The gateway to your global education experience – one degree, many career paths

Summary

The new UNSW Bachelor of International Public Health (BIPH) offers a unique virtual classroom experience delivered through the groundbreaking PLuS Alliance partnership between UNSW Sydney, Arizona State University and Kings College London. Through this new international alliance, BIPH students will have access to world-class higher education to address global health issues, learn in a dynamic online environment and be better prepared to join a workforce that increasingly operates across cultures and borders. Students will be provided opportunities to focus on an area of public health specialisation and undertake a workplace internship.

Degree overview

The Bachelor of International Public Health (BIPH) is a new program under the PLuS Alliance embodying its core principle – to develop solutions to global challenges with social impact. The program is designed as a direct pathway into a career in public health, to build and strengthen the international public health workforce.
Aligned with U.S. accreditation standards and consistent with recommendations of the Council of Academic Public Health Institutions in Australia (CAPHIA), the coursework prepares students for new approaches to emerging global and public health issues, including prevention, public health surveillance, health promotion, communicable and non-communicable diseases, environmental health, and global health systems.

Students will complete a digitised portfolio throughout their degree program, with a capstone experience in their area of interest in the final year. A highlight of the program will be two courses which are jointly developed and taught across UNSW and ASU – Comparative Health Systems and International Indigenous Health.

The program qualifies graduates to work internationally in population health, preventive health, health promotion, primary health care, policy formulation, international development, and management of health programs. Many graduates of UNSW public health programs occupy key positions in Departments of Health, health services, government and non-government organisations and organisations in Asia, the Pacific, and around the world.

Who should do this degree?

This program is ideal for people who want to make a difference in international health. The BIPH is open to domestic and international students, either school leavers or mature age entrants, and is designed for those who are interested in rewarding international opportunities in the health sector particularly in public health, health administration, health management and clinical research. We understand that many people have busy lives, and that studying on campus is not feasible for them. If you have a career and a job you do not want to give up, you can still further your career prospects by studying online in a flexible way, suited to your busy schedule.

Mode of delivery

The BIPH program can be undertaken full-time or part-time. All the courses may be taken in online mode to allow you to “work while you study”. We use state of the art online technology to give you an interactive classroom experience. You will be part of a dynamic international community of students. You will also be in the classroom with students doing an ASU degree, who will share common subjects with the UNSW BIPH.

Career Pathways

Targeted to meet the needs of students wherever they are based, this degree provides a stepping stone to a career in international public health or international development. Through unique course offerings and flexible online delivery, PLuS Alliance graduates will stand out amongst their peers and gain a perspective on global public health which is truly valued by key employers.

Graduates will be equipped with core skills for a career in public health, epidemiology, health protection, health promotion or surveillance and disease prevention. Potential careers outcomes include: public health officer, health promotion officer, health professionals, health information manager, community health officer, policy officer, program or project administrator, education professionals, public health advocate, epidemiologist, health communications specialist, Government and research assistant positions in health promotion and health economics.

Potential employers include government agencies (such as health departments), research centres and multinationals/development agencies (e.g. UN, World Bank, CDC, WHO, AHRC, and MSF). Graduates may also pursue a research career in public health or seek higher studies, such as a graduate medical program, Master’s program or PhD.
Why study the BIPH?

**PLuS Alliance**

The BIPH is offered as a program that combines and draws on the international expertise of UNSW Sydney, ASU and Kings London under the innovative PLuS Alliance. It provides access to PLuS Alliance partnerships, strong recruitment pathways, global academic networks and industry partners. Alliance between the three universities was formed to tackle complex international problems and provide a global learning experience.

**Fully online**

The BIPH is available fully online which allows students to study by distance from anywhere in the world. It provides personalised, flexible learning to suit your lifestyle. You will have the opportunity for engaging in online learning spaces which facilitate collaborative learning allowing you to connect with fellow students and course convenors in real-time. You will be part of a dynamic international community of students studying from around the globe.

**Co-developed courses**

Two courses are jointly developed and taught across UNSW and ASU – International Indigenous Health and Comparative Health Systems. By comparing health systems and the health and wellbeing of Indigenous communities between countries, students gain a critical awareness of developing both culturally and socially appropriate health interventions including a range of health promotion, primary healthcare, and human rights strategies to health challenges at local and global contexts.

**Digital portfolio**

Students will create a digital portfolio throughout their degree which is unique to the online digital space. This enables you to integrate your work, monitor and evaluate your progress in achieving learning outcomes, and reflect upon your competencies and practice for working in public health in a variety of geographic, socioeconomic and cultural contexts. The digital portfolio can be shown to future employers and used to demonstrate your developing career profile and strengths in your area of practice.

**Capstone**

The BIPH Capstone enables students to consolidate and integrate their knowledge and skills and immerse themselves in a real-life experience within the field of public health research, policy or practice. In your final year you will have the opportunity to do an internship in a public health organisation within a local or international setting. You will be paired with an organisation that fits with your area of public health interest and career goals and undertake a real-world project based on your internship.
Areas of study

The BIPH program covers the scope and methods of international public health including: the basic medical sciences; epidemiology and biostatistics; health promotion; surveillance and prevention; public health leadership; law and ethics; health programs; health systems; and, health economics – and prepares students for new approaches to emerging global and public health issues related to communicable and noncommunicable disease, women’s and children’s health, mental illness, Indigenous health and environmental health.

Unlike other undergraduate public health programs in Australia, the program is internationally integrated with emphasis on courses for increasing understanding and improving the health of populations worldwide. Students will explore a diverse range of case studies spanning international contexts and population health issues and priorities.

Equally, to support a coherent degree experience, all courses are closely interconnected in drawing on a range of crosscutting themes such as advocacy, community dynamics, critical thinking, cultural competence, independent work, research methods, systems thinking, and teamwork and leadership.

The BIPH will qualify students to apply a broad and coherent body of public health knowledge for undertaking work in a range of local and international contexts and as a pathway for further postgraduate education, including graduate medicine, master’s programs, or PhD.

Further Information

Please see the website for the latest information on Course Selection, Course Descriptions, How to Apply, Key Dates and Fees. sphcm.med.unsw.edu.au/bachelor-international-public-health

Program Structure

Courses with the prefix YMED are delivered by ASU

YEAR 1
- Introduction to Global Health (YMED1008)
- General Biology (YMED1003)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology I (YMED1004)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology II (YMED1006)
- Mathematics (YMED1002)
- International Indigenous Health (PHCM1001)
- Two General Education courses from UNSW

YEAR 2
- Epidemiology (PHCM2001)
- Biostatistics (PHCM2002)
- Health Promotion (PHCM2003)
- Communicable Disease (PHCM2004)
- Public Health Policy and Programs (PHCM2006)
- Health Leadership (PHCM2007)
- Principles of Prevention & Surveillance (PHCM2005)
- Global Health and Lifestyle Disease (PHCM2009)

YEAR 3
- Ethics in Public Health (PHCM3001)
- Environmental & Occupational Health (YMED3003)
- Economics for Health Majors (YMED3005)
- Comparative Health Systems (PHCM3005)
- Public Health Capstone (PHCM3003)
- Three Electives from UNSW / ASU

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