

Master of Public Health



CURRICULUM



WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

MODULE 1

PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDAMENTALS AND POPULATION HEALTH

Module Description

"Healthcare is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all of the time."

Dr. C Everett Koop (13th Surgeon General of the United States)

The module will enable students to develop their understanding of the complexity of public health issues.

Module Aims

The module will give students a comprehensive knowledge and critical understanding of the practice of public health covering disease prevention, health protection and health promotion.

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe at a high level the foundations of modern public health approaches to the investigation of infectious diseases and the development of prevention measures.
2. Differentiate between personal, population and public health and explain the role of different sectors within public and population health.
3. Explain the difference between personal responsibility/choice and external factors affecting health status.
4. Describe the benefits of considering social and wider determinants of health in public health planning.
5. Identify constraints in national systems to supporting a whole system approach.
6. Review the impact of changing factors that impact public health planning for NCDs and CDs.
7. Evaluate the key benefits and constraints of a multi-sectoral approach to delivering high impact initiatives.

Assessment

- 2,000-word evidence-based essay on a topic related to disease prevention. (50% of module)
- 2,000-word evidence-based essay on a topic related to health protection. (50% of module)

MODULE 2

EPIDEMIOLOGY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Module Description

"As our world continues to generate unimaginable amounts of data, more data leads to more correlations, and more correlations can lead to more discoveries."

Hans Rosling, Professor of International Health at the Karolinska Institute

The module will provide students with a systematic understanding of epidemiological methods, their applications, strengths and weaknesses and current methodological issues. It will provide an understanding of the application of medical statistics to present quantitative information and assess the role of chance.

Module Aims

By the end of the module you should:

- understand the principle concepts and features that are encountered in epidemiological studies
- understand the key statistical principles and be able to use them to analyse epidemiology studies
- able to apply your knowledge in the design of a study

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the key concepts and features that are encountered in epidemiological studies.
2. Apply statistical principles to analyse epidemiology studies.
3. Demonstrate how epidemiological and statistical principles can be applied to health promotion.
4. Apply statistics to the design of an epidemiological study.

Assessment

- 2,000-word critical appraisal of an epidemiological study design. (50% of module)
- Short responses to set statistical questions. (50% of module)

MODULE 3

SOCIAL RESEARCH AND POLITICS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Module Description

The module will give students a thorough theoretical grounding in the sociology of health, illness, health policy and the social determinants of health and of health inequalities.

Module Aims

By the end of the module, students should be able to demonstrate:

- a comprehensive knowledge of the current debate on the principal determinants of health and health inequalities.
- an advanced and critical understanding of sociological concepts of health and illness.
- an ability to use critical appraisal skills to interpret qualitative studies.
- an ability to evaluate and use different sources of evidence appropriately, when applied to health policies.

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the principal determinants of health and health inequalities.
2. Demonstrate a critical understanding of sociological concepts of health and illness.
3. Apply critical appraisal skills to interpret qualitative studies.
4. Evaluate and use different sources of evidence appropriately when applied to health policies.
5. Demonstrate the relationship between health promotion and social determinants of health.

Assessment Component

- 4,000-word evidence-based case study on a topic related to the influence of society and politics on health. (100% of module)

MODULE 4

HEALTH PROMOTION

Module Description

The module will enable students to understand approaches used for health improvement.

Module Aims

The module will help students become familiar with approaches that are used in public health around health improvement.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge and critique of health improvement approaches.
2. Critique public health management techniques (e.g., commissioning, change management, management of the media).
3. Explain key health improvement topics (e.g., nutrition, physical activity, mental health and wellbeing, sleep, alcohol).
4. Apply a health needs assessment approach to identify public health programmes to address health priorities.
5. Find and interpret data and information from a range of sources to decide on the health priorities of a population.
6. Apply an appropriate balance of different approaches to policy questions.
7. Critically examine whether a public health intervention is working.

Assessment

- 10-minute individual presentation on a topic related to health promotion. (10% of module)
- 3,000-word report on a topic related to health promotion. (90% of module)

MODULE 5

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Module Description

The module will give students a comprehensive knowledge of key global health issues.

Module Aims

The module will give student a comprehensive knowledge of key global health issues including health protection, health cities, food security and gender equality.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse the global burden of disease.
2. Identify key global health issues relating to health protection, health promotion, health improvement and health services.
3. Formulate possible solutions to global health issues, including refugee health.
4. Evaluate the health effects of an event, policy, programme or project in a global context.
5. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of mental health challenges and strategies to reduce mental health burden, particularly in low resource settings.
6. Explain how environmental change has implications for human health.

