Programme Specification

Global Health (2019-20)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	1
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Master of Science (MSc)
Name of Award	Global Health
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate Postgraduate Diploma
FHEQ level of final award	Level 7
UCAS code	
Programme Code	6097
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	
Programme Lead	Sarah Neal (sn1c09)
Pathway Lead	

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The MSc in Global Health is a research-led, inter- and multi-disciplinary degree programme designed to provide comprehensive training on the principles, methods and research skills necessary to understand, interpret and solve critical global health challenges. Global health extends beyond international/public health and addresses issues that directly or indirectly affect human health transcending national boundaries. It adopts a social, behavioural and environmental sciences perspective to address emerging and re-emerging transnational health challenges, with an emphasis on sustainable development goals for improving the health and wellbeing of population in both developed and developing societies, particularly middle income and resource poor countries.

The aims of the MSc in Global Health are to provide students with a deeper understanding of current and emerging transnational issues in population health and wellbeing and their complex determinants in a wider context, including socio-behavioural, demographic, spatial, economic, political/policy, environmental/climate, healthcare and technological dimensions. It addresses the multiple risk factors and determinants associated with global burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases within the demographic, epidemiological and nutrition transition framework, while taking into account changing population structures, inequalities, inequities and trends in globalisation, migration and urbanisation. With an orientation towards quantitative analyses of global health trends and differentials, the programme focuses on a wide range of cutting-edge interdisciplinary methodological and programme evaluation tools to analyse transnational health challenges using health, epidemiological, demographic, social and economic data. The programme will examine cost-effective and sustainable policy solutions and multi-sectoral intervention strategies to reduce morbidity and premature mortality, as well as associated risk factors determining both communicable and non-communicable diseases at the global level.

Taught by research-active internationally leading academic experts from multidisciplinary background, the

programme equips students with problem-solving and critical thinking skills in tackling global public health issues, and offers a solid foundation for career development in a range of contexts. A distinct feature of the MSc is the quantitative focus and the breadth of subject area covered in the core, compulsory and option modules from demography, medicine, economics, geography, gerontology, statistics, health sciences and management.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching
The MSc in Global Health is completed over a 12 month period, with two semesters of taught modules consisting of 60 ECTS/120 CATS points, followed by a 30 ECTS/60 CATS dissertation or a research project lasting over 3 months in summer.

The MSc programme has interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary modules taught by research-active academics from the Faculties of Social and Human Sciences, Medicine, Health Sciences, Business and Law and Management and Environment and Engineering Sciences. The teaching is highly interactive and involves a wide range of online e-learning/ interactive tools and guided study resources. The teaching is delivered taking into account of the diversity of student experiences and without imposing any assumptions regarding prior knowledge. Through case studies, illustrative examples, data analysis and multiple assessment strategies, the programme reinforces independent research, and stimulates critical thinking, research communication (written and oral) and problem solving skills. The induction will cover basic research skills, general introduction to common statistical software, writing and oral presentations, critical appraisal of published literature and issues related to academic integrity.

In summary, the learning and teaching of the MSc programme will be facilitated through:

- Interactive lectures and interdisciplinary modules
- Team teaching by research active academics
- Transformative and reflective learning
- Case studies
- Problem-solving and analysis of real data
- Multimedia based tutorials, debates, peer-review and group work
- Web-based evaluation of global health resources including extensive use of library and blackboard
- Consultation/advice
- Independent research

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Assessment
The type of assessment varies across modules depending on specific learning outcomes and key skills. The programme is evaluated by a range of formative and summative assessment methods: coursework including problem-solving assignments and case studies, critical review of journal articles and research reports in written format, essays, posters, oral/electronic presentations, written examination and independent research project. The students who progress to the MSc stage will be required to produce a dissertation based on an independent research project and should be able to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of an individually researched topic and presentation of research findings in a scientific and systematic manner.

