UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Health and Wellbeing		
Course Code(s):	HL049P01UM HL049P31UM	Full-time Part-time	12 Months 2 Years
Course Title:	Master of Public Health (MPH)		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Public Health Public Health Postgraduate Diploma Public Health Postgraduate Certificate Public Health University Statement of Credit Public Health		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	14/Sep/2026		
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:			
Course Specification valid to:			

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Irfan Khawaja
Head of Department:	Mrs Sarah Sherwin

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The MPH has developed cohesive links with local Public Health Departments as well as international public health bodies and membership organisations, such as the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) and the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER). Through these links with employers and researchers, you will have an opportunity to meet public health professionals who are invited in as guest speakers. Our university Careers Enterprise and Workplace team work closely with the MPH team to appraise students of career opportunities and to support postgraduate career plans. We have strong links with voluntary public health agencies who are willing to meet with you offering voluntary placements. In this respect, if you are not familiar with the local area you can be signposted to appropriate work experience that will serve to enhance your studies and improve your career prospects. To encourage community and work-based links the award also promotes a student-based conference at the end of each academic year that will showcase your achievements. Public health stakeholders and the voluntary sector organisations are invited to this event.

This award is mapped against the UKPHR specialist register standards so you can go on to use the award to fulfil part of the requirements for registration as a specialist practitioner in the future. The UKPHR provides public protection by ensuring that only competent public health professionals are registered and that high standards of practice are maintained. The UKPHR is one of three bodies that registers public health practitioners to work at consultant or director level (the other two being the Faculty of Public Health (FPH) and the General Medical Council). The UKPHR specialist register standards have also been mapped against the Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework and refers to some of the core competencies outlined by the FPH.

One of the distinctive features of this course is its embedding of optionality in module choices. In addition to the core public health modules (Public Health & Epidemiology, Advanced Research Skills, Research Dissertation) you can choose 2 optional modules from a menu of 4 options (Health Promotion, Health Policy, Leadership in Public Health and Global Health). This will enable the creation of bespoke MPH pathways founded upon the core MPH modular framework, giving you the freedom to select an MPH framework which suits your specific academic interests and career aspirations.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Intakes:

September

January

May

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2021/2	H	31	£3275.00
2022/3	H	Full Time	£7995.00
2022/3	Overseas	Full Time	£14450.00
2022/3	H	31	£3998.00
2023/4	H	Full Time	£8395.00
2023/4	Overseas	Full Time	£15450.00
2023/4	H	31	£4198.00
2024/5	H	Full Time	£8815.00
2024/5	Overseas	Full Time	£15950.00
2024/5	H	31	£4408.00
2025/6	H	Full Time	£9088.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time	£16950.00
2025/6	H	31	£4544.00
2026/7	H	Full Time	£
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time	£18645.00
2026/7	H	31	£

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

May (Full-time)

Full time Masters students normally study 180 credits for their award.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7HW170	Advanced Research Skills for Public Health	30	SEM3	Core
7HW175	Research Dissertation	30	CRYRA	Core

May (Full-time)

Full time Masters students normally study 180 credits for their award.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7HW174	Public Health and Epidemiology	30	SEM1	Core

Option Group 02 | Min Value: 60 | Max Value: 60

7HW172	Health Policy	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Lucky Audu
7HW173	Health Promotion	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Folashade Alloh
7HW171	Global Health	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Rathnakar Andugula
7HW176	Leadership in Public Health	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Rathnakar Andugula

September (Full-time)

Full time Masters students normally study 180 credits for their award.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7HW170	Advanced Research Skills for Public Health	30	SEM1	Core
7HW174	Public Health and Epidemiology	30	SEM1	Core
7HW175	Research Dissertation	30	CRYRA	Core

Option Group 01 | Min Value: 60 | Max Value: 60

7HW172	Health Policy	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Lucky Audu
7HW173	Health Promotion	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Folashade Alloh
7HW171	Global Health	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Rathnakar Andugula
7HW176	Leadership in Public Health	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Rathnakar Andugula

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

None

Reference Points:

The course has been carefully designed to meet your needs, and the needs of current and potential employers. The following reference points have informed the award:

Subject specific

UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) and Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework (PHSKF)

Learners graduating with a Master of Public Health will have a range of employment opportunities available to them. Whilst there are no Professional, Statutory & Regulatory Bodies, there are voluntary registers for specialists and practitioners working in public health; as the profession becomes increasingly popular, these registers are becoming increasingly important for those wishing to pursue a career in public health.

The UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) provides public protection by ensuring that only competent public health professionals are registered and that high standards of practice are maintained. The UKPHR is one of 3 bodies that registers public health practitioners to work at consultant or director level (the other two being the Faculty of Public Health and the General Medical Council).

