



## SYLLABUS

### Master of Public Health (MPH)

120 ECTS

Advanced level

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#### Establishment of the programme

The syllabus was decided by the Dean of the Nordic School of Public Health on 2011-03-31. The syllabus is valid from 2011-03-31.

#### Prerequisites for admission to the programme

In order to qualify for admission to the programme, students need to fulfil both the general eligibility requirement as well as the special eligibility requirement for studies at the Nordic School of Public Health. The general eligibility requirement is a higher-education degree equivalent to three years of full-time study at university level along with preferably a relevant connection to working life such as job experience within health- and medical care, social services, public health or other preventive or health promotive work. Special eligibility refers to eligibility obtained through having completed courses equalling at least 15 ECTS within one/some of the compulsory areas of the MPH programme.

#### Programme design

The MPH programme comprises two years of full-time study and is particularly aimed towards those working within medical- and health care and social services. Studies can therefore be carried out on a part-time basis in combination with the student's current employment.

The compulsory course areas correspond to 32 ECTS, the elective courses to 58 ECTS, and the thesis equals 30 ECTS. Lectures highlighting the Nordic perspective and course participant experiences together constitute an important part of the programme. Thanks to its Nordic profile, the programme also contributes to networking across national borders. The compulsory areas are:

- Public Health Science, 7 ECTS
- Epidemiology, 5 ECTS
- Health Promotion, 5 ECTS
- Health Management, 5 ECTS
- Qualitative Methodology, 5 ECTS
- Quantitative Methodology, 5 ECTS

Courses can be taken at the Nordic School of Public Health or at other institutions of higher learning where courses in Public Health Science are at a minimum offered at advanced level. Students who take courses at other institutions than the Nordic School of Public Health can, upon approval, be given credit within the frame of the MPH programme at the Nordic School of Public Health. The MPH thesis theme can be chosen freely, meaning great freedom of choice to specialize the MPH degree within a particular area of Public Health Science.

Training consists of lectures, group exercises, individual assignments, seminars and supervision. Active student participation is an important part of the programme. For some courses, a significant part of the training is carried out via distance through a web-based platform.

## Programme objectives

### *Knowledge and understanding*

On successful completion of the programme, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the interdisciplinary area of knowledge which includes knowledge within the central areas representing Public Health Science, as well as how these areas relate to each other.
- Demonstrate deepened knowledge and insight within one of the central areas and related current research- and development work.

### *Skills and abilities*

On successful completion of the programme, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate an ability to critically and systematically compile, integrate and summarise knowledge about the health of groups or populations.
- Analyse, evaluate and provide advice about handling questions related to Public Health Science.
- Demonstrate an ability to independently identify and formulate relevant research questions.
- Demonstrate deepened knowledge of methodology within the different areas part of the knowledge area Public Health Science.
- Plan and by applying appropriate methods carry out a qualified research- or investigation project, as well as evaluate said project.
- Demonstrate ability to both orally and in writing give an account for Public Health Science problems and conclusions, as well as for the knowledge which forms the basis for said problems and conclusions.

### *Judgment and approach*

On successful completion of the programme, the student should demonstrate:

- An ability to make his or her own judgment in relation to knowledge from both science and other available information in society.
- Consciousness about different aspects of research- and development work.
- Insight about limitations and possibilities within Public Health Science and its role in society, as well as responsibility for how it is being used.
- An ethical approach in relation to the knowledge area of Public Health Science.

## Examination

Examination takes place after the course part of the programme (90 ECTS) has been completed and the thesis (30 ECTS) has been approved in writing as well as orally presented and defended at a seminar. The student can Pass or Fail.