

Global Master of Public Health (Online)

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 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.

Programme Information	
Programme Title	Global Master of Public Health (Online) Global Postgraduate Diploma of Public Health (Online) Global Postgraduate Certificate of Public Health (Online)
Award(s)	Master of Public Health Postgraduate Diploma of Public Health Postgraduate Certificate of Public Health
Programme Code(s)	A3BHN.1 (2-year Masters) A3BHNC.2 (PG Certificate) A3BHND.1 (PG Diploma) A3BHO.1 (3-year Masters)
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London
Faculty	Faculty of Medicine
Department	School of Public Health
Mode and Period of Study	<p>All fully online:</p> <p>PG Cert: Part-time – 1 year (12 months) – Direct entry PG Dip: Part-time – 2 years (24 months) – Progression only. GMPH: Part-time – 2 years (24 months) – Direct entry GMPH: Part-time - 3 years (36 months) – Direct entry.</p> <p>Direct entry is available to those listed above except the PG Dip award which is not a standalone award available for direct entry and students need to enrol on the PG Cert first and progress to the PG Dip. Students can then continue on to the Masters in Year 3.</p>
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in September

Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points	N/A			
Total Credits	Masters ECTS:	90	CATS:	180
	PG Dip ECTS:	60		120
	PG Cert ECTS:	30		60
FHEQ Level	Level 7 - Master's			
EHEA Level	2 nd cycle			
Specification Details				
Student cohorts covered by specification	2021-22			
Person Responsible for the specification	Anna Szajda a.szajda@imperial.ac.uk			
Date of introduction of programme	September 2019			
Date of programme specification/revision	September 2021			

Programme Overview
<p>The School of Public Health at Imperial College aims to achieve better health in the population through strengthening the public health science base, training the next generation of public health leaders and influencing health policies and programmes around the world.</p> <p>To this end the Global Master of Public Health aims to provide a comprehensive grounding in public health for students who wish to pursue or advance careers in public health practice, management and/or research at local, national and/or international levels.</p> <p>This online and part-time degree offers cutting-edge knowledge and skills based on the principles and methods of public health within a creative and supportive, fully-online learning environment. The programme has a special focus on the development of quantitative analytical skills for public health, epidemiology and health services research.</p> <p>Programme structure options:</p> <p>The Global Master of Public Health is a fully online part-time postgraduate programme. The Masters level programmes are delivered and structured over either two-years or three years, with three terms per academic year.</p> <p>You can enrol on different pathway options dependent on your ability to commit to the learning required per pathway. All pathways are part-time but require different levels of commitment in terms of study/learning hours.</p>

The pathways available are as follows:

Masters – 2 year pathway:

- the 2-year Masters programme as a standalone pathway, requiring you to study three specialisations per term (approx. 16-24 hours study time per week over 2 years). You would enrol directly on the Masters 2 year pathway.
- the 3-year Masters programme as a standalone pathway, requiring you to study two specialisations per term (approx. 12-18 hours per week over 3 years). You would study the same specialisations and programme content as the 2 year programme, but instead spread out over 3 years. You can enroll directly on the Masters 3 year pathway, or follow the progression route below and first enroll on the PG Cert programme. You would study the same specialisations over the 3 years if you successfully progressed through each award.
- the PG Certificate programme as a standalone pathway, requiring you to study two specialisations per term (approx. 12-18 hours per week over 3 years) for 1 year only. The specific specialisations are captured in the pathway diagram appended/available on the webpages. You can leave after 1 year with the PG Certificate as a standalone award or you can progress on to the PG Diploma for year 2 and complete the required specialisations. You can leave after Year 2 with the PG Diploma or progress further to the 3 year Masters pathway (subject to exam board approval).
- Progression to the 3 year Masters pathway will require completion of Health Systems Development, Health Protection and Research Portfolio 1 as pre-requisites in the PG Dip/Year 2. Students will be guided about their choices during Year 2 and advised if they are interested in progressing to the Masters/Year 3 award, what specialisation choices they will need to make. In exceptional circumstances where a student does not complete the required pre-requisites in the PG Dip/Year 2, a study plan can be considered via the Programme Directors and Exam Board Chair to permit progression to the Masters/Year 3 award, however this may require a longer course of study to ensure completion of the pre-requisite specialisation.

By the end of the PG Cert programme, you will have gained an understanding of the basic foundations of public health, having completed the core specialisations of Epidemiology for Public Health, and Foundations of Public Health Practice, Statistics for Public Health, and a choice of three electives, allowing you to choose/specialise at this level in areas of your own interest.

The PG Diploma will allow you to develop and build upon your knowledge and skills with further choice and specialised subjects within public health, directed towards your own public health practice and research. You will be required to complete 6 specialisations (please see list below).