This course is mapped against the UKPHR criteria for the specialist register. These are the criteria that applicants need to demonstrate that they meet when applying to join the register. As such, this and other modules for the MPH award will enable students to demonstrate they have achieved postgraduate knowledge in key areas required to join the register. www.ukphr.org + KH-and-SH-Competencies-April-2025-1.pdf

The UKPHR criteria for practitioner standards are also mapped against the PHSKF https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-health-skills-and-knowledge-framework-phskf.

Faculty of Public Health (FPH)

The FPH is the standard setting body for specialists in public health in the UK, it sits at the forefront of the development and transformation of the Public Health profession. The course covers many of the key areas of the FPH curriculum and the principles outlined in the FPH's Good Public Health Practice framework. For more information see: http://www.fph.org.uk

Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) - Professional Practice Framework

The RSPH Professional Practice Framework enables managers and aspiring managers to articulate what they do, how they work, and how they make an impact on themselves, the people with whom they work, the services that they are responsible for, and the organisations in which they work, lead, and manage. The award's learning objectives address aspects of the framework and ensure that you will be prepared to meet the requirements of conduct, competence and behaviour expected of those working in public health.

https://www.ukphr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Public_Health_Framework.pdf

Academic reference points

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act 2010: guidance - GOV.UK

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGCERT01 Critical evaluate and apply current theories, concepts and insights informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice (Knowing)	
PGCERT02 Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and practical and/or professional skills in your discipline. (Knowing)	
PGCERT03 Make informed decisions on complex issues, and communicate your conclusions clearly to different audiences. (Doing)	
PGCERT04 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. (Doing)	
PGCERT05 Critically analyse, identify and utilise various study methods to improve your own performance. (Being)	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGCERT06 Reflect on your own achievements, identify future goals and plan for a further career or study (Being)	
PGDIP01 Demonstrate critical evaluation of current theories, concepts and insights informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice. Show how you have applied this knowledge in original and insightful ways. (Knowing)	
PGDIP02 Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and practical and/or professional skills in your discipline. (Knowing)	
PGDIP03 Make informed decisions on complex issues, and communicate your conclusions clearly to different audiences employing discipline conventions and expectations. (Doing)	
PGDIP04 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, acting independently and autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. (Doing)	
PGDIP05 Critically analyse, identify and utilise various study methods to improve your own performance. (Being)	
PGDIP06 Reflect on your own achievements and plan for a future career or further study (Being)	
MA01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the impact of social inequality on health and wellbeing and identify evidence-based barriers to good public health. (Knowing)	
MA02 Analyse data on emerging public health threats, using public health theory and research, to devise original and appropriate solutions. (Knowing)	
MA03 Communicate public health theory, policy, practice, and research concisely to expert audiences, highlighting the risks and benefits of different causes of action. (Doing)	
MA04 Design theoretically informed public health interventions to safeguard public health and promote good health and wellbeing for all. (Doing)	
MA05 Serve as part of the public health workforce, demonstrating personal responsibility, decision-making, to improve the health and safety of communities. (Being)	
MA06 Demonstrate independent research skills- utilising appropriate methodologies - to generate new evidence, insights and recommendations to promote population health. (Being)	

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

Your learning will include the study of four taught modules which account for two thirds of the programme; the dissertation accounts for the final third of the programme and requires you to study independently with the support of a research supervisor. Learning activities will enable you to become skilled and knowledgeable in a range of public health areas so that you can achieve the learning outcomes. In doing so you will also achieve our graduate attributes of digital literacy, global citizenship and prepare you for employment in public health and related disciplines.

The learning activities which will support you in the achievement of the learning outcomes are wide and varied. To get the most from this award, you will be required to actively engage in class and online, carry out wider reading and complete formative assessments. You will also be required to take an active part in your learning and work in partnership with your lecturing team for the effective functioning and success of the module.

Taught materials include research informed key lectures providing you with an opportunity to acquire the appropriate knowledge and skills for the module. Each session has clear aims, learning outcomes, a clarification of their link to the assessment and suggestions for further reading. Group discussions will enable you to

explore specific issues and examples and apply this learning to your own role and engage in debate, self-reflection, and evaluation.

Directed study between in-class sessions will provide you with opportunity to undertake reading, participate in online learning tasks, address individual learning needs and contextualise learning to your own area of interest or practice.

Digital skills will be enhanced by encouraging you to search a wide range of relevant databases and engage with online resources through the VLE (lecture notes and external links to websites of interest). Blended and distributed learning models will be used as and when appropriate – this is where sessions are delivered through a combination of online and in class scheduled sessions with self-directed study and online activities. Tutorials will be used to facilitate dialogue between lecturers, students and peers to further develop and challenge conceptual understanding through reflection and analysis. In addition, modules may include sessions led by a wide range of stakeholders, for example, employers, service users, carers and subject specialists.

