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Department of Population Health Sciences  
Public Health Program

**Master of Public Health  
Graduate Recognition**

**2022**

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**Public Health Program**

Department of Population Health Sciences  
Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine  
205 Duckpond Drive  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061  
540-231-3945



# Final Presentations

## About Capstone

The Capstone is a culminating experience option for MS/MPH and PhD/MPH students where the Capstone brings a public health aspect to their disciplinary work.

For the Capstone, students integrate and apply the skills and competencies they have acquired in the classroom and through their Public Health Practice Experience to a public health problem that approximates a professional practice experience.

Students spend the semester working with their public health faculty advisor to develop their Capstone academic paper and presentation.

The Capstone project allows students to further develop knowledge and skills in foundational public health areas as well as in their chosen MPH concentration (i.e., infectious disease, public health education).

## About the Integrative Learning Experience

The Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) is the culminating experience required to complete the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree. The ILE requires students to synthesize the knowledge and skills acquired through their coursework and practical experiences through a team-based public health professional experience.

Students spend the semester working in a team of MPH students on a project that benefits an external stakeholder organization/agency. Along with their external stakeholder mentor, the team of MPH students is guided by a program faculty mentor and the ILE course instructor. Teams may also select 1-2 external consultants for specific content expertise.

As a part of the project, all students engage in technical writing, personal reflections, and team presentations. The ILE places significant emphasis on teamwork, mentorship, and leadership development. ILE projects result in team and individual written products.

The students' ILE projects showcase our program's signature areas of One Health and rural/Appalachian health. Students further develop knowledge and skills in foundational public health areas as well as in their chosen MPH concentration (i.e., infectious disease, public health education).

# Special Recognition

## Delta Omega

Delta Omega is the honorary society for studies in public health. Founded in 1924, the society currently has 108 chapters; the Gamma Mu Chapter at Virginia Tech was chartered in March 2017.

Membership in Delta Omega honors the dedication of individuals to high quality public health scholarship, as well as to the protection and advancement of the health of all people. Selection is based on academic excellence and demonstrated qualities of leadership in public health for students and faculty, and for alumni, on accomplishments that serve as a model for future graduates.

In addition to six MPH students graduating this spring, the Delta Mu chapter is inducting program faculty member, Lisa Lee; MPH alumni, Ashley Briggs, Ashley Taylor, and Mitchell Blount; honorary member, Noelle Bissell; and BSPH graduates, Lia Dopp, Sarah Dixon, Natalie Martin, Amanda Olney, Kaitlin Phelon, and Alison Toler.

## Ryan Aday Memorial Award

Ryan Aday was an excellent and highly motivated student who completed his MS Ed in Health Promotion at Virginia Tech. Shortly after graduation, he was diagnosed with cancer and succumbed to the disease. In his honor, Dr. and Mrs. David Aday created the Ryan Aday Memorial Award. Each spring, the MPH Program selects a graduating student from each concentration that has displayed excellence in academics and public health service as an award recipient.

# Special Recognition

## MPH Student Ambassadors

MPH Student Ambassadors are chosen yearly by current students, faculty/ staff, and alumni of the MPH Program. The MPH Student Ambassadors are student representatives of the program. The ambassadors coordinate many events and outreach projects/programs, and serve as a mentor to prospective and current students.

## PHA@VT Executive Board & Service Certificate

The program's student organization, the Public Health Association at Virginia Tech (PHA@VT), was formed in accordance with the University motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve) to teach others, gain experience, and improve public health across campus and the community at large. Graduating PHA@VT Executive Board members are recognized for their leadership in the organization. Additionally, graduating members that have met PHA@VT service requirements are recognized by the program for their commitment to service across campus and beyond.

