

Discipline of Public Health Medicine

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UNIVERSITY OF
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INFORMATION MATERIAL: GRADUATE PROGRAM OF PUBLIC HEALTH 2019

Public health has become a growing field in recent years. A career in public health opens the door to diverse opportunities in a variety of sectors such as government (public sector), private and non-governmental organizations. Because of their "big picture" perspective, public health experts play a key role in healthcare planning, policy development, programme implementation emergency preparedness and response with the health and social sectors.

The Discipline of Public Health Medicine vision is *"To inspire Excellence for Population Health."* The mission of the Discipline is *"To produce effective, globally recognised, locally relevant evidence-informed (based) knowledge to improve population health."*

The Graduate Programme in Public Health aims to produce health professionals who are change agents in the field of public health. The programme offers a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health and a Master of Public Health. The Discipline of Public Health Medicine is now calling for Application from Prospective students for the 2018 intake.

PLEASE NOTE

1. We have limited number of spaces for the Masters programme
2. Additional selection criteria will be applied
3. **Incomplete documentation will disqualify you**
4. No late applications will be considered
5. **Employers letter of release for contact session is required**

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

1. Application form with application fee
2. Curriculum vitae
3. All degree certificates certified
4. Academic transcripts for undergraduate and post graduate studies (PG)
 - Please note that your PG transcripts should reflect NQF level. If not, please ensure that you have specified it in your CV
5. Motivation letter
6. **Letter from employer**

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)

The Master of Public Health comprises 50% course work and 50% Research. This degree will provide students with specialized knowledge of health issues from a population perspective, allowing them to critically engage and conduct advanced research on the various aspects affecting health from a population focus.

The Master of Public Health will enable students to reflect critically on theory and its application and creatively, design and critically appraise research, make sound judgments using data and information at their disposal and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences, demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks. The MPH will serve as an entry point into the Doctorate of Philosophy in Public Health (PhD).

Purpose of the programme

To educate and train researchers who can contribute to the development of knowledge to protect, preserve and promote the health of communities and populations in a multidisciplinary manner at an advanced level such that they are prepared for advanced and specialized professional employment.

Minimum Admission Requirements: Master of Public Health

- A 4 year Bachelor degree at a honour's level in a health related or social science discipline (NQF Level 8)
- A three year degree in in a health related or social science discipline plus Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health or any Health related domain;
- A minimum of 1 year in a health program or clinical experience/research in the health or social sector (post community service).

**** Where students have a 3 year degree at NQF level 7, the honour's degree must be health related. A B.Tech degree (3 years) will not be eligible for the Master Program without an additional qualification.**

Structure of the Programme

The MPH is a part time offering via contact sessions (one week per month over two semesters). In order to obtain the MPH, the student is expected to complete 5 core modules of 16 credits each and one elective module (also 16 credits) from the student's area of interest followed by a 96 credit research project. The core modules will be offered yearly. To graduate a student needs **a total of 192 credits**. A student will be required to complete the core modules prior to taking an elective module. A 50% research dissertation will be needed to complete the requirements for MPH. A student is expected to register for 32 credits per semester for the course work during year 1. The elective will be offered only with a minimum registration of 10 students.

The MPH programme structure is as follows:

SEMESTER 1			
MODULE NAME	CORE/ELECTIVE	CREDITS	MODULE CODE
Public Health Principles and Practice (Health Promotion)	Core	16	PBHL8PP
Health Measurement Descriptive (Pre-requisite to Health Measurement Analytic)	Core	16	PBHL8J1
SEMESTER 2			
Health Measurement Analytic	Core	16	PBHL8J1
Qualitative Research Methods	Core	16	PBHL841
SEMESTER 3			
Research Methods and Bio-Ethics	CORE	16	PBHL8X1
SEMESTER 4			
Research Project/Dissertation	Core	96	PBHL899
<i>Choose One (1) Elective</i>			
ELECTIVES			
Intermediate Epidemiology	Elective	16	PBHL8E1
Health Systems & Policy	Elective	16	PBHL8HP
Health Service Management	Elective	16	PBHL8HM
Maternal And Reproductive Health	Elective	16	PBHL8HR
SEMESTER 5			
Research Project Subsequent Year	Core	96	PBHL89S

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF PUBLIC HEALTH (PGDIP)

The Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health serves to strengthen the ability of middle managers to manage various programs and strengthen the health system as a whole. The Post Graduate Diploma will train people who are cognizant of the issues of local environment and provide them with the skills to address them in a relevant manner. This program serves to equip working professionals with the critical knowledge skills to be able to engage in reflection on public health thinking and practices for e.g. Health system, Health service management and service delivery. They will also be equipped to critically analyze existing data sources to be able to engage in operational research and to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate programs.

