Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Institute of Health		
Course Code(s):	HL002P35UD	Part-time Distance Learning	2 Years
Course Title:	Master of Public Health by Distance Learning		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Public Health Public Health Postgraduate Diploma Public Health Postgraduate Certificate Public Health University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	26/May/2017		
Last Review:	2014/5		
Course Specification valid from:	2012/3		
Course Specification valid to:	2020/1		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Jennifer Nw Lim
Head of Department:	Mr Ranjit Khutan Prabjot Sahota

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

One or more of the following:

• You must have a first or upper second-class Honours degree (i.e. 2.1 or above) within a health-related field or equivalent - e.g. medicine, dentistry, nursing/health visiting, environmental health, occupational health, pharmacy, or any other degree deemed appropriate by the award team

• Any 'non-standard' qualification judged by the award team to be equivalent of the above (e.g. a relevant professional qualification or public health-related experience) would warrant admission to the Postgraduate Certificate programme, successful completion of which will enable transfer to the Masters Award - the same conditions will apply to candidates offering a non-Honours degree

• In exceptional circumstances, and after a satisfactory interview with the award leader and/or course team, we would accept a minimum of three years experience at a senior level in a public health or related field.

International students will also require an IELT score minimum of 6.5

APL is at the discretion of the Course Team.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This programme has an established reputation for producing accomplished and highly marketable graduates in public health. The positive feedback we receive from our successful students demonstrates the value of completing the MPH at the University of Wolverhampton. Many of these graduates have achieved excellent jobs within public health and are working in powerful organisations such as WHO and the UN where they feel they can really make a difference to public health with the skills they have acquired from the programme.

We also have strong links with our research department (Centre for Health Improvement and Social Care) and have plans for students to undertake supervised placements within the department in order to engage with specific research projects, thus giving them invaluable research experience.

This programme is distinctive in that it promotes the social perspective of public health, an area that is currently being emphasised in national public health policy. However it also has a focused epidemiological and statistical foundation and this integration of the biomedical with social perspectives is considered to provide a more balanced approach to the complexities of dealing with public health.

The programme has a strong international focus and this global perspective is considered to be of value to both UK and international students.

The MPH has developed cohesive links with local PCT Public Health Departments. There are opportunities for students to meet public health professionals who are invited in as guest speakers. There are also strong links with voluntary public health agencies who are willing to meet with students and will offer voluntary placements. In this respect, students who are not familiar with the local area can be signposted to appropriate work experience that will serve to enhance their studies and improve their career prospects. To encourage

community and work based links the award will promote a student based conference at the end of each academic year that will showcase students achievements. All public health stakeholders and the voluntary sector will be invited to this event.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The educational aims of this course have been informed by the Public health skills and career framework 2008 and by the UK Faculty of Public Health:

The course therefore aims to equip the student with the skills to:

Conduct a surveillance and assessment of population health and well-being within an international context

Assess best evidence in health care interventions

Review policy and strategic developments and implementation

Develop strategic leadership and collaborative working

Develop public health intelligence within a national and international context

Facilitate health improvement and health protection strategies to ensure Public health and social care quality.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2022/3	H	Part Time	£3998.00
2022/3	Overseas	Part Time	£3998.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

Continuing students will follow the programme indicated below:

September (Part-time Distance Learning)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7HW145	Public Health, Epidemiology and Statistics	20	SEM1	Core
7HW136	Strategic management and leadership in Health	20	SEM2	Core
7HW139	Research Dissertation in Health	60	CRYRA	Core
7HW142	Assessing the Health Needs of Populations	20	SEM2	Core

Continuing students will follow the programme indicated below:

September (Part-time Distance Learning)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7HW081	Health Protection and Health Improvement (Distance Learning)	20	SEM1	Core
7HW136	Strategic management and leadership in Health	20	SEM2	Core
7HW082	Research Dissertation (Distance Learning)	60	CRYRA	Core
7HW011	Assessing the Health Needs of Populations	20	SEM3	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Reference Points:

Key reference points include:

QAA Master's Degree Characteristics March 2010

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/masters/default.asp

Statement of common purpose for subject benchmark statements for the health and social care professions 2006

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/health/StatementofCommonPurpose06.pdf

The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ) (second edition revised August 2008)

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/FHEQ/EWNI08/FHEQ08.pdf

University of Wolverhampton equality and diversity action plan (2011)

University of Wolverhampton student voice (2011)

University of Wolverhampton learning and teaching and assessment strategy (2012-2017)

University of Wolverhampton general examination and assessment regulations (2010-2011)

University of Wolverhampton postgraduate academic regulations (2011).