Special Features of the programme

N/A

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the MSc programme in Global Health are to:

1. Introduce you to the essential concepts and dimensions of global health, and related outcome measures including the range of health indicators used to monitor and evaluate the UN millennium development and post-2015 sustainable development health-related goals;
2. Expand your multidisciplinary knowledge and understanding of current and emerging transnational issues in population health and well-being, their complex determinants in a wider socio-behavioural, demographic, spatial, economic, political, environmental, healthcare, technological and policy contexts;
3. Enable your understanding of multiple risk factors, determinants, and demographic and socio-economic impact associated with global burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases and mortality within the demographic, epidemiological and nutrition transition frameworks, taking into account of trends in globalisation, migration and urbanisation, changing population structures, inequalities and inequities;
4. Enable you to comprehend, design and evaluate cost-effective, sustainable and multi-sectoral intervention/health promotion strategies and policy solutions to reduce the burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases and premature mortality at the global level;
5. Develop your critical thinking and analytical skills for problem-solving in global health through application of wide ranging research methods techniques to real data;
6. Provide you with the opportunity to develop quantitative skills in global health research from a combination of options selected within epidemiology, demography, statistical and geographical information techniques;
7. Develop key transferable skills, including independent research, report writing, data analysis, leadership, teamwork, personal organisation, oral communication and extracting information from wide ranging sources;
8. Prepare you to develop/advance professional career in global health and international development.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

A1. The concepts and dimensions underlying the measurement and analysis of global health in transnational settings;
A2. Critical issues and (re) emerging challenges in transnational health and population development;
A3. The interaction of multiple risk factors and the range of complex determinants associated with the global disease burden and premature mortality in a wider socio-behavioural, demographic, spatial, economic, political/policy, environmental/climate, healthcare and technological context;
A4. Complex relationship between global health, poverty and human development within the framework of UN millennium development and sustainable development goals;
A5. The underlying linkages of demographic, epidemiological and nutrition transition processes in evaluating and forecasting global disease burden and premature mortality;
A6. The cost-effective, sustainable and multi-sectoral intervention/health promotion and policy strategies to reduce the disease burden and premature mortality;
A7. The principles and application of appropriate quantitative techniques to measure and quantify global health trends and differentials using real data;
A8. How different types of global health data resources can be accessed, evaluated and analysed, appreciating their limitations and potential for policy development and programme interventions.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The MSc in Global Health is designed to facilitate research-led teaching and multidisciplinary learning. The teaching methods include interactive and problem-based lectures, seminars and workshops, group work, critical reviews, case studies, computer workshops, web-based learning and self-directed study. The topics covered in each session will reflect on specific learning outcomes, subject-specific intellectual and research skills. The acquisition of knowledge and understanding specified in the learning outcomes will be achieved through a combination of lectures, debates and seminars (A1-A6), paper-based and

computer workshops (A1, A7, A8) where you will be invited to solve real situation problems by analysing individual and aggregate data based on surveys, registration and census records. The lectures will use illustrative examples which will highlight the practical application of knowledge gained from theories, methods and observations.

Self-directed learning is an integral part of the MSc programme and you will have access to a wide range of library and electronic resources. In addition, you will receive academic supervision for undertaking an independent research project, required for successful completion of the degree programme, lasting over 3 months during summer.

Assessment Methods

The type of assessment is determined by the specification of learning outcomes. Every module in the MSc programme is assessed either by a coursework assignment, group work, oral presentation, poster or a written examination, or a combination of these methods. The assessment will focus on testing your academic abilities and skills to articulate ideas in a concise and coherent format and the attainment of learning outcomes, especially integration of theories, methods and practice, critical appraisal and problem solving skills. The level of knowledge and practical application of quantitative techniques for global health research will be evaluated by coursework based on computer-based analysis of secondary datasets.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

B1. Scientifically evaluate and explain global health issues and challenges from a multidisciplinary perspective;
B2. Explain the complex interaction of a range of individual, household and community level risk factors and determinants of disease burden and premature mortality at the global level;
B3. Investigate the broader demographic, social and economic impact of disease burden and premature mortality;
B4. Synthesise and critically evaluate information from global health databases and relevant data sources;
B5. Design baseline assessment and logical framework tools for evaluating global health indicators and relevant policies and programmes;
B6. Critically appraise and apply relevant research methods tools for measuring, analysing and interpreting global health indicators and related outcomes;
B7. Write critical reviews and research reports based on published literature and secondary data analysis.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The multidisciplinary and research-led approach is emphasised throughout the learning and teaching experience. The teaching will facilitate interactive classroom learning in the form of lectures, debates, seminar discussions, case studies, critical reviews and group work. You will dedicate significant time for undertaking self-study and research using a range of library and online study resources. The induction at the start of the programme will include interactive sessions to teach basic research skills, overview of statistical software (e.g. SPSS, STATA, R), writing and oral presentations, critical appraisal of published literature and issues related to academic integrity. This will enable students to successfully achieve outcomes 14 and 15. You will receive formal and informal feedback on various learning components and assignments through oral, written and electronic (Course Blackboard, group email) formats.

