

Doctoral Students

* The number of students featured in this directory does not reflect the total number of Doctoral Students in the HPEB program.



Name: Alluah, Christopher
DrPH Student,
MPH, University of South Carolina

Research Interests: HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination within health settings

Thoughts on HPEB: The HPEB program adequately prepares students for careers in public health. The program is well developed and the faculty members have vast experience in research, teaching, and practice.



Name: Anshari, Dien
DrPH Student,
M. Sc. in Social Intervention Psychology

Research Interests: Health Communication and Influenza

Thoughts on HPEB: I am happy to be here. I joined HPEB at USC because the faculty has been conducting important research in health communication. So I am learning how to make a health communication research that will protect people from preventable diseases.



Name: Beets, Violet
PhD Student,
MPH in International Health

Research Interests: Women's Health



Name: Bergeron, Caroline
DrPH Student,
M.Sc. in Communications, University of Montreal, Canada



Name: Best, Alicia

PhD, Health Communication Certificate Student

MPH, Health Education/Health Promotion, Morehouse School of Medicine

Email:

Research Interests: Impact of health perception as well as spirituality and/or faith on health behaviors and health outcomes of African American women.

Thoughts on HPEB: HPEB has provided a supportive environment in which to develop my research agenda. Challenging coursework coupled with passionate professors creates an ideal setting for me to grow as a public health researcher and practitioner.



Name: Burke, Michael

PhD Student,

MPH, Health Education, University of South Florida

Research Interests: Nutrition, Nutrition Policy, and Obesity Prevention

Thoughts on HPEB: I came to USC because the faculty in HPEB is conducting interesting and important research in nutrition, nutrition policy, and obesity prevention. I am learning how to conduct research that will help improve the health of people.



Name: Butler, Kim

DrPH Student,

MPH, Health Promotion, Education & Behavior, University of South Carolina

Research Interests: Pregnancy and STI prevention among adolescents and young adults, rural health.

Thoughts on HPEB: HPEB is a close community of students and professors that have a sincere passion for public health. Through this department, I have met professionals, professors and students that have touched and changed my life forever. I am fortunate to be apart of a program that cares about the growth and success of its students.



Name: Carter, Jarvis

**PhD Student,
MPH, (Morehouse School of Medicine); M.Ed, Educational Research (University
of South Carolina, 2011)**

Research Interests: The sexual and mental health of sexual minorities particularly among Black gay and bisexual men and the impact religion and spirituality have on these men's sexual and mental health outcomes.

Thoughts on HPEB: The HPEB department at USC prepares students to critically think and analyze various issues related to public health such as the impact social determinants of health have health outcomes for different groups. The department also provides a supportive atmosphere from the faculty and the students within the cohort.



Name: Childers, Casey

**DrPH Student,
Journalism and Mass Communications with emphasis in Health
Communications**

Research Interests: Childhood Obesity and Nutrition



Name: Dunmyer, Joni

**DrPH Student,
M.S. Biomedical Sciences, B.S. Biological Sciences**

Research Interests: Racial and ethnic health disparities related to oral health assessment and CBPR methodology



Name: Harmon, Brooke
PhD Student,
MS, Exercise Science

Research Interests: The role of churches, church leaders, and faith-based programs in reducing health disparities.



Name: Fishbein, Eliza
PhD Student,
BA in Anthropology, Minor in Cultural Geography from Arizona State University

Research Interests: Maternal Child Health in Disparate Populations



Name: Gentile, Danielle
PhD Student,
B.S. in Psychology and Health Science, State University of New York, Brockport

Research Interests: Prejudice and Health outcomes, LGBT Health, College Health

Current GA: Graduate assistant at Health Carolina



Name: Kasymova, Salima
DrPH Student,
MD, MPH

Research Interests: Men's health, international health, adolescents and their access to sexual and reproductive health services.



Name: Kershner, Sarah
DrPH Student,
MPH, Health Promotion, Education & Behavior, University of South Carolina,

Research Interests: HIV/STI and pregnancy prevention in adolescent youth.

Thoughts on HPEB: The HPEB program welcomed me with open arms and I immediately felt at home here. The program continues to challenge me and has offered me opportunities to work directly with young people and chances to network with professionals in the field



Name: Lenkard, Allison
PhD Student,
MA, Health Education



Name: Place, Jean Marie
PhD Student,
MPH, MSW

Research Interests: Maternal mental health, postpartum depression, women's health, Latino immigration studies, global health.

Thoughts on HPEB: It's a wonderful department with professors who truly want to help their students.



Name: Ranhofer, Heather
PhD Student,
MS, Biomedical Science (USC School of Medicine)

Research Interests: Health disparities, cancer, and chronic pain.

Thoughts on HPEB: I selected HPEB because I wanted to make a difference in the community. I am learning the skills to take what is known, go to the community, and do something about it.



Name: Rose, India
PhD Student,
MPH, Graduate Certificate in Health Communication, University of South Carolina

Research Interests: HIV/STI Prevention, Health Communication, Adolescent Sexual Behavior, and Health Disparities.

Thoughts on HPEB: When I think of HPEB, I am speechless. Pursuing a masters and doctoral degree in this department has been the best decision I have ever made for my academic career. HPEB faculty and staff are supportive, inspiring individuals that focus on providing practical public health experiences to HPEB students.



Name: Schoffman, Danielle
PhD Student,
BA, Human Biology, Stanford

Research Interests: Nutrition, physical activity, and obesity prevention

Current GA: Prevention Research Center, and STEPS arthritis management study



Name: Van De Griend, Kristin
DrPH Student,
MPH (Epidemiology), University of Iowa; BA (Biomedicine), University of Northern Iowa

Research Interests: Gender-based violence prevention, human trafficking, international health



Name: Weis, Megan
DrPH Student,
MPH, University of South Carolina

Research Interests: Structural Approaches to Public Health; Influences of Organizational Context; Application/Implementation of learning; Evaluation



Name: Williams, Leah
DrPH Student,
MPH, Health Behavior, University of Kentucky

Research Interests: HIV/STI Prevention and Education, Women's Health & Health Disparities.

Thoughts on HPEB: I made the decision to attend USC after speaking with several faculty and staff members in HPEB. Everyone was very helpful in addressing my questions and concerns. Since beginning the program, I continue to receive so much support and encouragement.