

Public Health by distance learning

Recruitment to this programme is currently suspended.

This programme is offered by UEL with elements supported by **ICS Ltd.**

Final award	BSc (Hons)
Intermediate awards available	Cert HE, Dip HE, Ordinary degree, University Undergraduate (Associate) Certificate
UCAS code	N/A
Details of professional body accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA Benchmark statements	Health Studies 2002
Date specification last updated	July 2011

Profile

The summary - UCAS programme profile

BANNER BOX:

The BSc (Hons) Public Health is studied by distance learning. This programme offers students the opportunity to study all aspects of Public Health and to consider its relevance in a wider health care context.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry to Level 1 or the Full Programme

To enrol on the first Level or the Full Programme you must normally hold 200 UCAS tariff points or equivalent.

A good standard of English is needed in order to successfully complete the programme. In the case of applicants whose first language is not English, then IELTS 6.0 (or equivalent) is required. International qualifications will be checked for appropriate matriculation to UK Higher Education undergraduate programmes.

Entry on a Modular Basis

If you do not hold the required tariff points for Level 1 or Full Programme entry, studies will be permitted on a modular basis, following a guidance interview with a student advisor.

Overseas students should be aware that all exams **MUST** be taken in the UK at one of our approved exam venues. Students should also be aware that they are expected to cover all costs in attending the exams.

Students may be admitted through Accreditation of Experiential Learning (AEL) or Accreditation of Certificated Learning (ACL) processes.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

What is BSc (Hons) Public Health?

The Public Health Programme looks to examine subjects which impact on the quality of health. The programme of Public Health seeks to recognise the importance of creating supporting social, physical and cultural environments for health.

BSc (Hons) Public Health at UEL

- Health is an exciting and dynamic area of study. There are many career opportunities available in health care.
- Broad-based degrees preparing you for many careers
- No entry qualifications needed to start on a module – modules make up degrees!
- All programme materials designed by experts in the fields of Health
- No need to attend classes
- Help and guidance from student advisors
- Academic support from a subject specialist tutor
- Access to our virtual learning environment and online student community

Programme structure

To be awarded a Single Honours Degree in Public Health, you will have to complete a total of 18 modules, with a value of 360 credits. This will comprise 120 credits at Level 1 or higher, plus 120 at Level 2 or higher plus 120 at Level 3 or higher. All modules in Level 1 are compulsory. In Levels 2 & 3 you must study four core modules and pick two further module from a choice of three.

It is also possible to study Public Health in combination – joint, major or minor – with another programme.

Learning environment

This programme is offered on a distance-learning basis allowing you to select your learning environment – be it your home, office or a public library. Learning material is presented in the format of textbooks with specially written Study Guides containing interactive activities; feedback is provided to enable you to monitor your own progress.

It is essential that you have access to an internet-ready PC computer with Microsoft Windows XP or Higher, in order to utilise various online resources. A broadband connection of at least 350K is recommended.

It is also imperative that your computer has Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook) and you must be able to install your own packages.

Student/ student discussion and student/ tutor discussion opportunities are available via our virtual learning environment and distance learning student community. Additional learning

resources include access to online journals via ATHENS and access to UK university libraries via SCONUL.

Assessment

A variety of assessments are used to enhance learning.

There are three opportunities each calendar year at which to take exams or submit final assessments: when students start studying a module they are automatically enrolled for the next assessment point.

There is an expectation that students require this first year to “learn how to learn”. This means that the degree award only draws on marks in level II and III for the final classification.

Work experience/placement opportunities

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Project work

For Single and Major Programmes a Project module is compulsory at level III. This allows students the opportunity to put into practice what they have learnt on their programme, in particular the “Research Methods” module.

Added value

By successfully completing a distance learning degree programme, you not only display relevant knowledge, skills and understanding to an employer but also that you are able to manage your time effectively, that you are self-motivated and already have a good work ethic – all of which can give you the edge you need to find success in the real world.

IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?

If you are interested in...

- Public health
- Cultural and social aspect of health
- Health inequalities
- Health and social issues
- Communication
- Health management skills
- Health promotion
- Health research

If you enjoy...

- Discovering issues which influence health levels – for both individuals and communities
- Working with other students
- Being able to develop research issues in health

- Examining health promotion policies
- Accessing health management skills

If you want...

A strong learning support at level I aimed at improving the level of your success in level II and III. A Personal and Professional Skills module at level 1 will support your learning needs and the management of a personal development profile is central to this process. This will allow you to manage your learning needs and register your personal success. This will build into a complete learning profile over your programme and will be useful to an employer to demonstrate your success.

A strong theme through-out the programme is research – an appreciation of current developments, research skills and opportunities to conduct research locally.

Your future career

Many opportunities exist in the expanding services within Health Care. Care services nationwide offer many employment opportunities – within both the public and private sectors. Employability skills development is also a focus of this programme. Specific to Public Health there is growing demand for practitioners in this area all over the world. There are a variety of employment opportunities when you have graduated including working as an Environmental Health Officer, Community Development worker, Advocacy Worker, Welfare Officer, Occupational Health worker, Policy development worker, Regeneration officer or Public Health Specialist.

Continuing Professional Development

If you are already in employment certain modules may be studied as part of your Continuing Professional Development.

CPD or Continuing Professional Development is the means by which members of professional associations maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge and skills and develop the personal qualities required in their professional lives. As Modules within this programme are available for study individually this will meet the needs of those seeking further qualification in their chosen field within the health sector.

How we support you

On enrolment, you will be provided with an induction pack containing all the information you need to prepare you for your studies.

