

# Postgraduate Study

## Master of International Public Health

### UNSW Medicine



The Master of International Public Health is recognised as a sought after qualification in international health. Coursework qualifications in international health are available in the Master of International Public Health (MIPH), Graduate Diploma (GradDip) and Graduate Certificate (GradCert).

These degrees provide the basic professional training for graduates to work internationally in health departments, with non-government organisations, and with international and bi-lateral aid agencies.

The MIPH program attracts a diverse group of students from a range of countries, disciplinary and professional practice backgrounds, and work settings. This level of diversity adds to the richness of the program through the sharing of experiences, which enables students to gain further insight and understanding of public health issues in an international, or global, health context.

### Coursework

The coursework includes the use of evidence-based, culturally appropriate and cost-effective approaches to disease control, health promotion and health services development based on real life public health interventions. There is an emphasis on policy development, monitoring and

surveillance, research and evaluation, workforce development, and program delivery that directs and supports public health action to promote, protect and maintain the health of populations.

Coursework also covers the transitions in human populations and health: the demographic transition (from high to low fertility and mortality), the epidemiological transition (from infectious disease and under-nutrition to non-communicable disease and injury), the nutrition transition (from energy and vitamin/mineral deficiencies to over-nutrition, obesity and chronic disease), and the accompanying cultural, social and economic transitions associated with development.

### Program aim

The aim of the International Public Health program is to equip students with the knowledge and competencies to contribute to disease control, health promotion, and health services development across a wide range of populations and countries. These extend from least developed and post-conflict countries, still afflicted by infection and malnutrition; through middle income countries, experiencing increases in cardiovascular disease, cancer and injuries, in addition to the persistence of a communicable and under-nutrition disease burden;

to more developed countries where the major challenges are non-communicable disease.

### Program requirements

Eight courses must be completed for the MIPH, consisting of three core courses and five elective courses.

#### Course selection

PHCM9605 International Health

PHCM9498 Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health

PHCM9012 Health Promotion & Social Perspectives of Health

Four electives consisting of three Designated International Public Health electives and two other electives

PHCM9148 Research project in International Health or one other elective

### Flexible delivery

The school provides a great deal of flexibility for students to tailor their study options according to their needs. The MIPH program can be undertaken either full-time or part-time. Courses are offered internally on campus with face-to-face teaching, or externally by distance mode using online teaching technologies. All courses offered by the School are available fully online which means the degree can be completed from anywhere in the world.



## Dual degrees

There is the opportunity to complete two Masters degrees by combining the Master of International Public Health with either a Master of Public Health, a Master of Health Management or a Master of Infectious Diseases Intelligence. Dual degrees can be completed full-time over 18 months. Dual extension degrees (which include a research project) can be completed over 2 years.

## Internships and Research Projects

Students may complete an Internship or a Research Project as part of their degree. Internships allow students to gain real-world experience while undertaking their degree. Students also have the opportunity to complete a research project with an academic supervisor in the School.

## Who should apply?

Entry requirements include a undergraduate degree in a field relevant to a public health discipline and at least two years' related work

or volunteer experience, **OR** an undergraduate degree plus an honours or postgraduate degree in a field relevant to public health or health management.

## International Public Health programs

- Master of International Public Health
- Master of International Public Health Extension with research component
- Master of International Public Health with a specialisation in Infectious Diseases Control
- Graduate Diploma
- Graduate Certificate
- Dual Degree in International Public Health combined with one of the following degrees:
  - Master of Public Health
  - Master of Health Management
  - Master of Infectious Diseases Intelligence
- Dual Degree Extension in International Public Health which includes a research project.

## PhD and research degrees

The School offers excellent research programs to public health and health service researchers aimed at beginner, intermediate and experienced levels. Options are available for research only degrees or combined coursework and research. The School also offers a unique Professional Doctorate in Public Health which incorporates workplace experience and a thesis in professional practice.

“After completing my training as a registered nurse I worked overseas with a Cambodian NGO and in the Tanzanian public hospital system. Seeing first hand the vast health inequities experienced by the communities I worked with overseas, I was encouraged to pursue further study that would give me knowledge and skills desirable for future work in similar settings. UNSW offered me the opportunity to pursue my studies in a flexible manner.

One of the key things I have learnt throughout my studies at UNSW is the value of critical analysis within the global health context. Studies of global health encompass not only disease burden and the technical skills required to respond to global health inequities in a public health context but an ability to understand and critique the political, social and economic climate that shapes global health.

My favourite aspect of the MIPH is the diversity of the student cohort. Within my class there are students from every continent around the world and from every academic and professional background. This makes for a rich experience in the classroom where discussion and the sharing of experiences and opinions is encouraged. With the knowledge and skills I am becoming equipped with through my studies I know that I will have the ability to make a difference, somewhere in the world.”

*International Public Health Student*

**For more information on our programs visit our website or contact UNSW:**

School of Public Health  
and Community Medicine  
Faculty of Medicine  
UNSW Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia

**Ask a question:**

[www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/ask-question](http://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/ask-question)

[sphcm.med.unsw.edu.au](http://sphcm.med.unsw.edu.au)

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