

Programme Information		
Programme Title	Programme Code	HECoS Code
Master of Public Health	For Registry Use Only	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
MPH	1 Calendar Year (12 months)	Full-Time	Annually in October	90	180
PG Diploma	N/A	Full-Time	N/A	60	120
PG Certificate	N/A	Full-Time	N/A	30	60

The PG Certificate/PG Diploma are intermediate awards and are not available for entry. All students must apply to and join the MPH

Ownership			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Faculty of Medicine
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	School of Public Health
Associateship	N/A	Main Location(s) of Study	St Mary's Campus

External Reference	
Relevant <a href="#">QAA Benchmark Statement(s)</a> and/or other external reference points	<a href="#">The UK Faculty of Public Health Part A</a> . This MPH has been designed to cover some but not all sections of the Faculty's Part A exam syllabus.
<a href="#">FHEQ Level</a>	Level 7 – Master's
<a href="#">EHEA Level</a>	2nd Cycle

External Accreditor(s) (if applicable)			
External Accreditor 1:	N/A		
Accreditation received:	N/A	Accreditation renewal:	N/A

Collaborative Provision			
Collaborative partner	Collaboration type	Agreement effective date	Agreement expiry date
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Specification Details
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Programme Lead	Dr Henock Taddese and Dr Anthony Laverty
Student cohorts covered by specification	2022-23 entry
Date of introduction of programme	October 22
Date of programme specification/revision	January 22

## Programme Overview

Through the Master of Public Health Programme, you will gain critical insights into the core topics in public health and epidemiology, and acquire key analytical, research and professional skills. You will study under the guidance of our faculty at the School of Public Health and our carefully selected external speakers and collaborators, who are leaders in their respective fields of public health research and practice, as well as being highly qualified and experienced educators. The Programme is designed to equip you with cutting edge knowledge and skills to enable you to fulfil your career plans in public health and epidemiology, including as public health analysts, programme managers and coordinators, policy analysts and advisors, and researchers at academic institutions through research assistantships and pursuing PhDs. You will learn as part of a highly diverse international cohort, and a creative and supportive learning environment. You will especially get the opportunity to immerse yourself in quantitative analytical skills for public health, epidemiology and health services research.

The MPH Programme is an intensive full-time programme requiring active study for a full 12 months. Your academic year will be divided into 3 terms: In term one, you will work through a set of core and compulsory modules; in term two, you will undertake a further mix of compulsory and elective modules; and in term three, you will conduct an independent research project, with close supervisory support.

### Term One

Term one focuses on developing your core analytical skills in public health and epidemiology, as well as introducing you to key foundational concepts addressing the key principles and approaches of public health.

Term one comprises four modules, as follows:

- Introduction to Statistical Thinking and Data Analysis (compulsory)
- Principles and Methods of Epidemiology (core)
- Research Methods (compulsory)
- Foundations of Public Health Practice (core)

### Term Two

For term two, you will be asked to choose a stream amongst a range of stream choices. The streams represent critical focus areas of public health work, which in turn enable you to focus and align your studies according to your career interests. Ahead of term two, the academic teams will organise presentations to discuss the key features and contents of each optional module and stream. You will then be asked to submit your choice of streams from the following list:

- Health Promotion and Service Improvement Stream (HPSI)
- Global Health Stream (GH)
- Environmental Health Stream (EH)
- Quantitative Methods Stream (QM)
- Infectious Diseases Stream (ID)
- Health Policy and Systems Stream (HPS)
- Or you could choose to simply select your choice of elective modules without any stream designation - MPH General

To qualify for a stream, you would need to undertake at least two of the modules designated under the respective streams. We continually update and add to our elective module offerings, so the availability and stream designation of particular modules may vary from year to year:

- **Health Promotion and Service Improvement (HPSI)**  
Qualifying Modules: Quality Improvement in Health Care; Population Health Improvement; Participatory Approaches in Public Health, Digital Health
- **Global Health Stream (GH)**