Assessment

- 10-minute individual presentation on a topic related to global health. (10% of module)
- 3,000-word report on a topic related to global health. (90% of module)

MODULE 6

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Module Description

The module will provide an understanding of economic concepts and their relevance to decisions around the allocation of health care resources.

Module Aims

This module aims to provide a solid understanding to the level that participants will be able to critically appraise health economic studies and engage with health economists working with them as advisors or research collaborators.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of key economic concepts (such as opportunity cost, efficiency, marginal analysis) and justify the use of these concepts to support health policy and health promotion.
2. Differentiate between alternative approaches countries use to structure their health care systems and deliver health care, and critique these approaches based on considerations such as population coverage, total spending, efficiency and equity.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods underpinning economic evaluation in health care, and become aware of key aspects of good practice in undertaking and reporting an economic evaluation.

Assessment

- Written report (2,000 words) to demonstrate understanding of key economic concepts in health policy. (50% of module)
- Written report (2,000 words) to demonstrate critical appraisal of an economic evaluation study. (50% of module)

MODULE 7

RESEARCH IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Module Description

“Research in Public Health” is a 60 CATS module that will enable students to identify, understand, appraise and plan research related to public health and health promotion.

The module will build on the students’ learning in the PG Diploma, allowing them to explore different research methods and giving them the opportunity to apply these skills and understanding to develop, design and deliver a Research Project relevant to public health and health promotion.

The module addresses the following areas:

- literature searching
- formulating a research question
- study design
- writing a research protocol
- presenting a research protocol
- preparing a poster presentation
- critical writing
- writing for publication

Module Aims

The aims of this module are:

- to develop students’ knowledge and understanding of research methods and principles
- to develop students’ intellectual abilities using theoretical perspectives and drawing on current experience and previous experiential learning
- to develop students’ ability to critically evaluate an area of practice relevant to public health and health promotion
- to develop students’ ability to critically appraise the research literature and synthesise their findings
- to develop students’ ability to undertake substantial independent study
- to develop students’ ability to produce and communicate a piece of work informed by the forefront of research and evaluation, and with the potential for publication for a professional audience

MODULE 7

RESEARCH IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop an appropriate research proposal and protocol that addresses a research question or evaluates an area of professional practice within public health and health promotion.
2. Demonstrate self-direction and originality in the critical evaluation and synthesis of the research evidence in an area of public health and health promotion, and consider possible developments and improvements for implementation.
3. Apply the principles and techniques of critical appraisal to evaluate the limitations of research evidence, including complex interventions and studies at the forefront of methodological development in public health and health promotion.
4. Demonstrate understanding of ethical values and principles in the context of Research in Public Health and Health Promotion, how to apply for ethical approval and the role of Internal Review Boards.
5. Justify the choice of methodology and how this applies to research or enquiry within public health and health promotion.
6. Demonstrate advanced skills in planning, information gathering and data interpretation and synthesis for research enquiry.
7. Demonstrate independent analytical and critical thinking skills.
8. Write succinctly in the format of an academic article for an appropriate professional journal and present work visually in the format of an academic poster.
9. Design, plan, conduct, and complete a significant piece of academic work which addresses an area of public health and health promotion.
10. Demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of different research methodologies and how these might be applied to research in public health and health promotion.

Assessment

Formative - Students will deliver a Formative Assessment in the form of an oral presentation of their research proposal. Students will receive feedback from their peers, their supervisor and one other academic reviewer.

Summative - Students will deliver 3 pieces of work for summative assessment:

- research proposal. (pass/fail)
- poster presentation. (20% of module)
- journal article. (80% of module)

This programme is delivered in partnership with iheed

The partnership between the University of Warwick and iheed brings together Warwick's academic excellence and iheed's unrivalled expertise in online healthcare education. This synergy creates a transformative learning journey that can take your healthcare leadership career to new heights.

Warwick's faculty members contribute their knowledge, research and teaching excellence, ensuring the academic rigor and depth of the programme. Simultaneously, iheed's world-leading online education capabilities bring learning to life in a stimulating, interactive and user-friendly way, ensuring a rich, engaging and, most importantly, effective learning experience.

The result is a programme that delivers the very best of both partners: top-tier academic quality, taught in a way that maximises learning outcomes and provides flexibility for professionals.

**Interested in discovering more about iheed online programmes?
Get in touch at:**

publichealth@iheed.org



iheed.org

 **+353 1 230 8652**