Assessment Methods

The subject specific intellectual and research skills will be evaluated using a range of formative and summative assessment methods which will include coursework assignment, group work, oral presentation, poster or a written examination, or a combination of both. The quantitative skills will be assessed based on written coursework which will include review and analysis of a range of global health related datasets.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

C1. Critically evaluate scientific publications and analyse data relevant to your work;
C2. Apply problem-solving and decision making skills in real life situations;
C3. Apply research methods and relevant theoretical knowledge to evaluate global/transnational issues;
C4. Identify and use library and bibliographical resources relevant to your work;
C5. Present oral and written research work to specialists and non-specialists audience;
C6. Confidently participate in scientific debate and policy discussions;
C7. Confidently communicate well-argued scientific ideas;
C8. Design coherent experimental and evaluation-based research projects;
C9. Lead and manage independent research projects.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The MSc programme is exclusively designed to sharpen your intellectual and generic research skills which can be applied in diverse work settings. The nature and range of topics covered in different modules will enable you to grasp the fundamental principles of scientific research communication and apply in real situations, and approaches such as interactive workshops and seminars, along with assessment methods such as presentations will enable students to develop their oral as well as written skills.

Assessment Methods

Outcomes C1-C4 (coursework essay, critical reviews, written examination), outcomes C5-C6 (group work, oral presentation, poster) and outcomes C8-C9 (independent research project).

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note in some instances modules have limited spaces available.

Pathway

Part I
The multidisciplinary taught modules covered in the programme are classified into three: (i) core, (ii) compulsory (iii) option modules. The final award of the MSc programme is subject to successful completion of the taught component and achievement of progression requirements with an independent research dissertation project lasting over 3 months towards the end of the programme.

The core modules provide a comprehensive introduction to the concepts, dimensions, measures and analysis of global health trends and differentials and an in-depth examination of substantive aspects including risk factors, determinants, impact and policy implications related to disease (communicable and non-communicable) burden and premature mortality with an emphasis on the UN millennium development and the post-2015 sustainable development health-related goals. The topics cover wide ranging emerging and re-emerging transnational global health issues and challenges with an assessment of related demographic, social and economic impact. The core modules include an overview of global health database resources and application of relevant research methods to measure, analyse and interpret global health phenomena [10 ECTS/20 CATS]. The compulsory modules [25 ECTS/50 CATS] include topics on health policy and economics,

population and reproductive health, quantitative methods and epidemiology. The optional modules [minimum 25 ECTS/50 CATS] allow specialisation in one of the advanced quantitative methods or substantive areas related to ageing and well-being, communicable disease control, health services organisation and evaluation, health improvement, geographical information systems, population issues, family demography, public health policies and strategies, food systems, qualitative methods, sustainability, or contemporary global environmental issues.

There are wide ranging flexible options to choose dissertation project topics making use of the global health expertise across the University. You may have options to work as part of a current research project coordinated by the academic/research staff and under their supervision.

The programme duration for the full-time intake is 12 months. The taught component of the programme consists of 30 weeks divided into two semesters during which students will complete modules worth 60 ECTS/120 CATS. The programme will allow students taking referrals to commence the dissertation equivalent to 30 ECTS/60 CATS, which will be completed over a 3 months period during summer (usually mid-June to mid-September).

Part I Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
MEDI6073	Epidemiology: Concepts, Analysis and Application	10	Compulsory
DEMO6026	Population and Reproductive Health	5	Compulsory
RESM6004	Quantitative Methods 1	5	Compulsory

Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
GLHE6001	Critical Issues in Global Health: Concepts and Case Studies	5	Core
GLHE6004	Global Health Dissertation	30	Core
GLHE6002	Methods and Analysis of Global Health Trends and Differentials	5	Core

Part I Optional
You must select 60 credits in total from the following modules, with a maximum of 20 credits in semester 1.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
RESM6305	Mixed Methods	5	Optional
DEMO6021	Understanding Population Change	5	Optional
MEDI6066	Advanced Statistical Methods in Epidemiology	5	Optional
GERO6020	Ageing, Health and Well-being	10	Optional
GEOG6068	Core Skills for GIS	10	Optional
DEMO6022	Demographic Methods 2	5	Optional
DEMO6020	Demographic Methods I	5	Optional
MEDI6069	Development and Implementation of Public Health Policies and Strategies	10	Optional
MEDI6074	Food Systems	5	Optional
GEOG6094	GIS for Analysis of Health	7.5	Optional
MEDI6075	Health Services Organisation and Evaluation	5	Optional
HLTH6104	Healthcare Informatics	10	Optional
GEOG6098	Introduction to Sustainability	7.5	Optional
DEMO6023	Population, Poverty & Policy	5	Optional
LAWS6127	Public Health Ethics and Law	5	Optional
RESM6003	Qualitative Methods 1	5	Optional
RESM6007	Quantitative Methods II	5	Optional

