



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**

SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE,
DENTISTRY AND
BIOMEDICAL
SCIENCES

MASTER THE SCIENCE AND ART OF PUBLIC HEALTH

MPH
PUBLIC HEALTH

Entrance Requirements

A 2.1 Honours degree or above in a health-related subject or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University. Evidence of equivalent professional qualifications (MBBS, BDS or BVSc) or experience will be considered on an individual basis.

International Qualifications

For information on international qualification equivalents, please see go.qub.ac.uk/YourCountry

Additional Information for International Students

International students wishing to apply to Queen's University Belfast (and for whom English is not their first language), must be able to demonstrate their proficiency in English in order to benefit fully from their course of study or research. Non-EEA nationals must also satisfy UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) immigration requirements for English language for visa purposes.

Evidence of an IELTS* score of 6.5, with not less than 6.0 in any component, or an equivalent qualification acceptable to the University is required.

*Taken within the last 2 years.

For more information on English Language requirements for EEA and non-EEA nationals see: go.qub.ac.uk/EnglishLanguageReqs

If you need to improve your English language skills before your study, our partner INTO Queen's University Belfast offers a range of English language courses; see www.intohigher.com/qub

Duration

1 year full-time for award of MPH. Students may gain a PG Diploma on successful completion of Semesters 1 and 2 (approx. 8 months).

Teaching Times

Morning/Afternoon

On average 20 hours per week. There are usually no classes on Wednesdays.

We provide a range of learning experiences which enable our students to engage with subject experts, develop attributes and perspectives that will equip them for life and work that enhances their development as independent, lifelong learners.

Classes are in the morning and afternoon through a combination of course lectures, practical experiences and self-directed study to enhance employability.

Assessment

Assessment is by a variety of methods including written examination, written assignments and oral presentations. A 10,000-15,000 word dissertation is required.

Contact Us

askmhls@qub.ac.uk

Further Information

www.qub.ac.uk

MPH PUBLIC HEALTH

Overview

The course equips students with the knowledge and skills base to pursue a career in public health or other health-related leadership roles.

The curriculum for the MPH at Queen's is aligned closely to the syllabus for the professional exams for the UK Faculty of Public Health.

A MPH is an internationally recognised qualification opening up many employment opportunities throughout the world.

The MPH is designed to introduce students to: The 'science' of public health practice: a robust, systematic and evidence-based approach to define and understand population health issues and problems.

The 'art' of public health practice – interpersonal and organisational skills to work in partnership with others; influence decisions; support implementation of policy, programmes or interventions; and effect real change. It aims to identify optimal solutions for health gain within available resources.

Content

Programme content is based on the Diploma (Part A) Examination Syllabus for Membership of the UK Faculty of Public Health. The MPH comprises two taught semesters plus one research-based component.

Semester 1

Introduces core concepts, methodologies and approaches, with an emphasis on critical thinking and the application of new knowledge:

Determinants and Improvement of Health

This module explores the factors that underlie health and disease and will examine variations and inequalities in health; lifestyles and behaviours that impact on health and how our social and physical environment impacts on health. Students will also be given an introduction to health promotion and the planning of health improvement programmes. This will be developed further in subsequent modules.

Medical Statistics

This module teaches how to formulate research problems in statistical terms, to design informative experiments, to apply appropriate statistical methods and to correctly interpret results. The module provides the skills necessary for the planning and execution of research projects.

Public Health Sciences

This module discusses the collection and analysis of data regarding demography and population health characteristics. It also demonstrates understanding of epidemiological concepts and methodologies, and the appropriate interpretation of epidemiological study findings. The basic principles of theory and practice in qualitative health research are discussed and students will gain skills in critical assessment and appropriate interpretation of published health evidence.

Semester 2

Focuses on public health practice within the three principal domains/modules:

Health and Social Care Systems

This module discusses how health systems can be strengthened and covers: the application of a public health approach and perspective to the assessment of the health needs of the population; planning, commissioning and delivery of high quality evidence based health and social care services and; population screening programmes.

Health Protection

This module reviews the roles and functions of national and local health protection arrangements in relation to Communicable Disease Control and assessment of Environmental Hazards and Emergency Preparedness and Response. It also examines key threats to Public Health in these areas and mechanisms for investigation and responding to these threats to public health in a multi-agency context.

Public Health Skills in Practice

This module builds on earlier modules to further develop personal and professional skills in working with health organisations and other sectors to improve health and the quality of services.

Semester 3

Dissertation

Students are also required to complete an appropriate, discrete, academic or service public health dissertation project to integrate and apply public health-related knowledge and skills. There may be opportunities to work with local public health organisations.

Why Queen's

In collaboration with the Institute of Public Health in Ireland and other key local stakeholders, Queen's hosts one of five UKCRC Public Health Research Centres of Excellence in the UK to encourage multidisciplinary working and increase capacity to address complex population-level health issues.

You will be based at the Royal Victoria Hospital site, and you will be taught and mentored by world-class researchers.

Careers

MPH graduates will have the skills and knowledge foundation to pursue public health career opportunities in the health and social care sector, health-related non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and recent graduates currently work in these roles for organisations such as Medair, Save the Children, HSC and the Department of Health in Pennsylvania. Some graduates choose to undertake further studies by doing a PhD either at QUB or elsewhere in a public health related field.