

Programme Information		
Programme Title	Programme Code	HECoS Code
Master of Public Health (Online) Postgraduate Certificate of Public Health (Online)	A3BHN/A3BHO A3BHNC	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
MPH (A3BHN)	2 years (24 months)	Part time	Annually in September	90	180
MPH (A3BHO)	3 years (36 months)	Part time	Annually in September	90	180
PG Diploma (A3BHND)	N/A	N/A	No direct entry, only as a top-up after students complete PG Cert	60	120
PG Certificate (A3BHNC)	1 years (12 months)	Part time	Annually in September	30	60
You must apply to the PG Certificate or MPH in the first instance.					

Ownership			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Faculty of Medicine
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	School of Public Health
Associateship	Diploma of Imperial College (DIC) (MPH only)	Main Location(s) of Study	Online
External Reference			
Relevant <a href="#">QAA Benchmark Statement(s)</a> and/or other external reference points		N/A	
<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
<b>Specification Details</b>			
Programme Lead	Prof. Paul Aylin and Prof Helen Ward Prof. Bethan Davies and Prof Thomas Hone		
Student cohorts covered by specification	2025-26 entry		
Date of introduction of programme	September 19		
Date of programme specification/revision	August 2025		

<b>Programme Overview</b>
<p>The School of Public Health at Imperial 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 Master of Public Health aims to provide 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><b>Programme structure options:</b></p> <p>The 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> <p>The pathways available are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the 2-year Masters programme as a standalone pathway, requiring you to study three modules per term (approx. 16-24 hours study time per week over 2 years). You would enrol directly on the Masters 2 year pathway.</li> <li>the 3-year Masters programme as a standalone pathway, requiring you to study two modules per term (approx. 12-18 hours per week over 3 years). You would study the same modules and programme content as the 2 year programme, but instead spread out over 3 years. You can enrol directly on the Masters 3 year pathway, or follow the progression route below and first enrol on the PG Certificate programme. You would study the same modules over the 3 years if you successfully progressed through each award.</li> <li>the PG Certificate programme as a standalone pathway, requiring you to study two modules per term (approx. 12-18 hours per week over 3 years) for 1 year only. The specific modules 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 modules. You can leave after Year 2 with the PG Diploma or progress further to the 3 year Masters pathway (subject to exam board approval).</li> <li>Progression to the 3 year Masters pathway, from PG Cert / PG Dip will require completion of Health Systems Development, Health Protection, Population Health Improvement and Research Portfolio 1 as pre-requisites in the PG Diploma/Year 2. You will be guided about your choices during Year 2 and advised if you are interested in progressing to the Masters/Year 3 award and what module choices you will need to make. In exceptional circumstances where a student does not complete the required pre-requisites in the PG Diploma/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 module(s).</li> </ul>

By the end of the PG Certificate programme, you will have gained an understanding of the basic foundations of public health, having completed the core modules 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 modules (please see list below).

Note: Students on the PG Certification to MPH track will have a maximum allowable gap in studies of 3 years during the full progression cycle, without reapplying. Students reaching the maximum allowable limit will be required to reapply onto the programme. There is no pathway for direct application onto the PG Diploma.

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 modules, 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 you will be supported throughout your project and will enjoy a consistent level of supervision and structured learning.

### **Core and compulsory modules per level/award:**

Within each pathway, core 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. The MPH will also have compulsory modules which are also required.

### **Elective modules**

You will choose your elective modules for the coming term 2 weeks before the start of that term. In order for students to make an informed choice, the programme team will send students an information pack on electives' content, learning outcomes and assignments. Students will then be asked to complete a survey indicating your elective choices.

## **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 your 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 your 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 your 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 your theoretical foundations to resolving practical public health problems.

**Entry Requirements**

Academic Requirement	<p>Normally a minimum 2.1 UK Bachelor's Degree with Honours in any subject or MBBS degree (or a comparable qualification recognised by the university).</p> <p>Suitable applicants are likely to be those with a background in: medicine, health sciences, biological sciences or environmental sciences, but a science background is not mandatory.</p> <p>Applicants with relevant academic or professional experience will also be considered.</p> <p>PG: <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><a href="#">Higher requirement</a></p> <p>IELTS score of 7.0 overall (minimum 6.5 in all elements).</p>
Admissions Test/Interview	<p>Applicants may be invited to a post-application interview (via approved remote methodology) to further assess the suitability of the application, and 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/study/pg/medicine/global-mph/>

## Learning & Teaching Approach

You will learn through a combination of learning activities that are proven to enable deeper learning and authentic explorations of key skills and experiences. Your entire learning journey will be undertaken through both synchronous and asynchronous learning.

