

**Master of Science Degree**  
**College of Human Environmental Sciences**  
**General Studies in Human Environmental Sciences**  
**Rural Community Health Area of Study**  
**Rural Community Health Scholar**

**Purpose**

This degree program specialization is designed to provide some of the tools necessary for future rural Alabama physicians and other rural health care providers to become community health leaders. It will help prepare them to lead in the development and maintenance of community health center practices and other health care practices.

**Admission**

Students must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university. Students with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0, a GPA of 3.0 in the last 60 hours of coursework, or a GPA of 3.0 in a master's degree program are not required to submit standardized test scores for admission to the MS degree program.

**Required Courses (30 hrs)**

\*HHE 500 – Rural Environmental & Occupational Health (3 hrs) (fall semester only)

\*HHE 521 – Basic Epidemiology (3 hrs) (spring semester only)

\*HHE 526 – Biostatistics (3 hrs) (fall semester only)

HHE 598 – Non-thesis Research (3 hr) (spring semester)

BSC 550 – Biochemistry/Molecular Biology I (3 hrs)

NHM 561 or NHM 562 – Advanced Nutrition (3 hrs)

\*CHS 527 – Health Policy and Planning (3 hrs) (spring semester only)

CHS 530 – Stress Management (3 hrs) (spring semester)

\*CHS 540 – Rural Community Interaction I (3 hrs) (fall semester only)

CHS 541 – Rural Community Interaction II (3 hrs) (spring semester only)

\*These courses constitute a 15-hour Certificate in Rural Community Health provided by the College of Community Health Sciences.

Based on the background of the student, some course substitutions may be allowed or additional courses may be suggested.

**Graduation Requirements (see Graduate Catalog, Section 4.8)**

Students will complete degree requirements following Plan II (without thesis). Each student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better for all graduate courses undertaken at UA. Grades below “C” are counted in computing GPA, but they do not carry credit toward a degree. At least 75 percent of the hours taken must have been completed with grades of “A” or “B” at UA.

Updated 2/28/14