The Masters will allow you to continue to build upon your knowledge and skills. If you intend to pass from the PGDip to the Masters, you will be required to have taken (1) Population Health Improvement, (2) Health Systems Development (3) Health Protection and (3) Research Portfolio 1: The Research Question as pre-requisites. At Masters level you will be required to undertake the remaining Research Portfolio core specialisations, building your own research practice and skills at this level to completion of your project. You will also be required to undertake 2 further elective choices. In the latter part, you will finish your research portfolio, which will lead to a draft paper (academic or policy), blog and dissemination plan. In this way students will be supported throughout their project and will enjoy a consistent level of supervision and structured learning.

Within each pathway, core specialisations (otherwise known as modules) will focus on building core skills and knowledge in epidemiology, the spread and prevention of disease, statistical analysis and modelling, public health practice and global health challenges.

PG Certificate core specialisations:

- Statistics for public health

- Epidemiology for public health
- Foundations of public health practice
- Health Protection

PG Diploma core specialisations:

- Statistics for public health
- Epidemiology for public health
- Foundations of public health practice
- Health Protection (pre-requisite if progressing to the Masters, otherwise elective)
- Health Systems Development (pre-requisite if progressing to the Masters, otherwise elective)
- Population Health Improvement (pre-requisite if progressing to the Masters, otherwise elective)
- Research Portfolio 1: Designing a Research Study (pre-requisite if progressing to the Masters, otherwise elective)

Masters core specialisations:

- Statistics for public health
- Epidemiology for public health
- Foundations of public health practice
- Health Systems Development
- Health Protection
- Population Health Improvement
- Research Portfolio 1: The Study Question
- Research Portfolio 2: Designing a Research Study
- Research Portfolio 3: Core research skills
- Research Portfolio 4: Research in Practice

Students will also be able to build a degree that best suits their interests, through the selection of elective specialisations, allowing students to focus their efforts on those areas of study of most importance to them and their future careers.

Elective specialisations per level/award:

PG Cert/PG Dip:

- Global diseases masterclass
- Global health challenges and governance
- Health systems development
- Global health innovations
- Infectious disease modelling
- Quality improvement in healthcare
- Participatory approaches in public health
- Digital Health
- Advanced statistics and Data Science
- Life course public health
- Health Economics
- Research Portfolio 1: The Study Question (PG Dip only)

Masters:

- Global diseases masterclass
- Global health challenges and governance
- Global health innovations
- Infectious disease modelling
- Quality improvement in healthcare
- Participatory approaches in public health

- Digital Health
- Advanced statistics and Data Science
- Life course public health

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the PG Certificate, students will be able to:

- describe and compare different study designs, understand core epidemiological principles, and apply these in order to interpret and appraise evidence in a public health context;
- choose and apply appropriate statistical methods to public health and epidemiological data and interpret the results of such analysis;
- identify appropriate health protection, health promotion and disease prevention interventions in order to design effective public health programmes;
- Integrate the contributions from different academic disciplines into the study of public health, including health systems and system improvement, health protection, participation, population health, or modelling into real world examples of public health practice.
- make informed choices regarding elective choices aligned to their own learning interests and needs.
- develop an awareness of the major issues in global public health and be able to discuss these

By the end of the PG Diploma, students will be able to:

- describe and compare different study designs, understand core epidemiological principles, and apply these in order to interpret and appraise evidence in a public health context;
- choose and apply appropriate statistical methods to public health and epidemiological data and interpret the results of such analysis;
- identify appropriate health protection, health promotion and disease prevention interventions in order to design effective public health programmes;
- Integrate the contributions from different academic disciplines into the study of public health issues and responses, including health systems and system improvement, health protection, participation, population health, modelling, global health challenges and innovations, economics, and key health topic areas.
- make informed choices regarding elective choices aligned to their own learning interests and needs.
- develop an awareness of the major issues in global public health and be able to discuss these.

By the end of the Masters, students will be able to:

- describe and compare different study designs, understand core epidemiological principles, and apply these in order to interpret and appraise evidence in a public health context;
- choose and apply appropriate statistical methods to public health and epidemiological data and interpret the results of such analysis;
- identify key components of, and critically compare, different health system models;
- identify appropriate health protection, health promotion and disease prevention interventions in order to design effective public health programmes;
- define approaches to health improvement and identify and appraise methods for evaluating programmes in order to produce informed judgements on policy;
- review and synthesize literature to construct a critical and reasoned narrative to arrive at a focused research question;
- design, carry out, interpret, report and communicate a research study, health needs assessment or policy review employing appropriate methods;
- implement, and adhere to, key public health principles and ethical standards in public health research and practice;
- integrate the contributions from different academic disciplines into the study of public health issues and responses, including system improvement, participation, population health, modelling, global health challenges and innovations, economics, and key health topic areas.