Qualifying Modules: Global health Challenges and Governance; Global Health Innovations; Health Systems Development; Emerging and Neglected Tropical Diseases

- **Environmental Health Stream (EH)**

Qualifying Modules: Exposure Assessment; Environmental Epidemiology; Health Impact Assessment

- **Quantitative Methods Stream (QM)**

Qualifying Modules: Advanced Statistics and Data Science; Infectious Diseases Modelling; Nutritional Epidemiology; Environmental Epidemiology

- **Infectious Diseases Stream (ID)**

Qualifying Modules: Infectious Diseases Modelling; Emerging and Neglected Tropical Diseases

- **Health Policy and Systems Stream (HPS)**

Qualifying Modules: Health Systems Development; Health Systems, Policy and Financing; Commercial Determinants of Health and Health Policy

- **MPH (General)**

Qualifying Modules: If you opt for the MPH degree in general you may choose any combination of modules without any reference to any of the stream designations outlined above

The modules designated to a stream you haven't chosen will still be available to you to select as elective modules, subject to timetabling considerations.

Beyond the stream-designated module choices (2 modules for each chosen stream) and additional electives (3 modules), you will need to undertake the Health Economics module, which is compulsory for all students on the MPH Course. In total, you will undertake 6 modules in the second term.

You will undertake the following modules at Imperial Business School:

- Health Economics
- Health Systems, Policy and Financing

### **Term Three**

During term three, you will be undertaking your research project (the dissertation).

You will select your research project from a list of project proposals offered by prospective supervisors at the start of term two. You may also propose your own research project, subject to internal academic approval, availability of appropriate supervision and meeting ethical approval requirements.

Examples of projects from previous years include:

- Barriers and enablers for male involvement in enhancing maternal health outcomes;
- A systematic review of the literature on factors related to hospital outcomes by day of admission or day of procedure;
- Systematic review and meta-analysis of circulating vitamin D in critically ill adult and paediatric patients;
- Exploring the Spread of Successful Improvement Projects;
- Exploration of testing and genetic data related to COVID-19 in the UK Biobank;
- Effects of exposure to tobacco and electronic cigarette advertisements on tobacco use ;
- Infectious disease risk assessment under a changing climate: phenological environmental suitability modelling for invertebrate disease vectors.

On completion of the project, you will be expected to produce and submit a written dissertation (9,000 – 11,000 words) for assessment. You will also be expected to present and defend your work in live-presentations (viva) to an audience including internal and external examiners. You will also prepare a lay summary of the research and a reflective statement, both of which are assessed.

During this term, you will also have the opportunity to be considered for our annual visit to WHO and other international organisation headquarters in Geneva. The visit could be organised as a physical or virtual visit, depending on circumstances, and consensus amongst the participating organisations.

You are expected to attend all timetabled sessions and any additional practical classes, tutorials and group-work meetings. The attendance requirement is full-time i.e. usual working hours from Monday - Friday for the taught components and for the research project.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this programme, you should be able to:

1. Apply the core principles and methods of bio-statistics to explore different data sets, test hypothesis and interpret findings appropriately
2. Analyse and interpret complex public health datasets using appropriate software;
3. Systematically search, engage with, and critically appraise relevant public health literature;
4. Design, carry out, interpret, and critique public health research employing epidemiological and social science research methods;
5. Characterise a wide range of infectious and environmental hazards and develop effective health protection strategies to prevent, mitigate and control risks.
6. Communicate scientific results and project plans to various audiences, orally and through academic and professional reports;
7. Use an evidence-based approach to design and evaluate public health interventions and innovations;
8. Apply health promotion and behavioural change theories, models and frameworks to inform research and public health programmes;
9. Evaluate different methods used for assessing the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of health services and interventions;
10. Critique public policy making processes and analyse health policies within the context of contemporary global governance structures and processes;
11. Argue the importance of, and adhere to, key public health principles and ethical standards in public health research and practice;
12. Collaborate effectively within interdisciplinary teams to develop innovative solutions to public health problems;