Faculty of Public Health

http://www.fph.org.uk/professional_standards

Public health skills and career framework

http://www.phorcast.org.uk/page.php?page_id=44

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGCERT01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.	
PGCERT02 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.	
PGCERT03 Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.	
PGCERT04 Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	
PGCERT05 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	
PGCERT06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations. - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.	
PGDIP01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.	
PGDIP02 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge	

Learning Outcomes	Modules

PGDIP03 Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

PGDIP04 Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGDIP05 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

PGDIP06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations. - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Your learning will include the study of six modules a year (full time students). The learning activities which will support you in the achievement of the learning outcomes are wide and varied. Throughout the programme these learning activities will enable you to achieve our graduate attributes of digital literacy and global citizenship. Additionally you will become knowledgeable and enterprising in your chosen field. The types of learning experiences which will help you achieve this include:

Online Learning Units You will experience a variety of learning unit formats. Both teacher and student centred learning is encouraged. Within the Learning unit time will be provided where you are encouraged to be interactive with lecturers to aid clarification and extension of your knowledge and understanding. All learning material will be supported by digital technology to enhance learning, and will be made available for you to access independently throughout a module on CANVAS our virtual learning environment.

Debate and dialogue: The University's virtual learning environment, CANVAS provides a forum for you and your colleagues to engage in dialogue with each other as well as with academic staff.
Formative on-line assessments: Here opportunities will be provided for you to 'have a go' at some summative assessment tasks before the actual (graded) assessment is submitted. This will develop your academic and practical skills through tutorial guidance and feedback.

Peer presentations: You will be required to study some aspects of specific modules independently and feedback your findings to the wider group, which allows you to further develop your academic skills and understanding.
Independent and self-directed learning: These are essential aspects of 'reading for a degree'. Academics responsible for module delivery will ensure essential reading material is made known to you e.g. articles, chapters in books, whole books, policies and web based material. In each module there will be a degree of freedom for you to explore topics of your own choice in the context of the module specific learning outcomes. To achieve this you will be encouraged to seek out and review material additional to that recommended by module leaders to support your academic development in relation to the subject specific outcomes e.g.: topic specific articles, web sites or books.

Tutorials: Telephone based tutorial meetings with Module Leaders, the Award Leader and your Personal Tutor aim to tailor academic advice to meet your individual needs. By developing your own Personal Development Plan (PDP) you can get the most out of your higher education learning journey, and beyond, for example when pursuing employment or further HE courses.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes) Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation) Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

The University provides a range of resources to support students directly with their learning as well as other areas of their life. These resources are all signposted through the University web pages and include;

Study Support

Academic skills support is available to all students throughout all levels of study, via the school and learning centres. Academic skills sessions are introduced within the induction programme, different modules and through a blended learning approach with access to material in VLE. This is designed to help you to use the learning resources effectively and also to help you when it comes to completing assessments. Academic skill development is further embedded within the curriculum at different levels; module lecturers, personal teachers and particularly the Award Leader will monitor your progress on the course and will encourage you to understand the grade you are awarded for a piece of assessed work, where necessary academic staff will encourage you to act on written feedback when your assessed work is returned to you.

- Some useful resources are signposted through the Sharpen up your Skills web pages at www.wlv.ac.uk/skills.
- Learning Information Services advisors offer individual support across our four campus learning centres.
- ASSIST – which provides real-time online librarian support

Personal support

- The Careers and Employment Services team offering support in finding a part-time job whilst studying and help in preparing for work after study.
- Counselling offering a confidential space in which you can talk to a counsellor about your concerns. Personal appointments are available on all campuses; there is a drop-in service every weekday at City Campus and on online counselling is available via VLE.
- The student financial support unit can help students with advice on funds available to students.
- The student enabling service centre provides a comprehensive range of support for Deaf, Dyslexic and Disabled students including; screenings and assessments, guidance on gaining financial support, various support services and enabling technologies.

Examples of other support services available include:

- Online resources for each module will be readily available through VLE
- Tutorial support both online and face to face
- Dedicated award team
- The development of a "Buddy" system for late international starters
- Student centred support for English conversational skills (aimed to support international students and provided through the Student Union
- Assessment of key study skills will be an integral component of each summative assessment in each module
- On line activities to promote study skills providing links to various sources of study support

- Postgraduate monthly research seminars

Employability in the Curriculum:

Successful MPH students are attractive to both the NHS, Local authorities and the voluntary sector as potential employees. Career opportunities range from academic roles within public health, roles within health promotion, health statistics and epidemiology, Clinical Governance, Public health research and development. Students may also wish to pursue doctoral study.

Recently qualified students have progressed into Public Health departments within the UK and international students have secured roles within international organisations such as WHO and the UN.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OPPORTUNITY