You will be encouraged to explore global as well as local issues through in-class content, group work, formative and summative content, and consider diversity and inclusivity in public health practice. This will be supplemented through additional lectures and seminars offered to you across the programme.

Employability and graduate skills will be explored and gained by you throughout the modules (as outlined in the reference points).

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

The Masters in Public Health course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes), coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation), practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment).

At the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation, in-depth policy analysis or a practice-based piece of research.

The ways in which you will be assessed will:

• Allow you to demonstrate that you have met the learning outcomes of your course and modules;

• Enable you to reflect on your performance, following timely, meaningful and useful feedback;

• Encourage you to identify your strengths and weaknesses so that the level of achievement can be measured and recorded.

There are two types of assessment you will encounter throughout the course: -

• Formative – where the marks and grades for assessment activities do not contribute towards the module mark and grade. Formative assessment activities are useful to provide you with comments to let you know how you are doing. Sometimes the format of a formative assessment activity will be similar to the final (summative) assessment activity for the module, to prepare you and ensure that you are familiar with the summative assessment task

• Summative - assessment activities where the mark you receive will contribute towards the final mark for your modules

The development of inclusive assessment opportunities which meet the needs of all learners is central to the course philosophy and our assessment strategy. In support of an inclusive curriculum design, the assessment strategy will support you to evidence the full range of graduate attributes: Knowledgeable, Professional, Global Citizen and Digital Fluency. The core modules (Public Health & Epidemiology, Advanced Research Skills, and Research Dissertation feature assessments which target the full spectrum of the University’s Graduate Attributes Framework: e.g. Public Health & Epidemiology requires you to demonstrate knowledge and application of the core competencies and key domains of public health practice, as well as Global Citizenship through a critical awareness of the global nature of modern health challenges; Advanced Research Skills requires demonstration of digital fluency in the gathering, analysis and presentation of data; completing the Research Dissertation will demand professional attributes (such as time-management, data-management, communication with academic supervisors and assessors)

Further Information for Student:

From your first day at university, you will be supported by academics and the teaching team, but you will also receive dedicated support the university’s Student Success Coaches. Collectively, we will help you to settle into your studies at the university and provide bespoke support to you in the areas you feel it is most needed.

Induction sessions are programmed during Welcome Week (for early arrivals) and repeated during Week 3 (to ensure we cater to the needs of later arrivals). You will also take part in an Orientation week in Week 6 (where a week-long schedule of academic skills, employability/careers advice and social events is timetabled) to promote group identity and a sense of belonging.

Module Leader:

Your module leaders are your first point of contact for everything module-related whether that's help with a particular part of the module or advice on how to complete the assessment. Module leaders will usually be able to schedule a meeting with you via Teams (Zoom or Skype). A list of module leaders is available in your Course Guides, along with their contact details.

Course Leader

Your course leader has overall responsibility for your course and the enrolled students. They monitor the quality of the course through course committees which collect feedback from staff and students. They manage the academic programme of study and are responsible for reporting any issues raised and examples of good practice.

Research Supervisor

You will be allocated to a research supervisor towards the end of your first semester of study. Your supervisor will advise and guide you throughout the independent study module (i.e. dissertation). You are reminded that this is an independent study module and you are required to take an active part in this relationship – from planning meetings and setting agendas, through to planning your time and making sure you are aware when your supervisor is available to support you.

Student Success Coach:

You will be allocated a Student Success Coach (also your Personal Tutor) at the start of your course, with whom you will build and develop a relationship to help you work towards achieving the course learning outcomes. Your Student Success Coach will meet with you on a regular basis (at least three times per academic year) to offer support, identify if you are making satisfactory progress and to offer support if you are at risk of withdrawal.

The University provides a wide range of academic and pastoral support to help students succeed in their studies and personal development. This includes access to the Library and Skills for Learning service, a dedicated Student Success Coach for MPH students, and tailored advice from the Careers and Enterprise teams. Students also benefit from 24/7 wellbeing support through WLV Student Life Connect, pastoral care via the Multi-faith Chaplaincy, and assistance from the Mental Health and

Wellbeing team. Those living in university accommodation have additional access to Residential Life support, and all students can engage with the Students' Union for advocacy, societies, and further peer-led services.

Currency:

Our MPH is designed to stay current, forward-thinking, and closely connected to real-world health challenges. We regularly review and update the course content so that what you learn reflects the latest research, emerging theories, and issues shaping global public health. This includes developments in health policy, global health trends, community health practice, digital health, and approaches to tackling health inequalities.

You will engage with cutting-edge research throughout your studies. Many of your lecturers are active researchers whose work influences local, national, and international public health practice. You'll explore real research studies—including those conducted here at the University of Wolverhampton—and learn how evidence-based information shapes decision-making in practice. As you progress, you'll develop your own inquiry skills, learning how to collect, analyse, and evaluate data. In the Research Dissertation module, you will complete your own research project, putting your critical thinking and investigation skills into practice.