To this end, the learning and teaching activities across modules are focused around asynchronous learning via high spec resources completed in your own time. However, there will also be online live sessions and office hours.

The asynchronous learning and teaching resources include:

- Pre-recorded lecture videos
- E-tivities (exercises that elaborate on, and test 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

Office hours will be held either via discussion boards or live on a weekly basis.

## 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 for the Master's, 1,500 for the PG-Diploma, and 750 for the PG Certificate.

- For 2-year Masters programme - approx. 20-24 hours are dedicated to your studies each week (7-8 hours per specialisation), including live sessions and independent study time as follows. You will study 3 modules per term.
- For PG Certificate / PG Diploma and 3-year Masters programme - approx. 14-16 hours are dedicated to your studies each week (7-8 hours per module), including live sessions and independent study time as follows. You will study 2 modules per term.

## Assessment Strategy

You will be assessed through a variety of methods designed to help you apply both theory and practice to apply this to practical public health problems. As such, the assessments cover a wide range of public health skills, which will support student employability in the wide range of public health and public health aligned jobs.

The number and weighting of the modules will be determined based on the intended learning outcomes for each module, the type of module (i.e. core, compulsory, and elective), as well as best practices in public health.

## Assessment Methods

These will be conducted in a number of formats including: (1) quiz, (2) written pieces, (3) presentations, or (4) labs. And cover numerous public health skills which may include:

- Behaviour change analysis
- Communication strategies
- Data analysis + write up
- Ethics justification
- Budgeting
- Public involvement strategies
- Health Impact Assessments
- Journal articles
- Lay Summaries
- Literature reviews
- Outbreak reports
- Paper critiques
- Project proposals
- Protocols
- Search strategies
- Advocacy campaigns
- Journal commentaries
- Policy briefs
- Proposal pitches

Assessment type by year will depend on your program of study and is subject to change year on year. The rough estimate of the percentage split of assessments based on assessment type is as follows:

Lab	Presentation	Written
20%	10%	70%

Note: These tallies include all possible modules and are not representative of the number or distribution of assessments students take.

## Academic Feedback Policy

The programme complies with the university's policy and will provide you with feedback within a timely and appropriate turnaround time.

You will be provided with a bespoke assessment schedule confirming all submission deadlines, marking periods and feedback points and methods to manage your expectations and ensure feedback can inform the next assessment, where appropriate.

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

- **Formative coursework:** You will have ample opportunity to test your knowledge and skills through formative work, including peer reviews, tasks, and quizzes. You will be given feedback automatically or from staff or peers, and given the opportunity to discuss your provisional marks, where appropriate.
- **Summative assignments:** Before the written and oral assessments, members of the team will present the assessment, and you will be given an opportunity to ask questions. For each of the summative assessments, you will receive written individual feedback or cohort level feedback, as appropriate for the subject and assessment, inclusive of key topics which students struggled on to aid in revision and mastery.
- **Research Project:** You will be provided with feedback from both formative and summative work throughout the research portfolio, per the above mechanisms, which is intended to be applied forward to the final

project. Further formative and summative feedback will be provided during Research Portfolio 4: Research in Practice on the research outputs, per the above mechanisms.

Imperial'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

Imperial's Policy on Re-sits 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/)

#### Mitigating Circumstances Policy

Imperial's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances 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/)

#### 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
N/A	N/A	N/A

**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.

Programme Structure <sup>1</sup>					
<b>PG Certificate - FHEQ Level 7</b> <b>You will study all core modules and choose 3 elective modules.</b>					
Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective/ Compulsory	Group	Term	Credits
PUBH70002	Digital Health	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70003	Epidemiology for Public Health	Core		Autumn	5
PUBH70005	Foundations of Public Health Practice	Core		Autumn	5
PUBH70007	Global Disease Masterclass	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70008	Global Health Challenges and Governance	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70009	Global Health Innovations	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70011	Health Economics	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70014	Health Protection	Elective (Pre- Requisite)		Spring	5
PUBH70016	Health Systems Development	Elective (Pre- requisite)		Spring	5
PUBH70004	Infectious Disease Modelling	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70010	Life Course in Public Health	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70012	Machine Learning	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70018	Participatory Approaches in Public Health Practice (not running in 2025-26)	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70019	Population Health Improvement	Elective (Pre- requisite)		Summer	5
PUBH70020	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70024	Statistics For Public Health	Core		Spring	5
Credit Total					30
<b>PG Diploma - FHEQ Level 7</b> <b>You will study all core modules, all prerequisite modules and choose 5 elective modules.</b>					
Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective/ Compulsory	Group	Term	Credits

<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.



