

MS Program in Public Health Sciences: The 3-Semester Sequence of Student Tasks for Completion of the Discovery-Based Paper	
Summer Semester Course – Directed by Faculty Advisor	
Tasks	PHED 5338: Discovery Based Paper: Literature Review and Proposal Development (2 credit hours)
1	Review research and publication ethics, including SPH’s Principles and Guidelines for Research Collaboration and Authorship available at: https://www.unthsc.edu/school-of-public-health/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/SPH-Faculty-Authorship-Guidelines.pdf Introduction to Health Management and Policy
2	Complete EndNote training
3	Conduct a comprehensive and critical literature review
4	Identify gap or gaps in knowledge base
5	Develop study aims/hypotheses
6	Complete manuscript proposal form for co-authors, if applicable
7	Identify journals as potential venues for publication
8	Identify and/or construct data set (and secure data use agreement if necessary)
9	Create a data analysis plan
10	Develop and submit an IRB application, if needed
11	Refine study aims/hypotheses, if necessary
Fall Semester Course - Directed by Course Instructor	
Tasks	PHED 5340: Discovery Based Paper: Data Analysis and Interpretation (3 credit hours)
12	Student analyzes data using statistical software
13	Prepare first draft of Methods section
14	Revise Methods section based on feedback
15	Prepare first draft of Results section
16	Prepare first draft of tables and figures
17	Revise Results section based on feedback
18	Revise tables and figures
Spring Semester Course - Directed by Course Instructor	
Tasks	PHED 5350: Discovery Based Paper: Manuscript Preparation (3 credit hours)
19	Prepare first draft of Introduction section
20	Revise Introduction section based on feedback
21	Prepare first draft of Discussion
22	Deliver presentation of Discovery-Based Paper in PHED 5350
23	Revise Discussion section based on feedback
24	Prepare and revise References and Abstract and any other auxiliary sections of the paper
25	Prepare submission letter to editor
26	Revise entire manuscript based on feedback
Summer Semester	
27	After MS degree conferral, student submits paper to a peer-reviewed journal by June 30

Notes: In the first Fall and Spring Semesters of the MS program, the Student and Faculty Advisor should discuss the development of the Discovery Based Paper, identify potential research questions, and plan for PHED 5338 in the Summer. Faculty Advisors (and any other co-authors) will provide feedback to their student only once per manuscript section and once for the entire manuscript during the second Fall and Spring Semesters in accordance with guidance from the course instructor for PHED 5340 and 5350.