
University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

PGDip Public Health (10220005)

Minimum duration of study 2 years

Total credits 120

Programme information

A curriculum comprises prescribed modules and/or a research report compiled in conjunction with the head of department or Chairperson of the School. Details regarding the curriculum and syllabuses are published in a brochure which is available on request from the relevant department or School.

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, register simultaneously for Part I and Part II of a diploma which extends over two academic years.

Admission requirements

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.

Additional requirements

Registration as a special student in the Faculty in order to pass a status examination

i. 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.

ii. **Pass requirements for the status examination**

- At least 60% must be obtained in the status examination.
 - The status examination will be written in June.
- iii. The application of a student who has passed the status examination must be submitted to the Senate of the University for approval. Successful students may then enrol for the degree programme in the following academic year.

Other selection criteria

(Each on a scale of one to five.)

- Academic merit
- National/International need for public health
- Under-represented groups in public health
- Public health related employment
- Track record – e.g. employment, academic, community-building, etc.

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 relevant 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 relevant 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; excluding PHM 870 Learning in public health 870.

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

Introduction to disease prevention and control 776 (CDC 776)

Module credits 5.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Basis in environmental health 775 (EHM 775)

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

Health systems operations management 771 (HCI 771)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Primary epidemiology 774 (HME 774)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Scientific writing 772 (HMS 772)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Assignment in public health 771 (PHA 771)

Module credits 30.00



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

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.

Social determinants of health and primary healthcare 772 (SCM 772)

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

Primary Healthcare (PHC) approach: Philosophical basis and policy concept.
Health problem analysis.
Social and economic determinants of health.
Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) and health.
Elements of comprehensive primary health care.
Principles of the district health system.
Intersectoral collaboration in health development.
Community-oriented PHC.

Elective 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

Human nutrition and public health 772 (CDS 772)

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

Module content

Principles of nutrition science, factors influencing food choices and nutrition in the life cycle. Main nutrition challenges in public health and interventions to address these. Development and management of public health nutrition interventions as well as a practicum in one aspect of public health nutrition practise in local communities.

Health risk assessment 773 (EHM 773)

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

Introduction to environmental and occupational health 776 (EOH 776)

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

Financial management in public health 772 (HCF 772)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

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

Health policy and systems 776 (HCM 776)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

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

Project management in health 771 (HCS 771)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	HME 771 or HME 773

Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation	Year
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Introduction to monitoring and evaluation for health managers 773 (HIN 773)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

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



Module content

This is an introductory module on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) designed to provide students with knowledge, attitudes and skills regarding M&E frameworks, health information and data systems and indicators, evaluation designs, development of M&E plans, data collection, processing and use and feedback of M&E results, within the context of health systems strengthening. At the end of the module the student should be able to define M&E concepts in the context of health systems strengthening; describe M&E frameworks; design an M&E plan; understand health information systems and data collection, processing and understand how M&E results can be used for health systems strengthening.

Principles of human resource management 773 (HRM 773)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Principles of occupational hygiene and toxicology 771 (OHT 771)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Communication in health 770 (SCC 770)

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

Development and implementation of a health communication programme, eg a radio discussion on a current health topic.

Health promotion 771 (SCP 771)

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

Overview of key milestones and development in health promotion theory and practice, principles and strategies of health promotion; main social and behavioural theories relevant to health promotion; health promotion main models and health promotion programme planning.



Principles of quality assurance 771 (TQM 771)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Introduction to disease prevention and control 776 (CDC 776)

Module credits 5.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Health risk assessment 774 (EHM 774)

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

Health systems operations management 771 (HCI 771)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Primary epidemiology 774 (HME 774)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Scientific writing 772 (HMS 772)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Assignment in public health 771 (PHA 771)

Module credits 30.00



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

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.

Social determinants of health and primary healthcare 772 (SCM 772)

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

Primary Healthcare (PHC) approach: Philosophical basis and policy concept.
Health problem analysis.
Social and economic determinants of health.
Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) and health.
Elements of comprehensive primary health care.
Principles of the district health system.
Intersectoral collaboration in health development.
Community-oriented PHC.

Elective 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

Human nutrition and public health 772 (CDS 772)

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

Module content

Principles of nutrition science, factors influencing food choices and nutrition in the life cycle. Main nutrition challenges in public health and interventions to address these. Development and management of public health nutrition interventions as well as a practicum in one aspect of public health nutrition practise in local communities.

Health risk assessment 773 (EHM 773)

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

Introduction to environmental and occupational health 776 (EOH 776)

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

Financial management in public health 772 (HCF 772)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Health policy and systems 776 (HCM 776)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Project management in health 771 (HCS 771)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	HME 771 or HME 773
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

Introduction to monitoring and evaluation for health managers 773 (HIN 773)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year



Module content

This is an introductory module on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) designed to provide students with knowledge, attitudes and skills regarding M&E frameworks, health information and data systems and indicators, evaluation designs, development of M&E plans, data collection, processing and use and feedback of M&E results, within the context of health systems strengthening. At the end of the module the student should be able to define M&E concepts in the context of health systems strengthening; describe M&E frameworks; design an M&E plan; understand health information systems and data collection, processing and understand how M&E results can be used for health systems strengthening.

Principles of human resource management 773 (HRM 773)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Principles of occupational hygiene and toxicology 771 (OHT 771)

Module credits 10.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department School of Health System and Public Health

Period of presentation Year

Communication in health 770 (SCC 770)

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

Development and implementation of a health communication programme, eg a radio discussion on a current health topic.

Health promotion 771 (SCP 771)

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

Overview of key milestones and development in health promotion theory and practice, principles and strategies of health promotion; main social and behavioural theories relevant to health promotion; health promotion main models and health promotion programme planning.



Principles of quality assurance 771 (TQM 771)

Module credits	10.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	School of Health System and Public Health
Period of presentation	Year

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 each student to familiarise himself or herself 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.