

Never Stand Still

Medicine

School of Public Health and Community Medicine



About the Master of International Public Health

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), Diploma (GradDip) and 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.

They equip students with the knowledge and competencies to contribute to disease control and health promotion 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, although threats from infectious disease persist - such as in Russia and countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The coursework 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.

The International coursework offered by the School includes: epidemiological and demographic analysis; disease control and health promotion; health systems and policy; and sociology and economics. This reflects a multi-disciplinary approach to international health that integrates the physical environment with the biology of disease and human behaviour with its socio-economic and cultural determinants.

Program aim

The aim of the Master of International Public Health is to combine: 1) A human ecology perspective of health and disease and expertise in relevant investigative methods, with 2) evidence-based, culturally appropriate and cost-effective approaches to disease control, health promotion and health services development based on real life public health interventions, and which emphasises 3) development of infrastructure for 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.

Mode of delivery

The MIPH program can be taken either full-time or part-time. Courses are offered internally on campus with face-to-face teaching, or externally by

distance mode using a combination of intensive workshops and online teaching. In some instances face-to-face courses also include a workshop and online component. For most workshops students must attend a residential school held on campus one week before each semester starts.

Program requirements

Eight courses must be completed, consisting of three core courses and five elective courses for a total of 48 Units of Credit (UOC). For more information about the program see: www.sphcm.med.unsw.edu.au/SPHCMWeb.nsf/page/IPH

Combined Degrees

There is also the opportunity to undertake combined degrees in International Public Health with Health Management or Public Health which can be completed full-time over 18 months.

MIPH Directors

Professor Richard Taylor
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Director, Human Resources for Health (HRH) Knowledge Hub

A/Professor Heather Worth
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Postgraduate Research Coordinator
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