

PhD in Public Health (Full-time and Part-time)

MPhil in Public Health (Full-time and Part-time)

Programme Director

Programme Director: **Prof. Sian Griffiths**

Background

The Graduate Division of Public Health, a unit within The Chinese University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Medicine, was established in 2005. It provides postgraduate public health education. Our research programme, PhD / MPhil programmes in Public Health (with full-time and part-time options), set out to support interdisciplinary studies in the field of public health, and to build up students' capacity in research methodologies as they relate to public health and populations.

Why Study Here

We offer quality teaching and learning for our research students, who will conduct research in the fields of health protection, health improvement, and health services. Topics include Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Evidence-Based Health Care, Occupational Medicine, Environmental Health, Infectious Diseases, Women's Health, Health Systems, Health Policy, International Health and Public Health Law.

Who Should Apply

Anyone who is inspired to promote the protection and improvement of health, and improve quality health care services in our population, is welcome to apply. Applicants competent in conducting independent research have a definite advantage. Preference will be given to those who can demonstrate a strong academic background, have good English proficiency, and possess substantial work experience in public health or related areas.

Aims and Features

We provide:

- A wide range of research domains in public health from which students can choose their research focus;
- A good international network in global health care;
- Studentship of not less than HK\$153,600 per year to qualified full-time MPhil or PhD students;

- The same opportunities in the selection process for both local and non-local (including Mainland China) applicants, particularly welcome international students.

Programme Structure

Course	Mode of Study	Units Required	Study Period
PhD in Public Health (students with a research Master's degree)	Full-time	39	3 years
PhD in Public Health (students with a research Master's degree)	Part-time	39	4 years
PhD in Public Health (students <i>without</i> a research Master's degree)	Full-time	51	4 years
PhD in Public Health (students <i>without</i> a research Master's degree)	Part-time	51	5 years and 4 months
MPhil in Public Health	Full-time	27	2 years
MPhil in Public Health	Part-time	27	3 years

	Code	Title	Units
MPhil programme	MED6002	Biostatistics (MED)	1
	MED6003	Biostatistics (MED)	1
	PHS5120	Guided Studies	2
	PHS5210	Seminar	1
	PHS532T	Research	2
	PHS533T	Research	3
	PHS534T	Research	4
	PHS6005	Fundamentals of Public Health	3
PhD programme	MED6002	Biostatistics (MED)	1
	MED6003	Biostatistics (MED)	1
	PHS6110	Guided Studies	1
	PHS6120	Guided Studies	2
	PHS6210	Seminar	1
	PHS632T	Research	2
	PHS633T	Research	3
	PHS634T	Research	4
	PHS635T	Research	5
	PHS636T	Research	6
	PHS6005	Fundamentals of Public Health	3

Note: Students must obtain enough units from the above courses to meet the requirements of their programme.

Advancement to PhD candidature at the end of the first year will be based on the student's satisfactory performance in the following:

- Presentation of project work results;
 - Progress report by the supervisor; and
- Oral examination, as necessary, on aspects related to the student's research project.

Course Description:-

MED6002 Biostatistics (MED) (1 Unit)

MPhil or PhD students in the Faculty of Medicine must take this compulsory module in biostatistics during the course of their studies. It will involve coursework, and a pass is required to graduate.

MED6003 Biostatistics (MED) (1 Unit)

MPhil or PhD students in the Faculty of Medicine must take this compulsory module in biostatistics during the course of their studies. It will involve coursework, and a pass is required to graduate. Before taking this class, students are required to have completed and passed the MED6002 course.

PHS5120 Guided Studies (2 Units)

Students will attend seminars and workshops, and carry out assignments, for the purpose of increasing knowledge of their research area and improving experimental design and data analysis.

PHS5210 Seminar (1 Unit)

Students must present a seminar summarising their research work performed in the previous term or year.

PHS532T Research (2 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS533T Research (3 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS534T Research (4 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS6110 Guided Studies (1 Unit)

Students will attend seminars and workshops, and carry out assignments, for the purpose of increasing knowledge of their research area and improving experimental design and data analysis.

PHS6120 Guided Studies (2 Units)

Students will attend seminars and workshops, and carry out assignments, for the purpose of increasing knowledge of their research area and improving experimental design and data analysis.

PHS6210 Seminar (1 Unit)

Students must present a seminar summarising their research work performed in the previous term or year.

PHS632T Research (2 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS633T Research (3 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS634T Research (4 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS635T Research (5 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS636T Research (6 Units)

Students have to conduct research, under supervision, on the assigned research topic.

PHS6005 Fundamentals of Public Health (3 Units)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the underlying principles and approaches of modern public health;
2. Exhibit an understanding of the principles of epidemiology and research method;
3. Explain the basics of health economics, policy, and service management;
4. Evaluate and compare the determinants of the social, ethical, and environmental aspects of health improvement and health education among populations; and
5. Apply their knowledge of fundamental behavioural sciences and public health qualitative studies to real-life situations.

Teaching Format

Students should conduct research under the guidance and direction of individual supervisors.

Teaching Faculty

Students will be taught and supervised primarily by the academic staff of the School of Public Health. In case of co-supervision, other members of staff within the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong may also be involved.

Duration / Modes of Study / Tuition Fees

Programme	Mode of Study	Tuition Fee
MPhil in Public Health	Full-time	HK\$42,100 per annum*
PhD in Public Health	Full-time	HK\$42,100 per annum*
MPhil in Public Health	Part-time	To be confirmed
PhD in Public Health	Part-time	To be confirmed

Note: All fees will be subject to revision in 2009-10.

