Exercise Science and Public Health Combined Degree Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Exercise Science and Public Health combined degree program. Today we’re going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the unique qualities that distinguish this combined degree program.

Let’s start by explaining to you what this program entails. GVSU undergraduate students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science may also simultaneously pursue a Master of Public Health degree at Grand Valley through this combined degree program. Students in Grand Valley’s combined degree programs are able to complete both degrees in as few as 5 years, while a traditional pathway would require 6 or more years to complete both a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree.

Growth and employability for public health is promising. There is an expected 22% growth rate between now and 2022 nationally and 12% growth rate in Michigan. Public Health professionals work in many diverse areas of health care. There are over 1,000 job titles under the MPH degree, including employment in hospitals, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, private businesses, public policy and advocacy, environmental health and research to name a few.

Grand Valley’s combined degree admission requirements include completion of the online secondary application at junior level standing, while pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language, you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a $30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

The Master of Public Health program requires a 3.0 or higher GPA, two letters of recommendation, a resume, and a two-part written essay. This program also reserves the right to request an interview or GRE score from potential candidates. More program details as well as the online application can be found on the Master of Public Health website, gvsu.edu/grad/mph.

More program details as well as the online application can also be found on the Exercise Science and Public Health combined degree website, www.gvsu.edu/combineddegrees.

The great news about Grand Valley’s graduate programs is that tuition rates do not change based on residency status. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling (616)331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The Master of Public Health program at GVSU is unique for a number of reasons. GVSU’s Public Health program is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Students have the opportunity to choose their emphasis area of Epidemiology or Health Promotion, class sizes are small, traditional and hybrid options for delivery of the curriculum, and community-based
service learning experiences are embedded throughout every course in the program. This program is conveniently located in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, on the Medical Mile, on Grand Valley’s Health Campus.

This is just a snapshot of the opportunity to pair your undergraduate degree in Exercise Science with a Master of Public Health degree at an expedited rate and reduced cost at Grand Valley State University.

Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Ranelle Brew, at brewr@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast and that you will consider applying.