Master of Public Health (1 Year Full-time / 2 Years Part-time)

Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health (1 Year Part-time)

Background
The mission of JC School of Public Health & Primary Care (JCSPHPC) of The Chinese University of Hong Kong is to advance the health of populations regionally and internationally, working in cross-cutting collaboration with global partners from a diverse range of disciplines and institutions. The establishment of a world-class Master of Public Health (MPH) is an integral component of this long-term mission.

Why Study in CUHK
JCSPHPC is a regional centre of public health research and teaching that strives to maintain an internationally recognized standard of excellence in training public health professionals. Our MPH curriculum is benchmarked against UK and US professional public health standards. Our programme provides a solid foundation in the core professional competencies of public health which include epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, health and social behaviour, and health services management. Additionally, we offer modules across areas of public health practice such as health promotion, research methods, health education, public health law and global health. In order to meet the increasing demand for public health professionals, our School offers both full-time and part-time study options for students wishing to undertake the MPH degree.

Individuals with a deep commitment to the improvement of public health and the betterment of society are encouraged to apply. Our School admits both health and non-health professionals. Past students included healthcare administrators, nurses, doctors, psychologists, laboratory technicians, teachers, accountants and social workers. Our alumni include students from Hong Kong, Macau, China, Japan, Nepal, Nigeria, India, Indonesia, United States, United Kingdom and Canada.

Aims and Features
The MPH programme curriculum (36 credit units) integrates theory with practice, enabling graduates to tackle contemporary public health issues. Underpinned by the three domains model of public health, the programme provides the broad public health perspectives and skills necessary to assume effective leadership in public health practice.

Many elective courses are taught in conjunction with other postgraduate programmes such as the MSc in Health Services Management and MSc in Epidemiology and Biostatistics.
Teaching

In order to provide a multi-disciplinary public health curriculum, the MPH programme collaborates extensively with experienced teaching staff from across Hong Kong’s universities, internationally-known experts, as well as senior government officers from the Department of Health and Hospital Authority. Lectures, tutorials, project work, literature review, seminars and workshops are included. The medium of instruction is English. Part-time students will attend sessions, on average, two to three evenings per week.

Full-time students will attend lectures three to four evenings a week, along with daytime lectures, tutorial sessions and weekly lunchtime seminars offered by the School.

Career Prospects

The majority of our graduates have continued on to fulfilling careers in both public and private sectors in health care service management, health promotion, and research. Some graduates continued their studies in medical school, dental school, or as doctoral candidates in health-related fields.

Graduates of MPH Programme have gone on to the following careers:

- Health finance, administration, and management in hospitals, clinics, and other health care settings.
- Health regulation and law enforcement in government agencies and departments.
- Health education and advocacy in a variety of non-governmental organizations, and international aid agencies.
- Policy development and project leadership in government departments, international think tanks and international organizations.
- Research and development in areas such as environmental health, infectious diseases, or occupational health at academic institutions.
- Teaching at secondary schools, universities, and other academic institutions.
- Leading community outreach and volunteer activities that promote health.

The course provides a solid foundation of knowledge and skills as well as a good understanding of various regional and international public health issues. There is a broad range of electives for me to build my own career pathway. I therefore had a good exposure of field training in rural China to practice what I had learnt in the lecture. Having my MPH qualification, I’m now pursuing my PhD degree in public health, and skills in epidemiology and biostatistics have given me exactly what I needed as a stepping stone. Most importantly, it was also a memorable experience that I have learnt so much from experts and friends around the world with different backgrounds throughout the program. I believe this is a life-long treasure to my future career.

Dr. Kevin HUNG

Director of Hong Kong Jockey Club Disaster Preparedness & Response Institute

“I graduated from CUHK MPH course in 2009. One of the best things about MPH at CUHK is the variety of courses that are offered, and the variety of faculties you can meet. CUHK has a great international network and can provide you with immense opportunities locally and globally. Many of the MPH students will learn much about the needs in the society, the roles that they might wish to play in the future and take their path from there. Prof Emily Chan has been my mentor throughout the course, and the close collaborations with different local and international NGOs have proven invaluable for my personal and professional development.”

Ms. Ashley HERMES

Research Assistant, PhD Student

“At the SPHPC I was able to establish a strong foundation in public health and in community outreach and volunteer activities that promote health. The programme has dedicated teachers who teach solid foundation in the concepts and general knowledge of public health. Through the courses, I became familiar with the various disciplines within this field. The capstone project not only taught me on how to conduct a real-life public health research, I have also obtained background knowledge to pursue further research.”

Dr. Nana QUARTERLY

With my African heritage and Western education, CUHK SPHPC has expanded my horizons on Eastern culture. The programme has dedicated teachers who teach solid principles and also have a passion for public health that is phenomenal. I’m now prepared to improve lives globally through health promotion using all the tools I have acquired at CUHK SPHPC.

Mr. Wai Yiu LAM

Research Officer, Communicable Diseases Health Service Delivery (COMDSS-HSD) research programme consortium, Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development, University of Leeds

“The MPH program has helped me lay a solid foundation in the concepts and general knowledge of public health. Through the courses, I became familiar with the various disciplines within this field. The capstone project not only taught me on how to conduct a real-life public health research, I have also obtained background knowledge to pursue further research.”

Mr. Yiwen HUANG

Specialist in Radiology

“The MPH Program of SPHPC is an enjoyable and engaging learning experience. It provides training across the entire spectrum of modern public health, delivered by internationally acclaimed practitioners, researchers and educators in the field. Field work and practicum are the highlights of the program through which students are able to put what they have learnt into practice. Anyone who is interested or working in public health or related fields will undoubtedly benefit from this course.”

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Recognition of the Programmes
The Hong Kong Medical Council recognises the Master of Public Health and Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health as quotable qualifications. CME credits for non-specialists can also be obtained from The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Credits Transfer
• Graduates from the Postgraduate Programme in Public Health in the JCSPHPC, with an average result of B- or above, may be exempted from the core courses (16 credit units) should they apply for further studies for the MPH Programme.
• Graduates from other Postgraduate Programmes in the School of Public Health & Primary Care who apply for further studies in the MPH Programme, may also apply for unit exemptions.
• The credits are transferable, within a validation period of up to 3 years after graduation, from the recognized Postgraduate Programme.

Centre for Global Health / Public Health Humanitarian Initiative
CUHK Public Health Humanitarian Initiative is a flagship initiative within JCSPHPC and the CUHK academic community. The initiative aims to combine expertise in public health, medicine, social science and humanities to advance research, practice and policy in humanitarian assistance to disadvantaged and marginalized populations. Website: http://ccouc.org/
The four major activity areas are:
1) Education and Training;
2) Research and Evaluation;
3) Policy and Technical Guidelines Development;
4) Public Health Relief and Emergency Assistance.

Global Collaborations
Some of the JCSPHPC’s network with international schools of public health and health institutions:
• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA
• Johns Hopkins University, USA
• British Columbia Centre for Disease Control of Canada
• Simon Fraser University, Canada
• London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, UK
• Oxford University, UK
• Bureau of Health of Shenzhen Municipality, China
• Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)
• Fudan University, China
• Peking University, China

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