

Pioneer New Career Paths

Professional
Certificate
Program in

Public
Health
Genetics/
Genomics

Learn how to
translate research
into practice with
experts and policy
makers in this
emerging field





Sarah Lawrence College—for three decades a leader in human genetics and health advocacy master’s-level education—offers a pioneering Public Health Genetics/Genomics (PHG) Certificate Program designed for healthcare professionals who seek career change and advancement.

A major change is taking place in the field of human genetics. The focus is shifting from rare, single-gene disorders to common complex disorders that involve multiple genes and/or gene-environment interactions. As health and illness become increasingly “geneticized” and as DNA technologies allow screening for genetic conditions to become common, interdisciplinary training at the juncture of public health and genetics/genomics is more critical than ever. Professionals trained in public health genetics/genomics will be essential to ensuring the translation of research into practice at both individual and societal levels.

The Public Health Genetics/Genomics Certificate Program features:

- Preparation for new career directions in research, clinical service and policy
- Interaction with respected faculty, national experts and policy makers who are shaping this cutting-edge field
- Weekend intensives and flexible points of entry to accommodate busy schedules
- A choice of outcomes: full certificate study, Continuing Education Units (CEUs) or credits toward master’s degree
- A Westchester County campus 30 minutes from midtown Manhattan

The PHG program is designed for health professionals, including:

- Genetic counselors
- Public health professionals
- Health and patient advocates
- Research professionals in laboratories, industry and academic medical centers
- Doctors, nurses and physician assistants
- Lawyers
- Social workers
- Graduate students in health-related fields

Overview

This innovative certificate program is organized as a series of theme-based modules that offer maximum flexibility. The curriculum features:

- A combination of didactic and case-study methods to explore concepts and applications
- An interdisciplinary approach to topics
- Faculty teams providing students with multiple perspectives on the course material
- Pertinent issues—clinical, policy, ethical, legal, social and epidemiologic—and their direct application to practice
- Controversies, challenges and differing perspectives within these fields
- Coverage of essential laws, regulations and administrative processes

Each module will include a professional development component, featuring experts who discuss career opportunities within the field. In addition, students will be required to complete a capstone project that integrates the material covered in the curriculum and connects students directly with workplace settings.

Between on-site sessions at Sarah Lawrence, students will be in frequent contact with a faculty advisor as they design, develop and carry out their capstone projects. Along with other required preparation, students will read a set of provided articles in advance of each campus session.

“We had the rare opportunity to build relationships with national experts who literally spent eight hours in class speaking freely with us about what happens at the intersection of public health, genetics/genomics and policy. The program is the perfect complement to my MPH in Health Policy.”

Participant Comment



The PHG program is designed on a “low-residency” model with the working professional in mind. The courses are offered on weekends and in short, intensive sessions that require minimal time off from work. The program accommodates multiple points of entry—participants may enter the program in September, March or June. Students completing the PHG certificate program will need to be on campus for a total of 11 days.

To earn the certificate, participants must complete all modules associated with the program. Alternatively, modules may be taken for Continuing Education Units.

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of genetics, acquired through coursework or experience. Advanced degree or equivalent experience in a related field required.

Program Modules & Dates

September

- Public Health Genomics: The Principles Underlying the Intersection of Public Health and Genetics (offered three times a year; certificate program students need take it only once)
- Implications of Screening: A. Carrier Screening B. Prenatal Screening
- Tools of Genomics for Consumers and Professionals: A. Carrier Screening—Moving Forward B. Determining Utilization of Genetics and Genomics—Federal Initiatives
- Tools for Professionals: The Role of Public Health Genetics/Genomics in Emergency Preparedness and Mass Disaster Recovery



March

- Public Health Genomics: The Principles Underlying the Intersection of Public Health and Genetics (offered three times a year; certificate program students need take it only once)
- Decision-Making and Risk Communication
- “Race,” Ethnicity and Genomics
- The Role of Genomics in Common Complex Diseases: The Meaning, Application and Limits of Knowledge

“It’s taking genetics from the individual and family to the population level.”

Participant Comment

June

- Public Health Genomics: The Principles Underlying the Intersection of Public Health and Genetics (offered three times a year; certificate program students need take it only once)
- Genetic Epidemiology: Theory and Practice
- Translation of Genomics into Public Health Practice
- Implications of Screening: Newborn Screening
- Genetic Identity and Advocacy

For details on program content for all the modules, the capstone course and application deadlines, see www.sarahlawrence.edu/PHG

Schedule may be subject to minor changes. Please check the Web site for exact dates, deadlines and schedule updates.

Program Faculty

Siobhan Dolan M.D., Harvard University. M.P.H., Columbia University. Assistant Professor, Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center. Medical epidemiologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Faculty, Human Genetics Program, Sarah Lawrence College. Medical Director, The What to Expect Foundation.

Fredericka Wolman M.D., Tufts University. M.P.H., Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health. General Pediatric Academic Fellowship, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Former Associate Medical Director, March of Dimes. Former Medical Director of Maternal and Child Health, Maine Department of Human Services.

Rachel Grob Ph.D., City University of New York. M.A., Sarah Lawrence College. B.A., Wesleyan University. Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Faculty, Health Advocacy Program, Sarah Lawrence College. Recipient of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Investigator Award, 2006-08.