PUBH70001	Advanced Statistics and Introduction to Data Science	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70002	Digital Health	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70003	Epidemiology in Public Health	Core		Autumn	5
PUBH70005	Foundations of Public Health Practice	Core		Autumn	5
PUBH70007	Global Disease Masterclass	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70008	Global Health Challenges and Governance	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70009	Global Health Innovations	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70011	Health Economics	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70014	Health Protection	Elective (Pre-requisite)		Spring	5
PUBH70016	Health Systems Development	Elective (Pre-requisite)		Spring	5
PUBH70004	Infectious Disease Modelling	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70010	Life Course in Public Health	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70012	Machine Learning	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70018	Participatory Approaches in Public Health Practice (not running in 2025-26)	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70019	Population Health Improvement	Elective (Pre-requisite)		Summer	5
PUBH70020	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70021	Research Portfolio 1: The Research Question	Elective (Pre-requisite)		Summer	5
PUBH70024	Statistics for Public Health	Core		Spring	5
Credit Total					60

### MPH - FHEQ Level 7

**You will study all core and compulsory modules and choose 6 elective modules.**

Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective/ Compulsory	Group	Term	Credits
PUBH70001	Advanced Statistics and Introduction to Data Science	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70002	Digital Health	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70003	Epidemiology in Public Health	Core		Autumn	5

PUBH70005	Foundations of Public Health Practice	Core		Autumn	5
PUBH70007	Global Disease Masterclass	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70008	Global Health Challenges and Governance	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70009	Global Health Innovations	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70011	Health Economics	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70014	Health Protection	Compulsory		Spring	5
PUBH70016	Health Systems Development	Compulsory		Spring	5
PUBH70004	Infectious Disease Modelling	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70010	Life Course in Public Health	Elective		Autumn	5
PUBH70012	Machine Learning	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70018	Participatory Approaches in Public Health Practice (not running in 2025-26)	Elective		Summer	5
PUBH70019	Population Health Improvement	Compulsory		Summer	5
PUBH70020	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	Elective		Spring	5
PUBH70021	Research Portfolio 1: The Research Question	Core		Summer	5
PUBH70050	Research Portfolio 2: Research Methods	Core		Autumn	5
PUBH70022	Research Portfolio 3: Core Research Skills	Core		Spring	5
PUBH70023	Research Portfolio 4: Research in Practice	Core		Summer	15
PUBH70024	Statistics for Public Health	Core		Spring	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 you must have a minimum of 30 credits at Level 7.

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

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

1. accumulated credit to the value of no fewer than 90 credits at level 7;
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.

### **Top-up Award for students who have completed the PG Cert:**

### **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.

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

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

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

- Distinction: 70.00% or above
- Merit: 60.00% or above but less than 70.00%.
- Pass: 50.00% or above but less than 60.00%.

For a Masters, your classification will be determined through:

- The Programme Overall Weighted Average meeting the threshold for the relevant classification band.

Your degree algorithm provides an appropriate and reliable summary of your performance against the programme learning outcomes. It reflects the design, delivery, and structure of your programme without unduly over-emphasising particular aspects.

## **Programme Specific Regulations**

### **Progression requirements**

- Students on the PG Certification to MPH track will have a maximum allowable gap in studies of 3 years during the full progression cycle, without reapplying. Students reaching the maximum allowable limit will be required to reapply onto the programme. There is no pathway for direct application onto the PG Diploma.
- In order for MPH students to pass from year 1 to year 2, students are required to pass all core modules. The exam board may allow progression based on extenuating circumstances
- The substantive piece of work from Research Portfolio 4: Research in Practice has been designated as “must pass”. In order to achieve a Master’s students must achieve a pass mark on this component.

Supporting Information
The Programme Handbook is available from the programme team.
The Module Handbooks available for each module.
Imperial'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>
Imperial'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>
Imperial'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 London 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 Imperial's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established Imperial 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/university-governance-structure/charters/">www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/university-governance-structure/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 you may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if you 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.