The course prepares you to think creatively and critically about the complex challenges facing society today. Through case studies, problem-solving tasks, and community-focused learning, you will explore issues linked to sustainability, social responsibility, health equity, enterprise, and innovation. You'll learn how to approach public health questions from multiple angles and consider the wider impact of decisions on communities and the environment.

Finally, the course encourages interdisciplinary learning and lifelong development. Public health draws on many fields—from medicine and social sciences to data science, psychology, and environmental health—and your learning is designed to reflect this. You will work with other students across different disciplines, learn from external practitioners, and build the adaptable skills needed to thrive in a constantly evolving profession. The course aims to Masters' students who are curious, collaborative, and ready to keep learning throughout their careers.

Personalisation Opportunities:

Our MPH has been designed to recognise that students come from many different backgrounds, with a wide range of experiences, identities, and perspectives. We want everyone to feel that the course speaks to who they are and the communities they care about. To make learning meaningful and inclusive, we build diversity into the course in several ways. Throughout the degree, you'll see case studies, research examples, and public health issues drawn from different cultures, communities, and global contexts. This helps you understand how public health challenges, and solutions, can vary across diverse populations. We encourage you to bring your own background, interests, and identity into discussions, projects, and assessments. This helps the whole class learn from a wider range of viewpoints and makes your work feel more personally relevant. In addition, we create spaces where students can talk openly about sensitive or complex topics—such as health inequalities, culture, identity, and lived experience—while feeling supported and respected.

Through assessments, optional modules, and community-based learning, you can explore public health issues that relate to your own identity, interests, and future career goals. In fact, the course curriculum actively encourages students to explore a range of public health related topics according to their own interests, lived experiences, and career ambitions. Many of the assessments allow students to self-select a topic, related to the module, for them to base their work upon. In addition to this, students can choose from a selection of modules on the programme depending upon their preference; there are different pathways that can be selected by choosing different combinations of modules, and staff will support students to make the choices which best align to the students' ambitions. Whilst these options will be introduced early in the programme, the modules at level four have also been designed to include aspects of the optional modules, giving students the opportunity to understand what will be included in these modules, therefore allowing them to make an informed decision.

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

The University acknowledges the diversity of our student population and the need to recognise that the individual aspirations and motivations of students are distinct and varied in relation to career and personal development. Reflecting this, there are a range of approaches through which employability is fostered, either explicitly or implicitly within the MPH. These are not mutually exclusive and overlap to greater or lesser degrees. Approaches range from focused modules which explore working within health and care settings, through to leadership skills and knowledge, and wider activities and opportunities available through the careers, Enterprise and the Workplace service. These and other initiatives aim to create graduates who are enterprising and entrepreneurial.

Postgraduate study requires you to take greater responsibility for your own learning, becoming self-directed, reflective, and motivated. Whilst an awareness of contemporary professional contexts and techniques is desirable, these skills of initiative, personal responsibility and intellectual curiosity are the attributes which employers consistently rate highly in surveys of postgraduate skills.

In designing the programme, the curriculum planning team have carefully considered the University of Wolverhampton Graduate Attributes framework to ensure that you can acquire and evidence skills that employers so keenly seek. Firstly, the course will enable you to develop your skills in global citizenship and a cultural and social mindset. In doing so, you will gain skills so you can become culturally and socially aware, emotionally intelligent, an effective communicator, self-aware, confident, motivated, ethical, collaborative, and influential. Secondly, the course will enable you to develop your knowledge in public health, by enabling you to become digitally fluid, technically skilled, a critical thinker, analytical, reflective, curious, experienced, autonomous and engaged. Finally, the course will enable you to develop a professional and enterprising mindset, where you will be encouraged to become innovative and enterprising, commercially aware, resilient, ambitious, visionary, goal oriented, creative, a lateral thinker and adaptable.

Successful MPH students are attractive to both the NHS, local authorities and the voluntary sector as potential employees. career opportunities range from academic roles within public health, roles within health promotion, health statistics and epidemiology, clinical Governance, Public health research and development. Students may also wish to pursue doctoral study.

Recently qualified students have progressed into Public Health departments within the UK and international students have secured roles within international organisations such as WHO and the UN.

Other occupational roles include:

- Health Promoter
- Health Advisor
- Health Practitioner
- Public Health worker
- Health inequalities worker
- Health trainer
- Housing Services Officer
- Sexual Health Advisor

- Smoking cessation counsellor
- Community Development Worker
- Health information Officer
- Health researcher
- Health management
- Wellbeing advisor
- Community support worker
- School health advisor
- Health educator

For those who wish to continue in further study or research, the Faculty of Education, Health and Wellbeing offers PhD opportunities which may be studied full or part-time, along with more flexible study options for those who wish to take stand-alone modules as part of their Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

