University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

PGDip Tropical Medicine and Health (10220000)

Minimum duration of study	2 years
Total credits	120

Programme information

This diploma programme extends over two academic years. Students may, with the approval of the Head of the Department of Public Health Medicine or the Chairperson of the School of Health Systems and Public Health, offer it over one year.

Admission requirements

For admission to the Postgraduate Diplomas in Tropical Medicine and Health, Occupational Medicine and Health, and Public Health Medicine, the MBChB degree or an equivalent qualification with a completed internship of at least one year plus professional (work) experience (post-internship) of at least one year that is regarded as applicable by the Head of the Department of Public Health Medicine or the Chairperson of the School of Health Systems and Public Health is required.

Candidates will be required to first register as a special student in the Faculty, in order to pass in a status examination, in the following instances:

- A three-year bachelor's degree with less than five years' applicable practical (work) experience; or
- A four-year bachelor’s degree with less than two years’ applicable practical (work) experience; or
- Any applicant in possession of an approved bachelor’s degree, who the School’s Selection Committee deems fit to register as a special student.

NB:

- In accordance with the criteria of the Senate of the University, the applications for admission of all such candidates must, apart from any Faculty requirements, also be submitted to the University Senate for approval.
- All candidates accepted for postgraduate study (MPH or the Postgraduate Diplomas) must be in possession of a National Senior Certificate with admission for degree purposes.

Examinations and pass requirements

Students must attend all lectures and practical classes to the satisfaction of the head of department or the Chairperson of the School before they will be admitted to the examinations. Written, oral and/or practical examinations must be passed in all the modules. All diploma programme summative assessments will be externally moderated. The minimum pass mark for prescribed modules and the summative assessment is 50%. Only with the approval of the Chairperson of the School, on the recommendation of the head of department, will a student be allowed to continue his or her studies after having failed two modules (or the same module twice). A second examination in a module (including the diploma-specific summative assessment) is arranged in conjunction with the head of department.

Pass with distinction

A diploma is awarded with distinction to a student who has obtained a mark of at least 75% for the externally moderated assessment component as well as a simple (unweighted) average of at least 75% of all the marks for the other required modules for the relevant diploma.

General information

Concurrent registration for two study programmes

i. In accordance with the stipulations of the General Regulations, which is mutatis mutandis applicable in the case of postgraduate diploma study, the permission of the Dean is required for concurrent registration, subject to the regulations applicable to the fields of study in question and to any other stipulations the Dean may prescribe. Such a concession may be withdrawn by the Dean if the student does not perform satisfactorily – all assignments and coursework must be completed on time. Concurrent registration will not be accepted as a reason for poor performance or not meeting deadlines for both study programmes.
ii. In the case of registering concurrently for two study programmes in the School of Health Systems and Public Health and elsewhere, students must obtain the written consent of both the coordinator of their current programme and the coordinator of the second programme (or the track co-ordinator in the case of the MPH), and submit it with a substantiating letter to the School's Academic Programme Committee, for recommendation by the Chairperson of the School, after which the application is submitted to the Dean for approval.
iii. The School of Health Systems and Public Health states that concurrent registration for two study programmes is a privilege and not a right.
iv. Concurrent registration must be applied for annually and is granted based on academic performance in the primary degree/diploma programme. If the current field of study is a master's degree, then the second field of study can be a postgraduate diploma.
v. If the current field of study is a postgraduate diploma, then the second field of study can be another postgraduate diploma.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Principles of communicable disease control 777 (CDC 777)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Seminars in tropical health (Agent) 778 (CDC 778)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Seminars in tropical health (Environment) 779 (CDC 779)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Seminars in tropical health (Host) 780 (CDC 780)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Tropical health examination 784 (CDC 784)

Module credits	0.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Case studies in tropical medicine and health 785 (CDC 785)

Module credits	30.00
Prerequisites	CDS 771
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Six case studies that involve either clinical cases or public health cases (such as outbreaks or other public health scenarios). The cases will be presented online, one every 6 weeks, during the second year of the diploma. The scenarios will be accompanied by questions that will require desktop research and thought as well as a mastery of the materials learned during the first year, in order to answer the questions well. Each case study will be worth 5 credits and an overall mark will be provided for the six case studies. A detailed study guide will be provided online

Research report 786 (CDC 786)

Module credits	30.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	as scheduled with study leader
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This is a research report consisting of a case series of a group of three patients with a specific infectious disease; or an infectious disease theme. The cases are selected and written up to illustrate an important clinical principle or report on or to demonstrate a variation in presentations and/ or treatment responses etc. The series must “tell a story” and offer insight rather than merely recording the clinical details of the disease episodes (although such documentation is required as part of the report).

Clinical tropical medicine 771 (CDS 771)

Module credits	5.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Investigating outbreaks 775 (CDS 775)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Students will learn how to investigate and determine the cause of a disease outbreak for both when the disease in question is known and when the disease in question is unknown. They will learn how to use appropriate study designs and to calculate attack rates and odds ratios in order to investigate outbreaks. They will learn how to write outbreak investigation reports.

Learning in public health 778 (PHM 778)

Module credits	5.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Special introduction to fundamentals in Executive Leadership in health
The emerging student will be taught the fundamentals in executive leadership in healthcare systems which will form the basic platform or foundation for understanding the challenges for application of leadership modalities at the different levels of healthcare service delivery in the public health service and how to begin to think and analyse how the principles of executive leadership at their level of appointment can improve health service delivery.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Principles of communicable disease control 777 (CDC 777)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Seminars in tropical health (Agent) 778 (CDC 778)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Seminars in tropical health (Environment) 779 (CDC 779)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Seminars in tropical health (Host) 780 (CDC 780)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Tropical health examination 784 (CDC 784)

Module credits	0.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Case studies in tropical medicine and health 785 (CDC 785)

Module credits	30.00
Prerequisites	CDS 771
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Six case studies that involve either clinical cases or public health cases (such as outbreaks or other public health scenarios). The cases will be presented online, one every 6 weeks, during the second year of the diploma. The scenarios will be accompanied by questions that will require desktop research and thought as well as a mastery of the materials learned during the first year, in order to answer the questions well. Each case study will be worth 5 credits and an overall mark will be provided for the six case studies. A detailed study guide will be provided online

Research report 786 (CDC 786)

Module credits	30.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	as scheduled with study leader
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This is a research report consisting of a case series of a group of three patients with a specific infectious disease; or an infectious disease theme. The cases are selected and written up to illustrate an important clinical principle or report on or to demonstrate a variation in presentations and/ or treatment responses etc. The series must “tell a story” and offer insight rather than merely recording the clinical details of the disease episodes (although such documentation is required as part of the report).

Clinical tropical medicine 771 (CDS 771)

Module credits	5.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Investigating outbreaks 775 (CDS 775)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Students will learn how to investigate and determine the cause of a disease outbreak for both when the disease in question is known and when the disease in question is unknown. They will learn how to use appropriate study designs and to calculate attack rates and odds ratios in order to investigate outbreaks. They will learn how to write outbreak investigation reports.

Learning in public health 778 (PHM 778)

Module credits	5.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Special introduction to fundamentals in Executive Leadership in health
The emerging student will be taught the fundamentals in executive leadership in healthcare systems which will form the basic platform or foundation for understanding the challenges for application of leadership modalities at the different levels of healthcare service delivery in the public health service and how to begin to think and analyse how the principles of executive leadership at their level of appointment can improve health service delivery.

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The General Regulations (G Regulations) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the General Rules section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.