The purpose of the programme

To enhance the capacity of people working in the health field to practice Public Health and to undertake advanced reflection and development by means of a systematic survey of current thinking, practice and research methods in order to improve the health status of the people of South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa. Graduates will be provided with a with the skill and expertise to undertake advanced reflection and apply these principles at a health system level as well as in health programmes at district, provincial and national levels and conduct and report research under supervision.

Entry Criteria: Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health:

- A minimum of 3 year Bachelor's degree in a health or social science related discipline
- A minimum of 1 year programme or clinical research or clinical experience in the health or social sector (post community service).

Structure of the Programme: Post graduate diploma in Public Health

The Post graduate Diploma will be a part time offering via contact sessions. A student requires a **total of 128 credits** - 96 core credits and 32 elective credits (there is no area of specialization). Core modules are Introduction to Public Health, Basics of Health Measurement, Human Resource Management, National Health Systems & Primary Care and Public Service Learning. Electives will be offered only with a minimum registration of 10 students. The Post Graduate Diploma can be completed over a 24 month period.

The PGDip programme structure is as follows:

SEMESTER 1			
MODULE NAME	CORE/ELECTIVE	CREDITS	MODULE CODE
Introduction To Public Health	Core	16	PBHL6PH
Basic Of Health Measurement	Core	16	PBHL6BH1
SEMESTER2			
National Health Systems & Primary Care	Core	16	PBHL6CN1
Human Resource Management	Core	16	PBHL6CM
SEMESTER 3			
Public Health Service Learning Module (I)	Core	16	PBHL6SL1
<i>Choose One (1) Or Two (2) Electives</i>			
SEMESTER 4			
Public Health Service Learning Module (II)	Core	16	PBHL6SL 1
<i>Choose One (1) Or Two (2) Electives</i>			
ELECTIVES			
Introduction To Reproductive, Maternal & Newborn Health	Elective	16	PBHL6RM1
Total Quality Management & Corporate Governance	Elective	16	PBHL6QM1
Introduction To Child & Adolescent Health	Elective	16	PBHL6CA1
Operations & Risk Management	Elective	16	PBHL6OM1
Dental Public Health	Elective	16	PBHL6DH1
Dental Public Health	Elective	16	PBHL6DH2
Public health management of information system	Elective	16	INFT662H2

Cost of Modules

The cost is subject to University price adjustments for 2019.

Duration of the degree

The curriculum for the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health will occupy a minimum of four and a maximum of six semesters of part-time tuition, whereas for the Master of Public Health, the curriculum will occupy a minimum of six and a maximum of ten semesters of part-time tuition and research. With the permission of the Board, a candidate shall be permitted to suspend registration for a maximum of one semester.

Contact people

	NAME	TEL	E-MAIL
Academic Coordinator	Dr Tsholofelo Mhlaba	031 2604513	mhlaba@ukzn.ac.za
Administration	Dineo Oliphant	0312604383	Oliphant@ukzn.ac.za

Applying for the qualifications in the Graduate Programme of Public Health

If you are eligible, and wish to apply for the PGDipPH or the MPH, please complete the UKZN Postgraduate Application form that is available on the UKZN website - www.ukzn.ac.za

NB: The applications for the 2019 academic year close on 15th October 2019.

Please take note of the following when completing the application form:

1. The application form must be completed in full
2. The following must accompany your application form:
 - a. Application fee and Application Form
 - b. Curriculum Vitae
 - c. Letter from employer, providing permission for you to obtain leave from work to attend modules
 - d. Motivation letter indicating your understanding of public health and how you will use this degree in the future and your level of computer literacy.
 - e. Academic transcript for undergraduate and any post graduate degree

NB: Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications without motivation letters and employer permission will not be accepted

Please send completed applications to

University of KwaZulu-Natal
Applications and Information Office
Shepstone Building Level 4
Howard College Campus
King George V Ave/Mazisi Kunene Rd
Glenwood, 4001
Durban

Selection process

Selection into the Graduate Programme in Public Health will be based on the entry criteria, on the letters of motivation, work experience and additional criteria that may be applied by the selection panel depending on the number of places available. The Selection Panel will review all applicants and offer you a position **either** in the Master of Public Health or Post Graduate Diploma even though you meet the minimum criteria.

Registration

Once you have received full acceptance into the programme, you will be required to register in January 2019. You will be advised of the registration dates. Registration fee is R3750, subject to change.

You will register for the qualification to which you have been admitted, and for the individual modules offered in the first semester of the programme you have been accepted into.

After you are registered you will need to obtain a valid student card, and register as a LAN user, which will give you access to the University Computer Laboratory (in which some of the teaching will occur).

You will not be allowed to attend contact sessions without being registered.

Please note that all contact sessions are mandatory.
