Core Public Health Competencies

Twelve key competencies that all MPH students are expected to achieve as a result of foundation and professional skill building field practices) components of the curriculum are listed by skill domain below:

Analytic Assessment Skills
1.) Defines a health problem in a population
2.) Makes relevant inferences about patterns of health and potential causes from quantitative and qualitative data

Policy Development/Program Planning Skills
3.) Collects, summarizes, and interprets information relevant to an issue
4.) Utilizes current techniques in direction analysis and health planning

Communication Skills
5.) Leads and participates in groups to address specific issues

Cultural Competency Skills
6.) Appraises the role of cultural, economic, social, and behavioral factors in determining the delivery of public health services

Community Dimensions of Practice Skills
7.) Collaborates with community partners to promote the health of the population.
8.) Identifies community assets and available resources

Basic Public Health Sciences Skills
9.) Identifies and applies basic research methods used in public health

Financial Planning and Management Skills
10.) Manages programs within budget constraints

Leadership and Systems Thinking Skills
11.) Evaluates internal and external issues that may impact delivery of essential public health services
12.) Facilitates collaboration with internal and external groups to ensure participation of key stakeholders

These indicator competencies are based on the Public Health Faculty/Agency Forum Final Report, and the work of the Council of Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice, which defined competencies in terms of the widely-accepted Ten Essential Public Health Services.