- make informed choices regarding elective choices aligned to their own learning interests and needs.
- design, carry out, interpret, and critique public health research employing epidemiological and public health methods
- develop an awareness of the major issues in public health and be able to apply these and their theoretical foundations to resolving practical 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

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	<p>Normally a minimum 2.1 UK Bachelor's Degree with Honours in a science subject or MBBS degree (or a comparable qualification recognised by the College).</p> <p>Suitable applicants are likely to be those with a background in: medicine, health sciences, biological sciences or environmental sciences.</p> <p>Mature applicants with relevant academic or professional experience will also be considered.</p>
Non-academic Requirements	None
English Language Requirement	<p>Higher requirement</p> <p>IELTS score of 7.0 overall (minimum 6.5 in all elements).</p>

Learning & Teaching Strategy

Scheduled Learning & Teaching Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online lectures • Online seminars and tutorials • Group-chat/video conference discussions and exercises with peers • Online individual/group presentations
E-learning & Blended Learning Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online lectures • Online seminars and tutorials • Group-chat/video conference discussions with peers • Discussion prompts • Interactive content including online assessment via video, quizzes, virtual examination
Project Learning Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research methods in public health • Designing a research study • Core research skills • Research Project

Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays • Reports and paper reviews • MCQs and online quizzes • Research project • Research plan • Individual and group presentations • Video blogs • Articles and case study reviews
Academic Feedback Policy	
<p>The programme complies with the College policy and will provide students with feedback within a timely and appropriate turnaround time.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Feedback will take different forms depending on the type of assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursework: students will be given written feedback, and given the opportunity to discuss their provisional marks; • Presentations: comments and immediate feedback will be given after some presentations, and feedback shall be provided once provisional marks are published; • Final research project: students will be given written feedback for their final project/presentation. 	
Re-sit Policy	
<p>Students will be permitted to re-enter a failed examination or resubmit a piece of failed coursework on a single occasion. Re-sits will typically be taken in-year at the next re-sit period as detailed in the assessment schedule but depending on the level of re-sits required, the decision may be taken by an exam board that you may only be available at the next available sitting (i.e. in the following academic year).</p>	
Mitigating Circumstances Policy	
<p>The College's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams</p>	

Programme Structure (Masters – 2 year pathway)			
Part-time (Year One)	Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Core Specialisations	3	2	2
Elective Specialisations	0	1	1
Projects	0	0	0
Part-time (Year Two)	Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Core Specialisations	2	2	0

Elective Specialisations	1	1	0
Projects	0	0	1

Programme Structure (Masters – 3 year pathway)			
Part-time (Year One)	Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Core Specialisations	2	1	1
Elective Specialisations	0	1	1
Projects	0	0	0
Part-time (Year Two)	Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Core Specialisations	2	1	1
Elective Specialisations	0	1	1
Projects	0	0	0
Part-time (Year Three)	Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Core Specialisations	1	2	0
Elective Specialisations	0	0	0
Projects	0	0	1

Programme Structure (PG Certificate and PG Diploma)			
Part-time (Year One)	Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Core Specialisations	2	1	1
Elective Specialisations	0	1	1
Projects	0	0	0
Part-time (Year Two) PG Diploma only	Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Core Specialisations	2	1	1

Elective Specialisations	0	1	1
Projects	0	0	0
Assessment Dates & Deadlines			
Timed MCQs	Continuous		
Coursework Assessments	Continuous		
Project Deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters (2 year) = Term 3 – Year two - Research Project in early September) • Masters (3 year) = Term 3 – Year three – Research Project in early September • PG Cert and PG Dip does not contain any research project assessments. 		
Practical Assessments	Continuous		
Assessment Structure (Masters)			
Programme Component	ECTS	% Weighting	
Statistics for public health	5	5.5%	
Epidemiology for public health	5	5.5%	
Foundations of public health practice	5	5.5%	
Global Diseases Masterclass	5	5.5%	
Health Systems Development	5	5.5%	
Research Portfolio 1: The Study Question	5	5.5%	
Population Health Improvement	5	5.5%	
Global Health Challenges and Governance	5	5.5%	
Research Portfolio 2: Designing a Research Study	5	5.5%	
Health economics	5	5.5%	
Research Portfolio 3: Core research skills	5	5.5%	
Research Portfolio 4: Research project	15	16.5%	
Choice of four elective specialisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global health innovations • Infectious disease modelling 	20 (5 each)	22% (5.5% each)	

- Quality improvement in healthcare
- Advanced statistics and Data Science
- Participatory approaches in public health
- Digital Health
- Life course public health
- Health Protection

Marking Scheme

The GMPH Masters programme can be awarded as a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

In order to be awarded a **Pass for the Masters award**, a student must:

- Achieve a mark of at least 40% in each assessment
- Achieve an aggregate pass mark of at least 50% in each specialisation
- Students may be condoned in a maximum of 15 ECTS for the Masters award (i.e. excluding the Research Portfolio 4) with an aggregate mark of at least 40% in each module providing the overall aggregate mark for the programme is at least 50%
- Achieve a mark of at least 50% in Research Portfolio 4

