

Jefferson College of Population Health

PhD IN POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCE

The first PhD in Population Health Science in the country – led by experienced faculty researchers, scholars and policy makers.



Earn your degree from one of the largest and most innovative academic health centers in the country.

Thomas Jefferson University

We Improve Lives.

At Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University), we improve lives by redefining humanly possible and providing students with exceptional value in 21st century professional education. We are dedicated to educating our students—through interprofessional and transdisciplinary, experiential learning designed for new and emerging fields—and preparing them with the skills they need to succeed and lead now and in the future of work. We do this through integrated, innovative and forward-thinking programs across our colleges and schools in architecture, business, design, engineering, fashion & textiles, health, science and social science.

College of Population Health students have the extraordinary opportunity to expand their understanding of health care and population health through Jefferson Health, our clinical arm of Thomas Jefferson University. Our academic health center spans 14 hospitals (seven are Magnet-designated for nursing excellence), touches the lives of nearly four million patients annually, includes the NCI-designated Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, and is recognized nationally by *U.S. News & World Report* for its clinical excellence. The Jefferson Health system provides students with numerous collaborative opportunities to gain a real-world understanding of health, health care and the impact of population health management and policy.



Thomas Jefferson
University Hospital

Jefferson College of Population Health

Connecting Health and Healthcare™

We are the first college of population health established in the United States with an unwavering focus on improving population health in the United States and around the world. We train leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to transform the delivery of health services by working within and across critical stakeholder groups, including:

- healthcare providers and delivery systems
- health insurance companies and third-party payers
- drug and device manufacturers
- government and other regulators and accreditors
- technology companies
- management consulting firms
- community organizations

To accomplish this, we offer graduate programs in all key areas of population health improvement: applied health economics and outcomes research, health policy and administration, healthcare quality and safety, operational excellence, population health sciences, population health management and public health. We also publish seminal texts and academic journals that define, sustain and propel our field. We are heavily engaged with leading firms in population health through consulting, R&D and thought leadership and we host the largest industry-focused annual conference solely focused on population health improvement.

For more information about the College, visit Jefferson.edu/PopulationHealth

Program Outcomes

Our graduates are emerging leaders in research and application of Population Health Science and are able to:

- Demonstrate advanced knowledge and application of population health frameworks and concepts
- Apply knowledge of the structures, performance, quality, policy and environmental context of health care to the formulation of solutions to, and prevention of, population health problems
- Formulate population health research questions that are informed by relevant theoretical and conceptual models; systematic reviews of the literature; valid, reliable and generalizable data; and stakeholder needs
- Select appropriate study designs to address specific population health research questions
- Collect, analyze and interpret data obtained prospectively (by survey, surveillance, qualitative or mixed methods) and retrospectively (through existing public and private sources) to identify determinants of health
- Conduct and disseminate scientifically robust, ethical and responsible research through design and the implementation of research protocols with standardized procedures
- Apply appropriate design and analytic methods to clarify associations between variables and to identify causal inferences
- Communicate findings and implications of population health science research through multiple modalities to academic, professional and lay audiences

PROGRAM AUDIENCES

Students in the program come from a variety of fields and have included:

- Healthcare professionals working within healthcare settings, healthcare plans or management companies, academic organizations, community organizations and public/government entities
- Health promotion and disease prevention program specialists
- Clinical research associates and specialists
- Health information technology (HIT) professionals working in provider and payer systems
- Professionals who work in an organization involved in the delivery, administration and/or financing of health care or who are seeking to change fields within the healthcare system
- Pharmaceutical, biotechnology and device industry professionals working in outcomes research, medical communications, new product development, biostatistics, regulatory and medical science technicians and specialists



CURRICULUM

The **PhD in Population Health Science** requires completion of a minimum of 62 credits, including comprehensive examination and dissertation. In addition to a common core of 12 credit hours of methods and statistics, and 16 hours of population health fundamentals, students specialize in one of five areas:

- Population Health Intelligence
- Healthcare Quality & Safety
- Health Behavior Science
- Applied Health Economics & Outcomes Research
- Health Policy

Specialization coursework varies by track (15 credit hours)

Classes are offered as a mix of onsite, and online courses. Onsite courses are offered during the day and in the evening at Jefferson's Center City campus in Philadelphia. Online courses are offered asynchronously using best practices and interactive learning.

CORE METHODS COURSEWORK:

- Advanced Statistics
- Advanced Statistics for Population Health Sciences: Multi-Level Modeling
- Advanced Epidemiology **or** Epidemiology & Evidence for Outcomes Research (AHEOR Track)
- Evaluative & Outcomes Research & Design **or** Advanced Methods for Observational Research (AHEOR Track)

CORE POPULATION HEALTH COURSEWORK:

- U.S. Healthcare Organization & Delivery
- Essentials of Population Health
- Health Economics
- Social & Behavioral Foundations of Population Health
- Teaching & Learning Seminar
- Bioethics

“We offer a world-class educational experience. In addition to classroom learning, our PhD students engage in mentored research experiences alongside Jefferson faculty scientists. Our graduates go on to successful careers in academia and industry.”



— Marianna (Marnie) LaNoue, PhD, MS

*Associate Professor,
Program Director, PhD in Population Health Science*

“Pursuing and most recently completing my doctorate in Population Health Science with a concentration in Health Policy was like coming home. I have long recognized the value of combining knowledge learned in the classroom with experiences gained in the workplace. My experiences at the Jefferson College of Population Health have continued to shape and positively impact my career. Recently, I was promoted to a new organizational role, and I know my degree in Population Health set me apart from other well-qualified candidates.”



— John Fastenau, PhD

*Health Economics Fellow '95-'97, Health Policy Certificate '11, PhD '16
Senior Director, Patient Reported Outcomes
The Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson*

ADMISSIONS CONSIDERATIONS:

We review applications using a holistic perspective that carefully considers all available information without imposing specific minimums on any individual requirement. In general, we look for:

- An earned master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MPH) or post-baccalaureate professional degree (PharmD, JD, MD) in an appropriate field of study (graduate certificates not accepted);
- A prior GPA of approximately 3.3 or higher in undergraduate or graduate coursework;
- Competitive standardized test scores near or above the 50th percentile that are no older than five years (waiver not available for the PhD program);
- Completion of a graduate statistics course with grade of "B" or better (course can be completed at JCPH prior to full admission into the PhD program);
- An articulate application essay;
- A resume/CV that demonstrates a trajectory consistent with, or shows promise for, success in the doctoral program; and
- Recommendation letters attesting to the applicant's ability to be successful in the program.

Ultimately, we look for applicants who have a passion for the work and the ability to successfully complete the program. Please visit our website or contact us for more information.

START YOUR APPLICATION:

- Start your application online anytime at [Jefferson.edu/PopHealthPhD](https://jefferson.edu/PopHealthPhD)
- Begin classes in January or September (some availability in May)

QUESTIONS?

Email us at JCPH.Admissions@Jefferson.edu or call us toll-free at **1-888-71-APPLY** (27759)



For more information about the program, please visit [Jefferson.edu/PopHealthPhD](https://jefferson.edu/PopHealthPhD)