Course and Unit Exemptions

Students can apply for an exemption to take MED6002 & MED6003 Biostatistics if they had taken statistics or related course in the past. Supporting documents should be submitted when apply.

Graduation Requirements

Graduates should:

1. Complete all the credit units as required by the programme curriculum;
2. Pass the IT proficiency test;
3. Complete CLEAR modules;
4. Fulfil the seminar requirements;
5. Submit a thesis; and
6. Pass the oral defence after submitting the thesis.

How to Apply

Admission requirements:-

Applicants must fulfill the general qualifications for admission and the English Language Proficiency requirements prescribed by the University. Please refer to the homepage of the Graduate School (<http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss/entry.php>) for details.

MPhil in Public Health

Applicants should have a Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Medicine or a related field, preferably with honours at second upper division or equivalent.

PhD in Public Health

Applicants should have a Master's degree by research in Public Health, Medicine or a related field, and the first degree preferably with honours at second upper division or equivalent.

Admission procedures:-

The competition for admission into our research programme is very intense. Applicants are advised to discuss their research topics with our professors before applying, and to prepare a brief research proposal that shows their enthusiasm for their subject. Please submit your online application at Graduate School's website <http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss/apply.php>

Application deadline:-

February 28, 2009. (For University's annual main round)

Due to the limited number of student places, it would be to your advantage if you could submit your application for the main round.

Administrative Staff

Programme Administrator	Telephone No.	E-mail Address
Ms Joyce Leung	2252 8423	phtraining@cuhk.edu.hk

Frequently Asked Questions

All the admission information is available on the homepage of Graduate School. Please click this to find out more details <http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss/>

Below are the 'frequently answer and question' regarding admission (Source: from homepage of Graduate School <http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss/faq.php>)

1. What is the difference between research and taught programmes?

Research programmes (e.g. MPhil, PhD) focus mainly on research work. These programmes require applicants to have sound research background. Students need to submit a thesis and pass the oral defence conducted by the Thesis Assessment Committee to graduate. Taught programmes (e.g. MA, MBA, MSc, MSSc), in contrast, focus on coursework. These programmes, generally do not require students to submit a thesis.

2. How to fulfill the English Language Proficiency Requirement?

- You may submit the score report of one of the following tests. The scores listed below are for reference only. Some programmes may have a higher requirement on the score requirement. Please refer to the relevant division leaflet for details.
 - TOEFL (not lower than 550 paper based, 213 computer based, and 79 internet based);
 - GMAT (Verbal not lower than 21);
 - College English Test (CET 6) of PRC (not lower than 430); or
 - IELTS (not lower than Band 6.5);
- Or possess a pass grade in English in one of the following examinations:
 - Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (AS Level);
 - Hong Kong Higher Level Examination; or
 - CUHK Matriculation Examination;
- Or have a degree from a university in Hong Kong or an English speaking country,
- Or have obtained a recognized professional qualification awarded in Hong Kong or an English speaking country.

3. Is there any special admission requirement on non-local applicants?

The application requirements are the same for both local and non-local applicants. However, non-local students need to obtain a valid permit/visa from the Hong Kong Immigration Department before registration. You may refer to Graduate School's general qualifications for admission.

4. What kind of financial assistance is available to students? How do they apply?

Students who are admitted to our full-time research postgraduate programmes are eligible to receive Postgraduate Studentships. The graduate division of your programme will consider you for the award of the Studentship together with your application for admission. You are not required to submit a separate application.

5. How can I get the application materials and application form?

Application materials for Fall admission will be distributed in January in the same year. You can visit our homepage at www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss for the Postgraduate Prospectus and submit your application online. If you want to receive the application materials by post, please contact Graduate School.

6. When should I submit my application, and what documents are required?

Most of our programmes accept applications from December to February. Individual programmes may have different application deadlines.

You are required to submit the following application documents:

- a. Completed paper application form or submit your [Online Application](#);
- b. Official Transcripts of academic records issued by your universities*;
- c. Copy of degree certificate;
- d. Documentary proof of fulfilling the English Language Proficiency Requirement (e.g. CET, TOEFL);
- e. Confidential recommendations from 2 referees*;
- f. Receipt of application fee (no need to enclose if you submitted your application online, and chose to pay the application fee by credit card. Please note that only International credit card is acceptable for payment via online application.);
- g. Copy of your HKID card or other identity document; and
- h. Specific materials required by the relevant graduate division (please refer to the division leaflet)

* The Official Transcript and Confidential Recommendation should be sent directly from the applicant's university and referee to the graduate division, or in sealed envelopes and send by the applicant with other supporting documents to the graduate division.

7. When will I receive the notification of my application result?

Application results will be posted on our website www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss from April to August. Successful applicants will receive their offer letters by mail. Applicants should consider their applications unsuccessful if they do not hear from us thereafter.

8. How can I apply for a valid visa to study in Hong Kong?

If you are admitted to our programme, we will assist you to apply for entry permit from the Hong Kong Immigration Department and send the permit to you by courier. You are also required to apply for a valid exit permit from your country.

9. Where can I find information about on-campus accommodation?

Please go to the website of the [Postgraduate Halls](#) for details. You can also send your enquiries to their email account at enquiry@pgh.cuhk.edu.hk.