# 2022 MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES

## Andrew Adrian

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Messaging strategies in minority populations- an insight into vaccine hesitancy in the Latinx community  
*Delta Omega inductee*

## Jessica Ard

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Vaccine equity outreach team/Business continuity team

## Trevor Barnes

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Messaging strategies in minority populations- an insight into vaccine hesitancy in the Latinx community  
*PHA@VT Alumni Relations Chair*  
*PHA@VT Service Certificate*

## Madi Bautista

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Messaging strategies in minority populations- an insight into vaccine hesitancy in the Latinx community  
*Ryan Aday Memorial Award*  
*PHA@VT Vice President*  
*PHA@VT Service Certificate*  
*MPH Student Ambassador*

## Renee Beirne

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Virginia Tech wage employee access and affordability of physical dental and mental health services  
*Delta Omega inductee*

# 2022 MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES

## **Nataliya Brantly**

PhD/MPH - infectious disease concentration

Capstone title: The impact of social determinants of health and health system interactions on Type 2 diabetes outcomes in Southwest Virginia

## **Myra Brooks**

DVM/MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Head, Shoulders, Foot and Mouth

## **Steve Carter**

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Vaccine equity outreach team/Business continuity team

*PHA@VT President*

*PHA@VT Service Certificate*

## **Courtney Chapman**

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Increasing personal efficacy towards mental health through public health interventions

## **Meaghan Chesley**

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Stakeholder engagement during pollution incidents

## **Oziomachukwu Chinaka**

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Tobacco control program in Martinsville, VA

## **Emily Cox**

MSND/MPH - public health education concentration

Capstone title: Implementation of a heart failure management program in a skilled nursing facility: A pilot study

# 2022 MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES

## **Kateri Drinkard**

MPH —infectious disease & public health education concentrations

ILE title: Climate risks and community vulnerabilities

## **Michelle Dwyer**

MPH —infectious disease & public health education concentrations

ILE title: Climate risks and community vulnerabilities

*Delta Omega inductee*

## **Elizabeth Fazio**

DVM/MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: USDA Aquaculture Trade Regulations

## **Sarah Frazier**

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Climate risks and community vulnerabilities

## **Kari Furrow**

MPA/MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Stakeholder engagement during pollution incidents

*PHA@VT Treasurer*

*PHA@VT Service Certificate*

## **Camelia Hahn**

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Hepatitis C community needs assessment

## **Cameron Hart**

Accelerated MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Developing and tracking interstate transfer protocols for shelter dogs

*PHA@VT Graduate Academic Chair*

# 2022 MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES

## Bethany Peyton Haynes

DVM/MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Continuity Planning and Building Resilience Beyond COVID-19

## Mikayla Hearne

Accelerated MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Developing and tracking interstate transfer protocols for shelter dogs

## Jonathan Holloway

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Increasing personal efficacy towards mental health through public health interventions

## Kirsten Kohl

MPH —infectious disease & public health education concentrations

ILE title: Climate risks and community vulnerabilities

*MPH Student Ambassador*

*Ryan Aday Memorial Award*

*Delta Omega inductee*

## Kevin Laoh

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Stakeholder engagement during pollution incidents

## Emily Maher

MA/MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Virginia Tech wage employee access and affordability of physical dental and mental health services

## Corrin Markey

DVM/MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Head, Shoulders, Foot and Mouth



# 2022 MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES

## Corwin Martin

DVM/MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Head, Shoulders, Foot and Mouth

## Isabella Moncure

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Virginia Tech wage employee access and affordability of physical dental and mental health services

*Delta Omega inductee*

## Holley Moser

Accelerated MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Tobacco control program in Martinsville, VA

*MPH Student Ambassador*

## Alexis Nuzzo

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Hepatitis C community needs assessment

*MPH Student Ambassador*

## Hannah Patton

PhD/MPH - infectious disease concentration

Capstone title: Development of a simple at-home disinfection strategy to reduce harm from roadside spring use

## Livia Richards

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Messaging strategies in minority populations- an insight into vaccine hesitancy in the Latinx community

*PHA@VT Service Certificate*

# 2022 MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES

## Charlee Schulte

Accelerated MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Developing and tracking interstate transfer protocols for shelter dogs  
*PHA@VT Social and Service Chair*

## Sara Schwarzkopf

MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: Hepatitis C community needs assessment

## Emma Todoroff\*

PhD/MPH - public health education concentration

Capstone title: An Aggregate Measure of Bicycle Commuting and Its Relationship with Heart Disease Prevalence in the US  
*Delta Omega inductee*

\*Fall 2021 graduate

## Jamie Turner

MPH - public health education concentration

ILE title: Tobacco control program in Martinsville, VA

## Brittney Waranius

DVM/MPH - infectious disease concentration

ILE title: USDA Aquaculture Trade Regulations

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF

**2022**



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PublicHealthVT

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