



May 15, 2023

Welcome to the UNC Masters Programs!

We are looking forward to welcoming you all on campus in August. This admitted students' webpage should provide the resources that you need to get started. Please review all information on the site as soon as you are able.

A couple notes:

- 1) HPM Masters Programs Orientation starts on **MONDAY, AUGUST 14th**. Orientation includes modules and trainings from the Gillings School, the UNC Graduate School as well the MHA program and team building experiences. Please note the MHA orientation schedule will include the Gillings and Graduate school events and we will provide time in the afternoons during orientation week for you to complete any Gillings online sessions from home. Attendance at orientation is expected as it provides the groundwork for successful participation in the programs and give you an opportunity to build relationships with your cohort members prior to the start of classes. Please let us know as soon as possible if you have any conflicts.
- 2) For many, some of the first semester courses may cover material already included in their undergraduate degree. If you have taken equivalent coursework, we can consider waivers of some course requirements - just get in touch with Yolonda Childs or I for details. In places where you have not had an opportunity to take coursework in a specific area, there are a few things we like to recommend.
 - a. **US Health System.** If you have not taken previous coursework in the US health system, I recommend:
 - i. *The Healing of America* (A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper and Fairer Healthcare.) by TR Reid. Getting a bit dated but still a wonderful exploration of different approaches to healthcare systems.
 - ii. *An American Sickness* by Elisabeth Rosenthal OR Dr. Rosenthal's "Paying Till It Hurts" series for the New York Times.
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/health/paying-till-ithurts.html>

- b. **Accounting (MHA).** If you have not taken previous coursework in accounting, you may want to look at a tutorial or guide over the summer. Students have reported that having some familiarity with the terminology is helpful before the course.

- c. **Statistics.** If you have not taken previous coursework in statistics, please review the memo. This tends to be the area that students are most likely to find challenging. If you do not have a robust statistics background, the best thing you could do for yourself over the summer is review basic concepts.

- d. **Teamwork (MHA mainly).** Finally, as we highlighted often in the program orientation, teamwork is an important part of the MHA experience. (MSPH students will also participate in research teams and can benefit from support in development of team leadership and membership skills.) Please find some time to read *Crucial Conversations* by Patterson, Grenny, McMilland and Switzler. (copies available for as little as \$2.50 on Amazon)

Warm regards,

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