Health Services and Policy, Ph.D.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

• demonstrate breadth of health services research theoretical and conceptual knowledge by applying alternative models from a range of relevant disciplines;
• apply in-depth disciplinary knowledge and skills relevant to health services research;
• apply knowledge of the structures, performance, quality, policy, and environmental context of health and health care to formulate solutions for health policy problems;
• pose innovative and important health service research questions, informed by systematic reviews of the literature, stakeholder needs, and relevant theoretical and conceptual models;
• select appropriate interventional, observational, or qualitative study designs to address specific health services research questions;
• know how to collect primary health and health care data obtained by survey, qualitative, or mixed methods;
• know how to assemble secondary data from existing public and private sources;
• use conceptual models and operational measures to specify study constructs for a health services research question and develop variables that reliably and validly measure these constructs;
• implement research protocols with standardized procedures that ensure reproducibility of the science;
• use appropriate analytical methods to clarify associations between variables and to delineate causal inferences;
• ensure the ethical and responsible conduct of research in the design, implementation, and dissemination of health services research;
• work collaboratively in multidisciplinary teams;
• effectively communicate the findings and implications of health services research through multiple modalities to technical and lay audiences;
• understand the importance of collaborating with stakeholders, such as policymakers, organizations, and communities to plan, conduct, and translate health services research into policy and practice; and
• demonstrate hands-on teaching experience.