

MSc in Health Education (Part-time)

Programme Director and Deputy Programme Director

Programme Director: **Professor Albert LEE**

Deputy Programme Director: **Ms Janice YUE**

Background

The School of Public Health, a part of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, offers courses and degrees across all areas of public health practice. Since 1998, the School's Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion has been conducting training programmes for school teachers, allied health professionals, and social service workers in health promotion and education. The Master of Science in Health Education programme aims at advancing students' scope of knowledge in public health and developing core competencies in health promotion and health education.

Why Study Here

Our Master of Science (MSc) in Health Education programme is built on the strength of our existing taught courses on health promotion and education, and on our Master of Public Health. The MSc in Health Education is designed to address the core competencies and responsibilities of health educators. This course provides advanced training in health promotion and health education, and equips colleagues working in various settings with the knowledge and skills necessary for planning, implementing, and evaluating programmes that improve the wellbeing and health knowledge of the public.

Who Should Apply

This course targets professionals working in the fields of health care, education, social services, and other disciplines where health education is of importance. Candidates who are interested in health education and promotion are encouraged to apply. Previous experience in this area will be an advantage, but is not essential.

Aims and Features

The MSc in Health Education aims to provide candidates with a strong foundation of knowledge in public health, and equip them with concepts and skills used in health promotion and education. The programme is designed to address the core responsibilities of health educators, as recommended by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC, 1996), which include:

1. Assessing individual and community needs for health education
2. Planning effective health education programmes
3. Implementing health education programmes
4. Evaluating the effectiveness of health education programmes
5. Coordinating the provision of health education services
6. Acting as a resource person in health education
7. Communicating health and health education needs, concerns, and resources

Programme Structure

The Master of Science degree is awarded upon the completion of 36 course units, which include the core curriculum on public health, required courses on health promotion and education, a practicum and project module, and electives.

Code	Title	Units
<i>Public Health Core Courses</i>		
PBH7000	Foundations of Public Health	1.0
PBH7001	Epidemiology I	3.0
PBH7002	Biostatistics I	3.0
PBH7003	Health Policy and Management	3.0
PBH7004	Environmental Health Sciences I	1.0
PBH7005	Environmental Health Sciences II	2.0
PBH7006	Sociomedical (Behavioural) Sciences	3.0
Subtotal		16.0
<i>Health Education and Health Promotion Required Courses</i>		
PBH7007	Methodology and Approaches in Qualitative Studies and Field Work	1.0
HED6111	Planning and Research in Health Promotion and Health	3.0

	Education	
HED6121	Communicating Health	2.0
PBH7904	Healthy Settings	2.0
HED6131	Non-Communicable Diseases as Public Health Concerns	2.0
HED6010	Practicum / Project on Health Promotion and Health Education	6.0
Subtotal		16.0
<i>Electives</i>		
HED6211	Family Health	2.0
HED6221	Gender Health	2.0
HED6231	Crisis Management	2.0
HED6241	Physical Activities and Health	1.0
HED6251	Designing Health Messages	1.0
Subtotal Required		4.0
TOTAL UNITS		36.0

Course Description:-

Public Health Core Courses

PBH7000 Foundations of Public Health (1 unit)

The course discusses the basic precepts of public health and public health history, and describes public health systems and the framework for public health practice. Students will be expected to gain an understanding of the underlying principles and approaches of modern public health and its application in practice.

PBH7001 Epidemiology I (3 units)

The course enables students to 1) describe the role of epidemiology within the broader field of public health; 2) discuss the principles of health protection and disease prevention; 3) describe key epidemiological concepts and terms; 4) compare disease rates within and between populations; 5) make appropriate estimation and use of basic measures of association and aetiology fraction in groups and populations; 6) apply appropriate epidemiologic study designs; and 7) identify, assess and control for bias and confounding in research.

PBH7002 Biostatistics I (3 units)

The course enables students to 1) describe the nature of biostatistics and its applications; 2) enumerate statistical issues due to sampling errors; 3) apply basic

statistical techniques to research problems; 4) use statistical package computer programmes; 5) gain an overview of different types of commonly used statistical methods; 6) critically appraise research results basing on validity and power of statistical methods; 7) interpret statistical results correctly.

PBH7003 Health Policy and Management (3 units)

The course assesses the impact on health policy options of social, political, economic and cultural forces, and applies basic management techniques to address organizational challenges to providing health care.

PBH7004 Environmental Health Sciences I (1 unit)

The course describes environmental influence on health and environmental causes of diseases.

PBH7005 Environmental Health Sciences II (2 units)

The course explains disease causation and the diagnostic process in relation to public health, with emphasis on environment, communicable diseases and their epidemiology health information as it relates to specific diseases.

PBH7006 Sociomedical (Behavioural) Sciences (3 units)

The course examines health issues and responses from a socio-behavioural sciences perspective and explains cultural, political, economic, and behavioural determinants of health disparities among population subgroups.

