

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Master of Public Health Programme

The MPH programme provides a thorough grounding in international public health, enabling you to put principles into effect in both research and practical contexts. The individual and teamwork skills you acquire will equip you for senior positions in a variety of public, NGO and international settings.

Programme outline

The aim of our MPH programme is to provide a foundation in the science and art of international public health. The knowledge, skills and attitudes you acquire will enable you to put public health principles into effect in both research and practical contexts.

As you study, you will develop a thorough understanding of all the main disciplines of public health, providing a strong basis for a high-level career in the field. The core modules cover epidemiology and qualitative research methods, including the application of appropriate study designs, their critical appraisal and the essential principles and procedures for ethical practice; health systems and health promotion.

You can then personalise your programme to meet your own job, career and personal needs by choosing from a wide range of electives.

Programme structure

Your first module will be 9 weeks in length where you begin with a week long brief introduction to the programme, the learning platform and then continue with the module content.

Each following module is eight weeks in length. By taking one module at a time you can explore a specific subject in depth without distractions.

The four core modules must be completed prior to undertaking the electives.

A Core modules

- Health Promotion
- Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health Research
- Qualitative Methods for Public Health Research
- Management of Health systems

B Elective modules

(students choose two from each group)

Group A

- Health Impact Assessment
- Public Health Issues in Low Income Countries
- Sociology of Health & Illness
- Public Health Nutrition
- Health and Social Policy

Group B

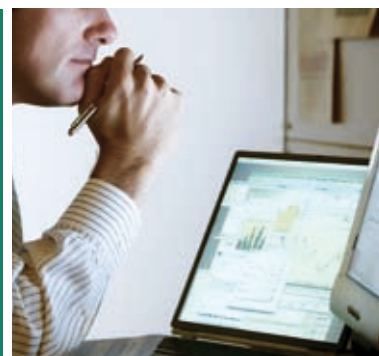
- Advanced Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health Research
- Health Protection
- Health Economics

C Dissertation

Students refine their dissertation topic in conjunction with their Personal Dissertation Advisor, an academic supervisor who will provide support throughout the writing process.

Programme duration

The programme takes on average 30 months to complete. However, since students progress at their own pace, you may choose to complete your studies in as little as 24 months or spread them over 60 months.



Module Abstracts

Core modules

Health Promotion

Aim: *To provide an understanding of the impact of communicable diseases and environmental hazards on the health of a population.*

During this module students will learn about the impact on public health of communicable diseases and environmental hazards. They will study the epidemiology of such diseases and principles of prevention and control, including their application. Students will also learn how to apply epidemiological and health protection principles to the investigation of hazards to health and how to plan for public health emergencies.

Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health Research

Aim: *To provide an understanding of the purpose of quantitative research and a thorough grounding in epidemiology and statistics.*

This module provides the context for scientific research and the skills needed to undertake epidemiological studies. Students will be able to design appropriate questions, apply statistical techniques to data and present their findings as a report.

Qualitative Methods for Public Health research

Aim: *To introduce the nature and types of qualitative methods and their uses in health research.*

This module gives students a thorough grounding in a wide range of qualitative research methods. As a result, they will be equipped to design their own robust qualitative research proposal and analyse and present the results.

Management of Health systems

Aim: *To give students a clear understanding of the development and management of health systems.*

This module explains the history of public health services around the world and their approaches to the assessment of need and the delivery of healthcare. Students will learn how to evaluate different systems and strategies and to apply management theory to health systems.

Elective Modules

(students choose two from each group)

Group A

Health Impact Assessment

Aim: *To develop an understanding of the concepts, processes and tools of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and to value its impact on policy and decision making.*

This module introduces students to HIA so that they are able critically to appraise its procedures. They will learn how to apply HIA to a case study and integrate it with other forms of impact assessment.

Public Health Issues in Low Income Countries

Aim: *To provide a broad understanding of the major public health issues, programmes and strategies in low income countries.*

Through an appreciation of history, epidemiology and the delivery of the major public health programmes and strategies in low income countries, students will gain a firm understanding of the relevant public health issues.

Sociology of Health & Illness

Aim: *To promote an understanding of the relationships between health, illness, healthcare and society.*

This module explores concepts in medical sociology and enables students to apply sociological concepts to public health problems. They will examine the social implications of illness and learn how to take into account the impact of social factors on patterns of illness.

Public Health Nutrition

Aim: *To explore the role of food and nutrition in the promotion and maintenance of public health and the prevention of diet-related disease globally.*

This module will equip students with the knowledge and skills that underpin public health and enable them to apply these to nutrition-related problems at the community, region and international levels.

Health and Social Policy

Aim: *To provide a clear understanding of different health and social policies around the world and the influences on them.*

This module examines the widely differing policies of different countries, encouraging students to appraise them critically within a global perspective. They will learn to apply current policy formulation and approaches to a specific public health issue.

Group B

Advanced Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health Research

Aim: To enable students to develop further knowledge and skills in the use of advanced epidemiological statistical techniques and methods of analysis in health research.

This module provides students with a deeper and broader understanding of quantitative research techniques. It will equip them to interpret the findings of research studies using advanced analytical skills.

Health Protection

Aim: To provide an understanding of the impact of communicable diseases and environmental hazards on the health of a population.

During this module students will learn about the impact on public health of communicable diseases and environmental hazards. They will study the epidemiology of such diseases and principles of prevention and control, including their application. Students will also learn how to apply epidemiological and health protection principles to the investigation of hazards to health and how to plan for public health emergencies.

Health Economics

Aim: To promote an understanding of the context, relevance, uses and limitations of health economics.

This module provides a foundation in health economics. It will enable students to identify, interpret and evaluate health care in the economic context, with particular attention to its application in practice.

Dissertation

Aim: To undertake a piece of original public health research to demonstrate the integration of your knowledge and skills you have acquired to date.

At the culmination of the programme students undertake an original, research project in an area of public health that applies the new knowledge and experience gained during the taught programme, including your understanding of quantitative or qualitative research methods.

