



Postgraduate Programme Specification

Session	2024/25	Last Modified	
Named Award Title	MPH Master of Public Health / (Prof Practice)		
Award Title for Each Award	MPH Master of Public Health / (Prof Practice) PG Dip of Public Health / (Prof Practice) PG Cert of Public Health / (Prof Practice)		
Date of Approval	March 2019		
Details of Cohort Applies to	September 2019		
Awarding Institution	University of the West of Scotland	Teaching Institution(s)	University of the West of Scotland
Language of Instruction & Examination	English		
Award Accredited by	N/A		
Maximum Period of Registration			
Duration of Study			
Full-time	1 year	Part-time	2 years
Placement (compulsory)	N/A		
Mode of Study	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full-time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part-time		
Campus	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr <input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lanarkshire <input type="checkbox"/> London <input type="checkbox"/> Paisley	<input type="checkbox"/> Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)
School	Health and Life Sciences		
Divisional Programme Board	Biological Sciences Health		
Programme Leader	J Tobias		

Admissions Criteria

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

Appropriate Undergraduate Qualifications:

Applicants will typically possess a degree or equivalent. In the absence of a degree, where entry requirements do not conform to the general entry requirements, other evidence can be considered on an individual basis in line with Regulations 2.13 – 2.36 (Recognition of Prior Learning – RPL / Recognition of Credit).

Degree, minimum 2nd Class

Other Required Qualifications/Experience

Recognised Prior Learning equivalent to PG Dip level could allow direct entry into Masters Programme. CPD can be offered for any module.

Further desirable skills pre-application

In the case of a candidate whose native language is other than English, a Qualification Minimum Requirement applies. Details are available on UWS web site: www.uws.ac.uk. Information on other English language test scores is available from Admissions

General Overview

General Overview

The importance and focus of Public Health is ever increasing. In the UK there is the financial burden of an unhealthy population on the NHS and local authorities; globally, there is a divide between wealthy and poorer nations and in war-stricken countries. Together with that, the exponential increase in travel to tropical locations, where certain infectious diseases are endemic, and the threat of the emergence of antimicrobial resistance have put the subject of Public Health into the spotlight. The programme will adhere closely to the Faculty of Public Health in the UK as well as its devolved health protection departments.

This programme offers a flexible, reflective and resourceful environment for both established and aspiring Public Health Professionals. For the established Professional, it provides a focus point to specialise in a subject area within the public health remit that is ever-growing, and offers excellent perspectives for bespoke demand, such as training in a specific subject, if a particular position of employment demands it. Whereas, for the aspiring Public Health Professional, it offers a holistic approach to a broad subject with the opportunity to focus into research areas of interest. This programme will be attractive to International students with a bespoke module on infectious disease control, including tropical parasitic infections and training on the emergence of antimicrobial resistance. This programme will seek accreditation (or equivalent) from relevant professional bodies: Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation (APHEA) http://aphea.net/Pages/A4.INSTITUTIONS/Accredited_Institutions.html ; The Faculty of Public Health (FPH) <https://www.fph.org.uk/> ; The Royal Society for Public Health <http://www.rsph.org.uk> .

This Masters programme is an excellent opportunity for both Public Health professionals and UWS students to engage in training and development in our academic environment. This programme also fits perfectly into the ethos and learning environment of the new School of Health and Life Sciences as it blends expertise from all parts of the School (Health, Biology, Exercise Health), including the BSc in Environmental Health, accredited by the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS) <https://www.rehis.com/>. Additionally, the EU- wide Field Epidemiology Training offers support for the training of future public health experts in the UK (FETP) <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/field-epidemiology-training-programme-fetp>. While competitors may offer a Masters degree in Public Health, the programme at UWS is more adapted to flexible learning, which will suit students already in employment.

An optional work based learning module, Professional Practice, will be available to students who wish to undertake this element. The module is 60 credits and will extend the total credit

value of the Master of Public Health degree to 240. To allow for flexibility in start dates this option can be undertaken at different points in the programme. Placements will be operated within the context of the University Code of Practice for staff and students. Note: This module is offered subject to a selection process and availability of appropriate placement opportunities which cannot be guaranteed.

UWS has an excellent portfolio in health-related research across several different areas from biomedical science (parasitology, microbiology, cardiovascular disease, autoimmunity, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary disease (COPD), haematology, maternal-foetal health) to care in the community (Home-Life care, Alzheimer's care, infection control) to physiology, health and wellbeing (benefits of physical activity on particular populations). This provides a rich platform for students to engage with a wide variety of Public Health issues with expert knowledge at hand. Students will benefit from a comprehensive breadth of expertise and state of the art learning environments at the UWS Lanarkshire campus.

This programme at UWS offers a unique perspective to students as it differs from other more social science- focused Masters in Public Health degrees as it combines the bioscience, health and social science perspectives.

