School of Public Health and Community Medicine

Master of Public Health in Infectious Diseases and Control

About this degree
The Master of Public Health in Infectious Diseases Epidemiology and Control is offered by the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at UNSW Australia. This specialisation provides students with strong training in the principles of infectious diseases epidemiology, prevention and control. The stream requires students to take the core course Current Challenges in Infectious Diseases, two electives where infectious diseases are the primary content focus and a third elective in which a relevant methodology is taught. Students also have the opportunity to undertake a small-scale research project or internship as part of the program.

In addition to the general learning goals of the Master of Public Health (MPH) program, the stream emphasises learning outcomes in infectious disease epidemiology, surveillance and control and the use of appropriate quantitative or qualitative methodologies in respect to infectious disease data. Electives allow students to choose a content focus on tropical disease control, vaccination practice and policy, HIV and outbreak and emergencies settings. Methodological skills can be developed through advanced subjects in biostatistics and epidemiology, approaches to economic evaluation and modelling or through development of qualitative skills. There is a strong focus on problem-based learning in the stream as we believe this improves students understanding of the material.

Who should do this stream?
This program is aimed at public health personnel who seek a career in communicable disease control in the health sector or in international health, and students who wish to progress to postgraduate research in infectious diseases epidemiology.

Mode of delivery
This 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.

In the Infectious Diseases stream has helped me to channel my career in health policy into an area that is interesting, challenging and highly relevant. I have gained knowledge and skills that will help me to be a better policy maker, particularly in terms of critical thinking, analysis and research to understand and address current challenges to infectious disease control.

Audrey Maag MPH Student

Stream convened
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STREAM STRUCTURE
Students must complete the eight courses listed below:

THREE MPH CORE COURSES:
- PHCM9012 Health Promotion & Social Perspectives of Health
- PHCM9041 Foundations in Public Health & Health Care Systems
- PHCM9498 Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health

ONE STREAM-DEFINING COURSE:
- PHCM9782 Current Challenges in Infectious Diseases

TWO COURSES FROM RECOMMENDED INFECTIOUS DISEASES ELECTIVES:
- PHCM9050 Immunisation Policy & Practice
- PHCM9522 Politics, Surveillance and Public Health
- PHCM9612 Environmental Health
- PHCM9622 The Global HIV Epidemic
- PHCM9731 Outbreak Investigation
- PHCM9783 Communicable Diseases in Humanitarian Emergencies & Disasters
- PHCM9784 Tropical Disease Control
- PHCM9787 Infection Prevention and Control in the Healthcare Setting
- PHCM9788 Infectious Diseases Intelligence

ONE COURSE FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES METHOD ELECTIVES:
- PHCM9120 Qualitative Research Methods
- PHCM9132 Applied Research Methods
- PHCM9440 Economic Evaluation in Healthcare
- PHCM9517 Advanced Biostatistics & Statistical Computing
- PHCM9518 Advanced Epidemiology
- PHCM9785 Predictive Modelling in Public Health

ONE MORE ELECTIVE, PROJECT IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES OR INTERNSHIP