The Master of Public Health (MPH) is widely recognised as essential for a career in population health, including health promotion, policy formulation, research, and management of health programs. Many of our graduates occupy key positions in health services, research institutions and universities in Australia, the Asia-Pacific region and across the globe. The program offered by the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at UNSW Sydney draws on the expertise of teaching staff in a broad range of areas, and on the wealth of experience our students bring to the class room. We offer flexible learning, general and specialist MPH streams, extension and dual Masters degree programs, as well as Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma programs.

Program aim
The MPH program aims to prepare students for roles in education, research and service in all aspects of public health. The program includes study in epidemiology, statistics, quantitative and qualitative research methods, health promotion, health policy and health services management, as well as a wide range of specialist electives.

Program structure
Eight courses must be completed for the Master of Public Health, consisting of three core courses and five elective courses for a total of 48 units of credit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course selection</th>
<th>UOC</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHCM9041 Foundations in Public Health &amp; Health Care Systems</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHCM9498 Epidemiology &amp; Statistics for Public Health</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHCM9012 Health Promotion &amp; Social Perspectives of Health</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five electives (6 UOC each)</td>
<td>30</td>
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</table>

Flexible delivery
The school provides a great deal of flexibility for students to tailor their study options according to their needs. The MPH program can be undertaken either full-time or part-time. Courses are offered internally on campus with face-to-face teaching, or externally by distance mode using online teaching technologies. All courses offered by the School are available fully online which means the degree can be completed anywhere in the world without attendance on campus.

Extension degree
The Master of Public Health Extension is designed for students wishing to complete a masters degree that includes a research component. It extends the knowledge and skills acquired in the MPH by including an extra semester of study, which allows candidates to undertake an advanced research project. This degree can be completed full-time over 18 months. It could also provide a pathway for students seeking to apply for entry into a PhD program.

Dual degrees
Students have the opportunity to complete two Masters degrees concurrently by combining the Master of Public Health with either the Master of International Public Health, Master of Health Management or Master of Infectious Diseases Intelligence. Dual degrees can be completed full-time over 18 months. Dual extension degrees (which include a research project) can be completed over 2 years.

Internships and Research Projects
Students may complete an Internship or a Research Project as part of their degree. Internships are available in Australian or International organisations and provide the opportunity to gain real-world experience while undertaking a degree. Students also have the opportunity to complete a research project with an academic supervisor.

Who should do this degree?
This program is designed to address the continuing education needs of specialists in public health as well as providing a general orientation to public health issues and methods for health professionals.
PhD and research degrees

The School has a strong PhD program with over 160 candidates. Students wishing to progress from the MPH to a PhD, or develop their research capability, should consider undertaking an extension program, research elective or a research project in their MPH program. Students also have the option of or enrolling in the Master of Philosophy in Public Health. This is an 18 month program with 6 months of full-time coursework and a 1 year research dissertation.

Public Health Specialisations

There are a number of specialisations offered by the School which enable students to complete a specialised program of study as part of their degree. The name of the specialisation is reflected on the testamur. Specialisations are available in the following areas:

- **Aboriginal Health & Wellbeing**
  Offers innovative learning experiences that enable students to gain the understanding and skills to contribute effectively to improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

- **Ageing and Health**
  The demographic ageing of populations worldwide has significant implications for individuals and society. Comprehensive public health responses are urgently needed to meet the challenges of this demographic transition.

- **Epidemiology**
  Equips graduates with knowledge of the principles of quantitative research methods that underpin public health programs and policies. Aimed at students and professionals interested in learning the skills required to apply epidemiological and biostatistical skills in their future careers and those wishing to begin the transition to a career in quantitative research methods in public health.

- **Health Economic Evaluation**
  Provides students with an understanding of the use and purpose of economic analyses in healthcare and the required skills to apply economic evaluation to assess the costs and benefits of healthcare programs.

- **Health Promotion**
  Foundation for all areas of public health, as contemporary practice across all disciplines requires consideration of the social determinants, incorporation of health in all policies, with attention to meeting the equity gaps and promoting social justice.

- **Infectious Diseases Control**
  Provides advanced knowledge and skills in the principles and practice of infectious diseases, epidemiology and control. Core competencies include the principles and practice of disease surveillance, fundamentals of outbreak investigation, and methods of disease control including vaccination, treatment programs and methods for the control of emerging infections such as pandemic influenza.

- **International Health**
  Provides students from developing countries with skills and knowledge to address key health issues in their home countries, as well as enabling Australian students to contribute effectively to international health development. This stream aims to ensure that participants are familiar with the global context for health and development.

- **Primary Health Care**
  Primary Health Care is recognised as a critical component of any health service, with the potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the whole health system. This specialisation equips students to contribute and respond to current developments in primary health care services.

- **Public Security**
  For students who want a strong grounding in public health combined with the health aspects of disasters, emergency management and crises including epidemics. It is particularly aimed at first-responders, analysts or policy makers from health, emergency management, law enforcement, military or other relevant backgrounds.

- **Social Research**
  Provides training in sociological conceptualisations of health and in approaches to health issues using both quantitative / epidemiological and qualitative / interpretive methods. Focuses on the social aspects of health and social approaches to addressing public health problems.

**Contact us**

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