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial College degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at: [www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes)

### Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	<p>2.1 Honours degree in a science subject or MBBS degree.</p> <p>Suitable applicants are likely to be those with a background in: medicine, health sciences, biological sciences or environmental sciences.</p> <p>Applicants with substantive professional experience may be considered with grades lower than the set academic requirements, which are otherwise strict requirements.</p> <p>For further information on entry requirements, please go to <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements/pgacademic">www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements/pgacademic</a></p>
Non-academic Requirements	None
English Language Requirement	<p>Higher Requirements: IELTS 7 with a minimum of 6.5 in each element or equivalent</p> <p><a href="#">Higher requirement (PG)</a></p> <p>Please check for other <a href="#">Accepted English Qualifications</a></p>
Admissions Test/Interview	<p>Applicants may be invited to a post-application interview (Zoom/MS Teams/Skype) to further assess specific aspects deemed to be lacking from their application or need further clarification. For instance, if an applicant doesn't meet the strict academic requirements but has considerable experience they may be invited to an interview to demonstrate an exceptional background, level of experience or demonstrable drive towards public health research or action.</p>

The programme's competency standards documents can be found at: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/medicine/study/postgraduate/MPH-knowledge-based-competencies.pdf>

## Learning & Teaching Approach

You will learn through a combination of learning activities that aim to enable deeper learning and authentic explorations of key skills and experiences. To this end, the learning and teaching activities across modules are organised via a blended approach: asynchronous learning via high-spec resources completed in your own time, followed by live sessions that are mainly organised in-person but also occasionally online.

The asynchronous learning and teaching resources include:

- Pre-recorded lecture videos
- E-tivities (online exercises that students complete to demonstrate understanding of key lessons)
- Discussion prompts
- Pre-session reading notes and articles

The live sessions will take the form of:

- Lectures
- Seminars and practicals
- Small group tutorials
- Group work sessions
- Computer based practical workshops

### Overall Workload

Your overall workload consists of face-to-face sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the optional modules you choose to study, the following gives an indication of how much time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the programme. At Imperial, each [ECTS credit](#) taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is 2,250 hours per year.

Typically, you will spend in the order of 30% of your time in live sessions including lectures, practicals, tutorials and group discussions, while the rest of the time you will be expected to dedicate for independent study including pre-session readings and activities, homework, further reading and working on your assignments and research projects.

## Assessment Strategy

### Assessment Methods

You will be assessed through different forms of assessment:

- Written examinations
- Essays
- Reports and paper reviews
- Policy briefs
- MCQs and online quizzes
- Research project
- Individual and group presentations
- Video blogs
- Articles and case study reviews

Here is a rough breakdown of types of assessments over the year:

**Term 1:** 33.2% of course – students take all 4 modules each 7.5 ECTS

Assessment type	% weighting of ECTS
Practical	7.05%
Coursework	14.95
Exam	11.2
Total	33.2%

**Term 2:** 33.2 % of Course, 6 modules 5 ECTS each and 5.5% each (below are figures for 16 modules offered- students take 6 of these)

Assessment type	% weighting of ECTS
Practical	26.6
Coursework	46.47
Exam	12.58

### Term 3

#### Research Project:

Practical 33% of total ECTS

#### Academic Feedback Policy

The programme complies with the College's policy and will provide students with feedback within a timely and appropriate turnaround time. Students will be provided with a bespoke assessment schedule confirming all submission deadlines, marking periods and feedback points to manage their expectations and ensure feedback can inform the next assessment, where appropriate.

Feedback will take different forms depending on the type of assessment:

- Exams and written reports: students will be given written feedback, and given the opportunity to discuss their marks;
- Oral presentations: Some immediate feedback will be given during presentations, and full set of feedback provided once marks are published;
- Final research project: students will be given written feedback for their final project/presentation and also receive preliminary oral feedback during the presentation.