In order to be awarded a **Merit for the Masters award**, a student must:

- Achieve a mark of at least 40% in each assessment
- Achieve an aggregate mark of at least 60% in each specialisation
- Students may be condoned in a maximum of 15 ECTS for the Masters award (i.e. excluding the Research Portfolio 4) with an aggregate mark of at least 40% in each specialisation providing the overall aggregate mark for the programme is at least 60%
- Achieve a mark of at least 60% in the Research Portfolio 4

In order to be awarded a **Distinction for the Masters award**, a student must:

- Achieve a mark of at least 40% in each assessment
- Achieve an aggregate pass mark of at least 70% in each specialisation
- Students may be condoned in a maximum of 15 ECTS for the Masters award (i.e. excluding the Research Portfolio 4) with an aggregate mark of at least 40% in each specialisation providing the overall aggregate mark for the programme is at least 70%
- Achieve a mark of at least 70% in the Research Portfolio 4

Exit awards (2 year and 3 year Masters programme)

Admission and entrance to the programme for the GMPH 2 year and 3 year programme only.

A student may be permitted to exceptionally exit with one of the following lower awards, subject to exam board approval:

- A **Postgraduate Certificate** (upon passing and completing at least the Epi, Stats and FPHP core specialisations during year one, plus, any other three specialisations during year one totalling 30 ECTS modules, subject to exam board approval.
- A **Postgraduate Diploma** (upon passing and completing at least the Epi, Stats and FPHP specialisations during year one, and any other six specialisations from either year one or two) totalling 60 ECTS, subject to exam board approval.

In order to be awarded a **PG Cert or PG Dip award**, a student must:

- Achieve a mark of at least 40% in each assessment
- Achieve an aggregate pass mark of at least 50% in each specialisation

The Postgraduate Certificate programme can be awarded as a Pass only.

In order to be awarded a **Pass for the PG Cert** award, a student must:

- Achieve a mark of at least 40% in each assessment
- Achieve an aggregate pass mark of at least 50% in each specialisation
- Students may be condoned in a maximum of 5 ECTS for the PG Cert award with an aggregate mark of at least 50% in each module providing the overall aggregate mark for the programme is at least 50%

The Postgraduate Diploma programme can be awarded as a Pass only.

In order to be awarded a **Pass for the PG Dip** award, a student must:

- Achieve a mark of at least 40% in each assessment
- Achieve an aggregate pass mark of at least 50% in each specialisation
- Students may be condoned in a maximum of 10 ECTS for the PG Dip award with an aggregate mark of at least 50% in each module providing the overall aggregate mark for the programme is at least 50%

Specialisation List												
Code	Title	Core/ Elective	Year	L&T Hours	Ind. Study Hours	Place- ment Hours	Total Hours	% Writt en Exam	% Course- work	% Practical	FHEQ Level	ECTS
PUBH97032	Statistics for public health	Core	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97033	Epidemiology for public health	Core	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97034	Foundations of public health practice	Core	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97035	Global Diseases Masterclass	Elective	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97036	Health Systems Development	Core	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97037	Research Portfolio 1: The Study Question	Core	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97038	Population Health Improvement	Elective (Core for MSc)	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97039	Global Health Challenges and Governance	Elective	2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97040	Research Portfolio 2: Designing a Research Study	Core	2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97041	Health Economics	Elective	2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5

Specialisation List												
Code	Title	Core/ Elective	Year	L&T Hours	Ind. Study Hours	Place- ment Hours	Total Hours	% Writt en Exam	% Course- work	% Practical	FHEQ Level	ECTS
PUBH97042	Research Portfolio 3: Core research skills	Core	2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97043	Research Portfolio 4: Research project	Core	2	0	375	0	375	0	100	0	7	15
PUBH97044	Global Health Innovations	Elective	1&2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97045	Infectious disease modelling	Elective	1&2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97046	Quality improvement in healthcare	Elective	1&2	25	100	0	125	0	75	25	7	5
PUBH97047	Advanced statistics and Data Science	Elective	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97048	Participatory approaches in Public Health	Elective	1	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97049	Digital Health	Elective	2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97054	Life course public health	Elective	2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5
PUBH97051	Health Protection	Core	2	25	100	0	125	0	100	0	7	5

Supporting Information

The Programme Handbook is available at: TBC

The Specialisation Handbooks are available at: TBC

The College's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements

The College's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance

The College's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at:
<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations>

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".

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters/>

Imperial College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/reg/register/>

Modifications

Description	Approved	Date	Paper Reference
e.g. Nature of modification	e.g. Programmes Committee	dd/mm/yy	e.g. PC.2016.120