Typical Delivery Method

Face to Face on campus

Any additional costs

Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

This Master of Public Health programme is designed specifically to enhance employability of graduates in the fields of Public Health and Allied Health Professions and to facilitate students to progress their studies to a PhD programme if desired. Students will be exposed to multiple teaching sessions delivered by potential employers from industry, research active staff who are currently supervising doctoral students, and PhD candidates.

Typical job destinations are in several fields:

- Global health: Tropical Disease Specialist, Reproductive Health Specialist, HIV/AIDS Educator, Refugee Coordinator, Geographer.
- Health education and research: Epidemiologists, Management Policy Advisor, Health Education Specialist, NGO Director, Health Commissioner. Lecturer and associate researcher posts
- Maternal and child health: Childbirth Health Educator, Child Health Specialist, Nutrition Specialist.
- Social and behavioural: Community Activist, Correctional Medicine Physician, Homeless Services Educator, and Community Counsellor.
- Health policy: Health Services Manager, Government Policy Analyst.
- Environmental health: Environmental Scientist.

In current vacancies, many employers do not specifically ask for a Masters degree but expect an Honours degree and the titles of the jobs indicated a good underpinning knowledge is required. Most employers in this field look for degrees in a 'relevant field'. This includes the typical employers: health agencies and charities, local and global. A Master of Public Health degree is attractive as it ensures the employer that a candidate has specialist knowledge of the subject and this degree offers the opportunity to develop skills in multiple disciplines.

At UWS, we recognise the diversity of our student body in their varying educational experiences, cultures and backgrounds. Our aim is to provide students at UWS with the opportunity to develop academically, professionally and personally; to broaden their ambitions, extend their attitudes, and challenge their assumptions, unlocking their potential to succeed in their studies and futures beyond.

The 'I AM UWS' graduate attributes have been developed to reflect that vision where UWS graduates are work-ready and able to successfully contribute both locally and globally (universal). As part of the programme design and development, the graduate attributes are aligned with all aspects of module and programme delivery.

Work Based Learning/Placement Details

An optional work based learning module, Professional Practice, may be available to students who wish to undertake this element. The module is 60 credits and would extend the total credit value of the Master of Public Health degree to 240. To allow for flexibility in start dates this option might be undertaken at different points in the programme. Placements would be operated within the context of the University Code of Practice for staff and students. This module is offered subject to a selection process and availability of appropriate placement opportunities which cannot be guaranteed.

Attendance and Engagement

In line with the [Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure](#), Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this programme, academic engagement equates to the following:

Attendance at synchronous sessions: lectures, workshops, and tutorials, completion of asynchronous activities, and submission of assessments to meet the learning outcomes of the module

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards ([Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework](#))

Learning Outcomes

SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert)	
Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate critical understanding of current knowledge and challenges in selected aspects of public health.
A2	Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of selected techniques applicable to research in public health.
A3	
A4	
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Be able to use a range of online data collection facilities from relevant databases relevant to the public health.
B2	Be able to critically evaluate relevant case studies taking account of current health and ethical issues.
B3	Be able to evaluate approaches to current issues in public health.
B4	
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Be able to interpret and evaluate a range of data from issues in public health.
C2	Be able to communicate information effectively to different audiences using a range of appropriate methods.
C3	
C4	
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Be able to plan and evaluate work relating to selected areas of public health
D2	Be able to prepare written reports that evaluate some aspects of public health research.
D3	Demonstrate an understanding of a complex issue and develop a creative and sensible solution to a specified public health problem.
D4	
D5	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Demonstrate self- direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and act autonomously in planning and executing tasks.

E2	Be able to contribute effectively to the functioning of a group and reflect on the learning experience
E3	
E4	
E5	

Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	MIDW11030	Responding to Public Health Challenges	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	BIOL11030	Epidemiology	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
11	NURS11124	Global Health Economics & Health Systems	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11028	Health and Lifestyle	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11005	Masters Research Project	60	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11022	Principles of Infection and Disease Control	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11027	Professional Practice (HLS)	60	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11007	Research Design	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11023	Statistical Methods for Public Health	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
11	BIOL11029	Women's Mental Health	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Footnotes for Option Modules							
1. Either Epidemiology OR Statistical Methods for Public Health can be selected							

Level 11- Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert)**Criteria for Award**

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

For the exit award of Postgraduate Certificate of Public Health, the core module plus 40 credits from the option modules (excluding the Professional Practice (HLS) module) at SCQF level 11 must be achieved.

The award of Postgraduate Certificate of Public Health (Professional Practice) will be made on completion of the required credit for the award plus the additional 60 credits from the optional Professional Practice (HLS) module. Note that this module is offered subject to a selection process and the availability of suitable placement opportunities and cannot be guaranteed.

SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate critical understanding of current knowledge and major challenges in public health.
A2	Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of a range of techniques applicable to research in public health.
A3	Show a critical awareness of the methodologies required to evaluate and develop research proposals at the forefront of public health.
A4	
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Be able to identify a significant range of specialised skills and techniques relevant to the development of effective public health methodology.
B2	Be able to design and/or execute a program of work taking full account of health, safety and ethical issues.
B3	Be able to use a range of practices and techniques to assess the viability of public health methodologies.
B4	
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Be able to use appropriate information technology and numerical methods to the recovery, analysis and reporting of data relating to public health methodologies.
C2	Be able to communicate information effectively to different audiences using a range of appropriate methods
C3	
C4	
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Be able to prepare reports that demonstrate working knowledge of public health theory and practice
D2	Show ability to develop and implement creative solutions to practical problems.
D3	Be able to analyse and critically evaluate scientific literature and experimental data from biotechnology-based studies.
D4	
D5	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Demonstrate self- direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and act autonomously in planning and executing tasks.
E2	Be able to contribute effectively to the functioning of a group and reflect on the learning experience.

E3	Demonstrate the ability to work in a professional manner and be able to make informed judgements relating to professional and ethical issues.
E4	
E5	

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	MIDW11030	Responding to Public Health Challenges	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	BIOL11030	Epidemiology	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
11	NURS11124	Global Health Economics & Health Systems	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11029	Health and Lifestyle	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	NURS11129	Introduction to eHealth	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11005	Masters Research Project	60	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11022	Principles of Infection and Disease Control	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11007	Research Design	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11023	Statistical Methods for Public Health	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
11	BIOL11029	Women's Mental Health	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11027	Professional Practice (HLS)	60	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Footnotes for Option Modules							
1. Either Epidemiology OR Statistical Methods for Public Health can be selected							

Level 11- Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip)

Criteria for Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

For the exit award of Postgraduate Diploma of Public Health, the 20 credit core module MIDW11030 Responding to Public Health Challenges plus 100 credits from the optional modules (excluding the Professional Practice (HLS) module) at SCQF level 11 must be achieved.

The award of Postgraduate Diploma of Public Health (Professional Practice) will be made on completion of the required credit for the award plus the additional 60 credits from the optional Professional Practice (HLS) module. Note that this module is offered subject to a selection process and the availability of suitable placement opportunities and cannot be guaranteed.

SCQF LEVEL 11 – Masters	
Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate critical understanding of current knowledge and challenges in the Public Health sector
A2	Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of a range of techniques applicable to research in Public Health locally, internationally and globally.
A3	Show a critical awareness of a selection of statistical techniques used to analyse research data.
A4	Show a critical awareness of the methodologies required to evaluate and develop research proposals at the forefront of Public Health.
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Be able to critically review current literature and use information from the literature to inform a research dissertation.
B2	Apply a range of advanced theoretical approaches to inform the theory and practice of Public Health
B3	
B4	
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Utilise a range of routine and specialist techniques to analyse and present research data.
C2	Utilising competent writing skills to convey convincingly the outcomes of independent research to experts and peers.
C3	
C4	
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Critically analyse, synthesise and evaluate issues of Public Health locally, internationally and globally
D2	Show ability to develop and implement creative solutions to practical problems within the field of Public Health.
D3	
D4	
D5	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Demonstrate self- direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and act autonomously in planning and executing tasks.
E2	Be able to contribute effectively to the functioning of a group and reflect on the learning experience

E3	Demonstrate the ability to work in a professional manner and be able to make informed judgements relating to professional and ethical issues.
E4	
E5	

Masters Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	BIOL11005	Masters Research Project	60	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11007	Research Design	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
11	MIDW11030	Responding to Public Health Challenges	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Footnotes for Core Modules

- BIOL11007 Research Design is a prerequisite for BIOL11005 MSc Research Project

Masters Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	BIOL11030	Epidemiology	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
11	NURS11124	Global Health Economics & Health Systems	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11028	Health and Lifestyle	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	NURS11129	Introduction to eHealth	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11022	Principles of Infection and Disease Control	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11027	Professional Practice (HLS)	60	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11007	Research Design	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	BIOL11023	Statistical Methods for Public Health	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
11	BIOL11029	Women's Mental Health	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Footnotes for Option Modules

- Either Epidemiology OR Statistical Methods for Public Health can be selected

Level 11- Masters**Criteria for Award**

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

To qualify for the award of Master of Public Health, students must complete the core modules, and achieve 180 credits from the optional modules (excluding the Professional Practice (HLS) module) at SCQF level 11.

The award of Master of Public Health (Professional Practice) will be made on completion of the required credit for the award (180 credits) plus the additional 60 credits from the optional Professional Practice (HLS) module. [Note that this module is offered subject to a selection process and availability of suitable placement opportunities and cannot be guaranteed].

Regulations of Assessment

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the [University Regulatory Framework](#).

An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.

To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.

Combined Studies

There may be instances where a student has been unsuccessful in meeting the award criteria for the named award and for other more generic named awards existing within the School.

Provided that they have met the credit requirements in line with the SCQF credit minima (please see Regulation 1.21), they will be eligible for a Combined Studies award (please see Regulation 1.61).

For students studying at Level 11, they will normally be eligible for an exit award of PgCert / PgDip / Masters in Combined Studies.

Version no: 1

Change/Version Control

What	When	Who

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