focus of our search, program tracks could have been missed.

ASPH's Public Health Training Center's Course Offerings

(Searched each center's course offerings as well, but found nothing or was referred to these distance learning tools)

Distance Learning Available:

From the Human Genome Through Health Disparities to Public Health Learning Level: Aware URL:

http://cpheo.sph.umn.edu/cpheo/events/roundtable/Past_Roundtables/Past_Roundtable_0406.html Training contact information: Sharon Vegoe

Email: cpheo@umn.edu

Phone: 612-626-4515 ([View Details](#))

Genes and the Environment: The Emerging Role of Genomics in Public Health

Learning Level: Aware URL:

http://cpheo.sph.umn.edu/cpheo/events/roundtable/Roundtable_060807.html Training contact information: Amy Scheller

Email: cpheo@umn.edu

Phone: 612-626-4515 ([View Details](#))

Genomics: The Connection to Public Health Practice Learning Level: Aware URL:

<http://cpheo.sph.umn.edu/cpheo/mclph/course/Genomics.html> Training contact information: Ruth Rasmussen

Email: cpheo@umn.edu

Phone: 612-626-4515 ([View Details](#))

Six Weeks to Genomic Awareness Learning Level: Knowledgeable URL:

https://www.sph.umich.edu/isr/mphtc/site.php?module=courses_one_online_course&id=108 Training contact information: Robyn Nolan

Email: mphtc@umich.edu

Phone: 734-615-9439 ([View Details](#))