Further exchanges will also take place throughout the programme through:

- Questions during or after the lectures;
- Interaction with tutors during practicals and one-to-one sessions;
- Support and academic advice provided by the Course Organisers.

The College's Policy on Academic Feedback and guidance on issuing provisional marks to students is available at:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/)

#### Re-sit Policy

The College's Policy on Re-sits is available at: [www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/)

#### Mitigating Circumstances Policy

The College's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: [www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/)

#### Additional Programme Costs

This section should outline any additional costs relevant to this programme which are not included in students' tuition fees.

Description	Mandatory/Optional	Approximate cost
Annual visit to WHO and other international agencies, Geneva	Optional	£500 per year

**Important notice:** The Programme Specifications are the result of a large curriculum and pedagogy reform implemented by the Department and supported by the Learning and Teaching Strategy of Imperial College London. The modules, structure and assessments presented in this Programme Specification are correct at time of publication but might change as a result of student and staff feedback and the introduction of new or innovative approaches to teaching and learning. You will be consulted and notified in a timely manner of any changes to this document.

## Master of Public Health Programme Structure<sup>1</sup>

**Year 1 - FHEQ Level 7**  
 You will need to study all core modules. You will need to undertake one compulsory module in the second term. You will have a further opportunity to choose 5 elective modules in the second term. As described in the programme overview above, you could choose these to qualify for a designated stream (2 of any of the qualifying modules are required to be eligible for any given stream designation, as outlined above) or simply mix and match elective choices for a general MPH award.

Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective/ Compulsory	Group	Term	Credits
PUBH70026	Principles and Methods of Epidemiology	Core		1	7.5
TBC	Foundations of Public Health Practice	Core		1	7.5
TBC	Introduction to Statistical Thinking and Data Analysis	Compulsory		1	7.5
PUBH70059	Research Methods	Compulsory		1	7.5
PUBH70011	Health Economics	Compulsory		2	5
PUBH70045	Research Project	Core		3	30

**General Stream**  
 Choose any modules within the streams listed below totalling 25 ECTS

**Health Promotion and Service Improvement Stream (HPSI)**  
 Choose at least two electives listed below and choose any other elective modules from the programme streams to ensure you take a total of 25 ECTS worth of elective modules:

PUBH70020	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	Elective		2	5
TBC	Population Health Improvement	Elective		2	5
TBC	Participatory Approaches in Public Health	Elective		2	5
TBC	Digital Health	Elective		2	5

**Global Health Stream (GH)**  
 Choose at least two electives listed below and choose any other elective modules from the programme streams to ensure you take a total of 25 ECTS worth of elective modules:

PUBH70008	Global Health Challenges and Governance	Elective		2	5
TBC	Global Health Innovations	Elective		2	5
TBC	Health Systems Development	Elective		2	5
PUBH70038	Emerging and Neglected Tropical Diseases	Elective		2	5

**Environmental Health Stream (EH)**  
 Choose at least two electives listed below and choose any other elective modules from the programme streams to ensure you take a total of 25 ECTS worth of elective modules:

<sup>1</sup> **Core** modules are those which serve a fundamental role within the curriculum, and for which achievement of the credits for that module is essential for the achievement of the target award. Core modules must therefore be taken and passed in order to achieve that named award. **Compulsory** modules are those which are designated as necessary to be taken as part of the programme syllabus. Compulsory modules can be compensated. **Elective** modules are those which are in the same subject area as the field of study and are offered to students in order to offer an element of choice in the curriculum and from which students are able to select. Elective modules can be compensated.