Health Education and Health Promotion Required Courses

PBH7007 Methodology and Approaches in Qualitative Studies and Field Work (1 unit)

The course introduces students to the conceptual and logistical issues related to qualitative research.

HED6111 Planning and Research in Health Promotion and Health Education (3 units)

The course aims at providing students with the fundamental concepts in research methodologies commonly used in health promotion and health education research. Knowledge and skills related to planning, implementing, and evaluating a health promotion programme will also be covered.

HED6121 Communicating Health (2 units)

The course aims at introducing to the students the theoretical foundations, principles and skills in communication and counselling.

PBH7904 Healthy Settings (2 units)

The course introduces to the students the concept of “healthy settings” and the application of the settings approach in health promotion in various settings including schools, universities, workplaces, communities, hospitals, etc.

HED6131 Non-Communicable Diseases as Public Health Concerns (2 units)

The course introduces to the students how non-communicable diseases (NCDs) become a major public health concern in the past decades, the trend of common NCDs, and prevention strategies.

HED6010 Practicum / Project on Health Promotion and Health Education (6 units)

The course aims to enable students to apply the principles, knowledge and skills learned in an academic setting through a supervised field training experience in a public health setting and the preparation of a monograph embodying original research applicable to health promotion and health education.

Elective Courses

HED6211 Family Health (2 units)

The course introduces to the students theories and models of family and health. Impact of family on health and capacity building to a harmony family life will also be explored.

HED6221 Gender Health (2 units)

The course introduces to the students basic concepts in gender health. The module will provide an understanding of bio-psychosocial aspects of men’s and women’s health to promote positive attitudes towards the topic of concern.

HED6231 Crisis Management (2 units)

The course aims at introducing to the students theories, elements of effective crisis management, applications and evaluations of crisis management. Emotional responses and strategies for managing crises will also be discussed. Activities to process grief and loss will be explored.

HED6241 Physical Activities and Health (1 unit)

The course aims to enhance thorough understanding about trends in physical activity, fitness and health.

HED6251 Designing Health Messages (1 unit)

The course aims to provide knowledge and hands on practice to students on how to design health messages appropriate to the intended audience.

Teaching Format

The teaching format will include lectures, tutorials, group projects, case studies, and a practicum. The medium of instruction is primarily in English.

Teaching Faculty

The teaching team for the programme includes the academic staff and adjunct faculty staff of the School of Public Health. Leading experts in the field of health education – from government departments, health authorities, non-governmental organisations, and overseas institutions – will be invited as guest lecturers.

Duration / Modes of Study / Tuition Fees

Programme	Duration	Mode of Study	Tuition Fee
Master of Science in Health Education	2 years	Part-time	HK\$100,800

There will be an application fee of HK\$180. All paid fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

Graduation Requirements

Student performance is assessed on a course-by-course basis. To graduate, students are required to attend at least 80% of the lectures, seminars, tutorials, and practical sessions, and to obtain a satisfactory pass in the assessment of each module, with a cumulative overall GPA of at least 2.0.

In addition, students are required to pass a test on IT proficiency as required by the University. Details on the Student IT Competence Programme can be found on the website: <http://www.sitc.cuhk.edu.hk>

Course and Unit Exemptions

Graduates of the following programmes may apply for course or unit exemptions:

- Postgraduate Diploma in Health Education and Health Promotion
- Postgraduate Diploma in Primary Health Care
- Professional Diploma in Health Promotion and Health Education
- Professional Diploma in Primary Health Care

How to Apply

Admission Requirements:-

All applicants must meet the general admission requirements of the Graduate School. Applicants should have:

- Graduated from a recognised university and obtained a Bachelor's degree, normally with honours not lower than Second Class; or
- Graduated from an honours programme of a recognised university with a Bachelor's degree, achieving an average grade of B or above in undergraduate courses; or
- Completed a course of study in a tertiary educational institution and obtained a professional qualification or similar, equivalent to an honours degree.

All applicants must also fulfil the University's English Language Proficiency Requirements for admission. Applicants should have satisfactory scores in TOEFL if they are non-local graduates of universities from non-English-speaking countries.

Admission Procedures:-

Requests of application materials can be made:

- By completing the online request form on the Graduate School website (www.cuhk.edu.hk/gss/); or
- In person from the Graduate School Office, 4/F, Academic Building No.1, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong; or

- In person from the Course Administrator, MSc in Health Education Programme, Room 202, 2/F, School of Public Health, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong.

Completed application forms should be sent to the School of Public Health by May 31, 2009. Applicants are encouraged to use the online application procedures to save time and postage. Please visit the Graduate School website at www.cuhk.edu.hk/gss.

Application Deadline:-

May 31, 2009

Administrative Staff List

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