Caroline Lieber M.S., Sarah Lawrence College. B.S., UC Davis. Member, National Society of Genetic Counselors and Association of Genetic Counseling Program Directors. 2006 recipient of NSGC Jane Engelberg Memorial Fellowship. Director and Faculty, the Joan H. Marks Graduate Program in Human Genetics, Sarah Lawrence College.





Sarah Lawrence College

SLC is a coeducational liberal arts and sciences college nationally renowned for its rigorous academic standards. Graduate Studies at Sarah Lawrence includes master's programs in human genetics, health advocacy, the art of teaching, child development, dance, theatre, women's history and writing. Sarah Lawrence facilitates individual student development and applied work within and between disciplines. At the heart of the enterprise is intensive work with faculty members. Through small seminars and one-on-one conferences, faculty help students draw on their life experiences, explore their interests in depth and shape their own education.

The College welcomes as students men and women who display evidence of intellectual curiosity and stamina, concern for others and the potential for personal growth. We are particularly committed to having our faculty, administration and student body reflect the social, racial and economic diversity that characterizes our society. We believe that education is enhanced by a diverse community and by the vitality of an ongoing dialogue among people with different experiences and beliefs.

“This is a real reciprocal learning experience. Students learn from each other, from faculty and from guests, and faculty and guests learn from the students. This is a small, intimate learning environment, both personal and cutting-edge. We sit around a table and discuss important issues.”

Participant Comment



Guest Speaker Cynthia A. Moore, M.D., Ph.D., Team Leader, Genomics and Population Health Research Team, Office of Genomics and Disease Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Campus

Sarah Lawrence College is located in southern Westchester County, in the communities of Yonkers and Bronxville, N.Y.—15 miles north of midtown New York City. A 30-minute train ride from the Bronxville station takes students into New York City's Grand Central Terminal.

The campus occupies 41 wooded acres. Ivy-covered Tudor-style and contemporary buildings house classrooms, faculty offices and student residence halls. Sarah Lawrence has outstanding library, performing arts, music, visual arts, science, computing and sports facilities.

Accommodations

On-campus housing is not available for students attending fall and spring sessions. A listing of area hotels and motels may be found on the Web at www.sarahlawrence.edu/accommodations. Campus housing for the June session may be available—call or see the Web site for details in the spring.



Fees

Earning a Certificate

If you are taking this program in order to earn a Public Health Genetics/Genomics certificate, the cost is \$4,500.

Earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs)*

If you are taking modules to earn CEUs, costs are as follows:

- 1-day module: \$250 plus processing
- 2-day module: \$500 plus processing
- 3-day module: \$750 plus processing
- 5 consecutive days (discount rate): \$1,000 plus processing

Please visit www.sarahlawrence.edu/PHG to download a CEU Credit Registration Form.

**Approval to grant Continuing Education Units (CEUs) is pending for the September and March modules from the American Board of Genetic Counseling. While we are currently unable to offer specific CEU credits for nurses, social workers and other professionals, you may be able to apply for such credit on your own, using the Certificate of Attendance that will be available on the days the courses are offered.*

A limited number of partial scholarships based on financial need are available. To request an application, please call (914) 395-2371 or e-mail atakano@sarahlawrence.edu.

For More Information

Please contact Dr. Rachel Grob, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, at rgrob@slc.edu or (914) 395-2371.

Learn more about Sarah Lawrence's other new certificate program in Applied Research Ethics by visiting www.sarahlawrence.edu/ARE or calling (914) 395-2371

“There is an urgent need to educate professionals who can translate genetic research into practice,” says Rachel Grob, a PHG faculty member and associate dean of graduate studies at Sarah Lawrence. “The advent of DNA technologies has vastly broadened the field from attention to genetics—the study of single genes responsible for specific diseases or medical conditions—to the much larger arena of genomics, which includes research on disorders involving multiple genes and/or gene interaction with environmental factors.”

Faculty Comment



Guest Speaker Michele Lloyd-Puryear, M.D., Ph.D., Chief, Genetic Services Branch, Division of Services for Children with Special Health Needs, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

Candidacy for Professional Certificate in Public Health Genetics/Genomics: Application for Admission

The completed application should be returned to the Office of Graduate Studies, Sarah Lawrence College,
1 Mead Way, Bronxville, NY 10708 with the \$20.00 application fee.

Name in Full: _____ Date: _____
Last / First / Middle

Email: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Home Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Permanent Mailing Address: _____
Street / City / State / Zip

Present Mailing Address: _____
Street / City / State / Zip

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____ Country of Birth: _____
Month / Day / Year

Citizenship: _____ If Not U.S., Type of Visa: _____

Please attach a current CV/resume.

Education

(Graduate & Undergraduate)

Date(s) Attended

Degree Major/Field

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Employment

(Current & Previous)

Date(s) Employed

Title/Job Description

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

How did you hear about the program?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SLC Web Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Workplace | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting/Conference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Web Search | <input type="checkbox"/> Colleague | <input type="checkbox"/> Brochure or Mailer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Association | <input type="checkbox"/> College/University | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ |

If you have been working in a field related to this certificate program, and feel it would help us to know you better, please submit a letter of reference.

Essay: In 500 words or less, please describe why you want to enroll in this certificate program. Please attach sheet with essay to this page.