PUBH70040	Exposure Assessment	Elective		2	5
PUBH70039	Environmental Epidemiology	Elective		2	5
PUBH70055	Health Impact Assessment	Elective		2	5
<b>Quantitative Methods Stream (QM)</b>					
Choose at least two electives listed below and choose any other elective modules from the programme streams to ensure you take a total of 25 ECTS worth of elective modules:					
PUBH70001	Advanced Statistics and Data Science	Elective		2	5
TBC	Infectious Disease Modelling	Elective		2	5
PUBH70057	Nutritional Epidemiology	Elective		2	5
PUBH70039	Environmental Epidemiology	Elective		2	5
<b>Infectious Diseases Stream (ID)</b>					
You will take the two compulsory modules below and choose any other elective modules from the programme streams to ensure you take a total of 15 ECTS worth of elective modules:					
TBC	Infectious Disease Modelling	Compulsory		2	5
PUBH70038	Emerging and Neglected Tropical Diseases	Compulsory		2	5
<b>Health Policy and Systems Stream (HPS)</b>					
Choose at least two electives listed below and choose any other elective modules from the programme streams to ensure you take a total of 25 ECTS worth of elective modules:					
TBC	Health Systems Development	Elective		2	5
PUBH70058	Health Systems, Policy and Financing	Elective		2	5
PUBH70036	Commercial Determinants of Health and Health Policy	Elective		2	5
Credit Total					90

### **Award and Classification for Postgraduate Students**

#### **Award of a Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert)**

To qualify for the award of a postgraduate certificate a student must have a minimum of 30 credits at Level 7 (this may include a maximum of 10 credits from Level 6 where this is approved as part of the award).

#### **Award of a Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip)**

To qualify for the award of a postgraduate diploma a student must have passed modules to the value of no fewer than 60 credits at Level 7 (this may include a maximum of 15 credits from Level 6 where this is approved as part of the award).

1. and no more than 10 credits as a Compensated Pass;

#### **Award of a Postgraduate Degree (including MRes)**

To qualify for the award of a postgraduate degree a student must have:

1. accumulated credit to the value of no fewer than 90 credits at level 7 or above of which no more than 15 credits may be from credit level 6;
2. and no more than 15 credits as a Compensated Pass;
3. met any specific requirements for an award as outlined in the approved programme specification for that award.

### **Award and Classification for Postgraduate Students**

#### **Classification of Postgraduate Taught Awards**

The College sets the class of Degree that may be awarded as follows:

1. Distinction: The student has achieved an overall weighted average of 70.00% or above across the programme.
  2. Merit: The student has achieved an overall weighted average of above 60.00% but less than 70.00%.
  3. Pass: The student has achieved an overall weighted average of 50.00% but less than 60.00%.
- a. For a Masters, students must normally achieve a distinction (70.00%) mark in the dissertation or designated final major project (as designated in the programme specification) in order to be awarded a distinction.
  - b. For a Masters, students must normally achieve a minimum of a merit (60.00%) mark in the dissertation or designated final major project (as designated in the programme specification) in order to be awarded a merit
  - c. Modules taken at level 6 as part of the programme specification for a named postgraduate award will contribute to the determination of pass, merit or distinction for any taught postgraduate award and are included in the calculation of the overall weighted average.

### **Programme Specific Regulations**

N/A

Supporting Information
The Programme Handbook is available at: <a href="https://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/study/postgraduate/masters-programmes/master-of-public-health/">https://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/study/postgraduate/masters-programmes/master-of-public-health/</a>
The Module Handbooks are available at: <b>TBA</b>
The College's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements">www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements</a>
The College's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance">www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance</a>
The College's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations">www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations</a>
Imperial College is an independent corporation whose legal status derives from a Royal Charter granted under Letters Patent in 1907. In 2007 a Supplemental Charter and Statutes was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. This Supplemental Charter, which came into force on the date of the College's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established the College as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine". <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters/">www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters/</a>
Imperial College London is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS) <a href="http://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/">www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/</a>
This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is primarily intended as a reference point for prospective and current students, academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement, for its assessment by internal and external examiners, and in subsequent monitoring and review.

Modifications			
Description	Approved	Date	Paper Reference
Curriculum Review	Programmes Committee	29/03/22	PC.2021.87