ABET-ASAC Accredited

Master of Science in Occupational Health (MSOH) Degree - Industrial Hygiene Program

The 40-semester credit MSOH degree in Industrial Hygiene degree is offered via the University of Toledo Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine. The program is accredited by the Applied Science Accreditation Council (ASAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET www.abet.org). The program also is designated as and partially funded by a CDC NIOSH Training Program Grant. Scholarships are available. A 12-semester credit Certificate in Occupational Health is also available.

What is an Industrial Hygienist/Occupational Health Specialist?

Industrial Hygiene professionals (also known as Occupational Health Specialists) understand and implement scientific, technical, regulatory, and administrative principles and practices that focus on preventing and controlling worker and community exposures to physical (e.g. noise; radiation), chemical (e.g. toxic), and biological (e.g. infectious; allergenic; intoxicating) agents and ergonomic factors that can cause them harm. The profession focuses on prevention of exposure or occurrence and mitigation of factors and agents that contribute to illness and injury to workers and other members of the community. Occupational health professionals also have the education and training applicable to preparedness for, recognition of, and response to natural disaster and intentional terrorist events.

The curriculum of the Industrial Hygiene/Occupational Health program at the University of Toledo consists of courses and research designed to prepare and qualify students for entry- and upper-level positions as Industrial Hygienists at governmental agencies, manufacturing and service industries, consulting firms, insurance agencies, health care organizations, union organizations, and academic institutions. In addition, the curriculum will benefit those intending to eventually take applicable certification examinations, such as the American Board of Industrial Hygiene CIH and/or Board of Certified Safety Professionals CSP examinations. The major objectives for the Industrial Hygiene/Occupational Health program are to graduate professionals that are prepared to:

- identify agents, factors, and stressors generated by and/or associated with defined sources, unit operations, and/or processes.
- describe qualitative and quantitative aspects of generation of agents, factors, and stressors.
- understand physiological and/or toxicological interactions of physical, chemical, biological, and ergonomic agents, factors, and/or stressors with the human body.
- assess qualitative and quantitative aspects of exposure assessment, dose-response, and risk characterization based on applicable pathways and modes of entry.
- calculate, interpret, and apply statistical and epidemiological data.
- recommend and evaluate engineering, administrative, and personal protective equipment controls and/or other interventions to reduce or eliminate hazards.
- demonstrate the importance of appropriate ethical performance and practice.
- demonstrate an understanding of applicable business and managerial practices.
- interpret and apply applicable occupational and environmental regulations.
- participate in the development and implementation of applicable industrial hygiene-related programs.
- generate, review and interpret data, whether from original research or other published sources.
- prepare scientific and technical summaries and reports.
- understand fundamental aspects of safety and environmental health.
- understand the necessity of teamwork among management, industrial hygienists, safety specialists, environmental specialists, engineers, and clinicians (i.e., physicians, nurses, applicable therapists).

Where can I find more information about the profession and the program?

- The Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine: http://www.utoledo.edu/med/pubhealth
- OSHA Industrial Hygiene: www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3143/OSHA3143.htm
- American Industrial Hygiene Association: www.aiha.org
- Apply on-line at https://gradapp.utoledo.edu
- Farhang Akbar, PhD, MSOH Program Director, Professor (farhang.akbar@utoledo.edu or 419-383-4543), Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Ave, Toledo, OH 43614