Part II

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
GLHE6004	Global Health Dissertation	30	Core

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes*** and ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes*** as set out in the University Calendar: http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia)
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV.
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community (18.00-08.00).
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

· Personal Academic Tutor at the time of registration on this programme who will be available to discuss general academic issues related to MSc Global Health and other personal issues which may have a direct impact on your study programme.

· Module/programme Blackboard for each module upon registration which will provide relevant details including module information, staff, timetable, lecture and reading materials, provision for electronically submitting your coursework and feedback.
· Module information/handbook will be available at the start of each module in electronic copy which you may access through Blackboard. The module information guide will outline the aims and learning outcomes of the module, staff, list of contents, timetable, assessment methods and reading list.
· Module coordinator will be available for consultation on any matters relevant to module materials. You may arrange an individual meeting via prior appointments or at the drop-in sessions during office hours.
· Dissertation supervisor who is a member of the academic/research staff will provide supervision of your dissertation project. He/she will oversee the progress of your research project and provide general/specific advice where appropriate.
· Programme coordinator will be available for consultation relevant to your study programme. You may arrange an individual meeting via prior appointments or at the drop-in sessions during office hours
· Administrative support is provided by your Faculty Student Office which deals with student records, programme submissions, extensions, suspensions and related issues, and with queries related to your specific degree programme.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

·Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme.
·Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff-Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
·Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation
·Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

·Annual module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty.
·Programme validation, normally every five years.
·External examiners, who produce an annual report.
·A national Research Assessment Exercise (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience).
·Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the *Quality handbook*.

Career Opportunities

Global Health is an exciting and rewarding career choice and becoming a specialised field of its own, increasingly recognised by local, regional and national governments, private sectors and international development agencies. The transnational, multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary dimensions of global health and their social and economic impact are key features that make the field appealing to a wider employer audience. The level of inequalities and unequal development in modern societies in the promotion of health and control of diseases, both communicable and non-communicable, is now acknowledged as a common danger across the globe without any country or economic boundaries. The quantitative and social science orientation to global health training at Southampton enhances the employability prospects especially international agencies and research organisations which conduct health (care) evaluation research. Global uncertainties and emergencies attributed to changing climate conditions and infectious disease threats need logical and multi-sectoral interventions. The MSc in Global Health addresses these problems and solutions which can help policy makers, programme managers, decision-makers and business specialists across different employment sectors in promoting human development and better health in societies. The following list of career options in global health is by no means exhaustive:

·Research and Development (including doctoral and post-doctoral opportunities at Universities, Research

Institutions or at Public Sector Research Organisations)
·International Development Agencies (e.g. UK-DFID, USAID, AUSAID, CIDA, ADA, GIZ, Europe Aid and Develoment Cooperation)
·World Health Organisation and allied agencies (e.g. PAHO)
·United Nations (e.g. UNFPA, UNICEF, UNAIDS)
·Government Ministries (e.g. Health, Family Welfare, Transport, Food, Urban Planning) and Planning Commissions (Urban/Slum Development units)
·World Bank, Asian/African Development Bank, BRIC Bank
Local Health Authorities including Health Agencies and Primary Care
·National Health Services
·European Commission
·African Union
·World Food Programme
·Multinational Pharmaceutical/Drug Companies
·Food Industries
·Market Research and Business Intelligence Agencies
·Banking and Insurance Industries
·Welcome Trust
·Gates Foundation

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Dr Sarah Hawkes - University College London

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Software Licenses	All specific pieces of software required as part of your programme are available on the University's public workstations. Statistical software can be downloaded via iSolutions for free: https://www.software.soton.ac.uk
Hardware	Public workstations loaded with all specific pieces of software that are required as part of your course are available in Building 58. Public workstations loaded with more generic software are available across the campus. You may, however, benefit from having your own PC or laptop and a USB stick.
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc.). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Approved Calculators	Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers. The University approved model is Casio FX-570 This may be purchased from any source and no longer needs to carry the University logo.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	Most of your coursework, such as essays and projects, are likely to be submitted on line. However, there may be some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will be asked to provide a printed copy. Information about generic University printing, including printing costs, can be found here: https://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.