UEL has a team of dedicated Distance Learning Student Advisors who will be the first point of contact for all non-academic support matters. The Distance Learning Student Advisors will:

- welcome you by email, and provide advice on how to log to UEL Plus (the virtual learning environment) and Connecting UEL (the Resource & Community site)
- work with you in conjunction with your academic tutor to agree a study programme, discuss your progress and remind you about deadlines

- explain university procedures and policies
- help you plan for assessments and exams and provide advice on time management
- help you determine which university Award suits your career or personal needs
- refer you to the best learning and support resources including dyslexia and disability support and career advice.

In addition all distance learning students receive academic support from course tutors. Tutors will communicate with you via UEL Plus (the virtual learning environment). Support is also available via the Learning Resource Centre where there are dedicated librarians and the ‘ask a librarian’ feature. Peer support is very important and you will find a broad range of opportunities to build networks and exchange ideas with other students via our online communities.

Bonus factors

- No Entry requirements
- Contact with Tutors as much or as little as you want.
- The support of experienced Advisors to guide you through your studies.
- Instalment-based payment plan
- Contact with other students through UEL Plus

Outcomes

Programme aims and learning outcomes

What is this programme designed to achieve?

Public Health aims to:

- Explore beliefs, values and attitudes towards being healthy as a means towards personal development; Provide opportunity for students to explore the interaction between theory and practice in relation to the concepts and principles of Public Health;
- To explore factors that contribute to health;
- To analysis the health impact of policies on public health;
- To understand the importance of strengthening community action for health
- To recognise the importance of creating supportive social, physical and cultural environments for health;
- Facilitate the development of effective strategies by the encouragement of reflection in practice; Promote an understanding of the social, economic, environmental and political context in which global and local Public Health strategies are being developed;
- Apply a critical and analytical approach to principles and practices of Public Health.
- To enable students to understand what employers are looking for when they recruit, develop and promote staff
- Provide opportunities for students to develop, demonstrate and evidence these skills to prospective employers
- To develop personal and ethical skills
- To develop skills required for independent academic research

What will you learn?

Knowledge

- Selected themes and issues in Health.
- The historical development of health welfare institutions in the UK, and of their contemporary activities and organisation.
- The factors which influence on health
- Research skills

Thinking skills

- Obtain, summarise and synthesise material from a range of sources to analyse issues in health.
- Apply theory in the assessment of health policy intervention and development.
- Identify, synthesise and evaluate relevant primary and secondary data.
- Recognise the diversity of perspectives underpinning Health Policy.
- Reflect on your own knowledge base and develop strategies to enhance your learning

Subject-Based Practical skills

- Problem-solving skills
- Data collection and research skills
- Evaluative and analytical skills
- Sensitivity to the values and interests of others
- Locate and retrieve information from a variety of sources
- Independent learning

Skills for life and work (general skills)

- Convey ideas in an appropriate format, including, where appropriate, the presentation of data
- Participate effectively in groups to achieve joint learning outcomes
- Manage time effectively
- Critically reflect on the value of one's own work
- The ability to select and utilise appropriate computer software.
- Set goals, plan a work programme
- The development of their own style of independent learning
- Work independently

Structure

The programme structure

Introduction

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. online activities and discussions, private study and reading).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 0 - equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme
- 1 - equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 2 - equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 3 - equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- M - equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

Credit rating

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 360 credits.

Typical duration

The expected duration of this programme is 3 years when attended in full-time mode or 4-5 years in part-time mode. Support, however, may be available for longer – up to eight years, if necessary (this is the maximum time from first enrolment that students have to complete the programme).

How the teaching year is divided

There are three entry points per year onto the programme: September, February and May. A student, normally registering for 6 modules in one year would do so in a full-time attendance mode of study and a student registering for up to 4 modules in one year would do so in part-time attendance mode of study.

What you will study when

A typical full-time student will take six 20-credit modules per year, but you may choose to take fewer than this. To graduate as an honours degree student you will need to have completed six modules at level one, six at level 2 and six at level 3.

For the BSc (Hons) Public Health single programme all six modules at Levels 1 are core modules. At Levels 2 & 3 students must study four core modules and two modules from a choice of three.

To study Public Health as a Major in a Major/Minor Combined Honours, four core modules at each Level must be studied. The remaining modules will come from another discipline of choice.

To study Public Health as part of a Joint Honours Degree, there are three core Health modules at Level 1. If the level 1 Skills is taken in the other discipline, then you cannot take the Health Skills module and must take the alternative module offered. You must then do

three core modules at Level 2, unless the Research Skills module is taken in the other discipline then you must take the alternative Health module offered, and three core modules at Level 3 unless the Employability and/or Project modules are taken in the other discipline then you must take the alternative Health module offered.

For a Public Health Minor in a Major/Minor Combined Honours you must study two core modules at levels 1, 2 and 3, with the remaining modules from another discipline.

The following are the core and optional requirements for the single, major, joint and minor routes for this programme

LEVEL	TITLE	SKILLS MODULES	CREDITS	STATUS SINGLE	STATUS MAJOR	STATUS JOINT	STATUS MINOR
		Y					
1	HS1053 Personal & Professional Skills #		20	Core	Core	Core*	Not Available
1	HS1050 Understanding Health #		20	Core	Core	Core	Core
1	HS1052 Development of Healthcare		20	Core	Core	Option	Core
1	HS1055 Introduction to Management in Health Care		20	Core	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
1	HS1060 Introduction to Health Promotion		20	Core	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
1	HS1061 Public Health Foundations		20	Core	Core	Core	Not Available
2	HS2080 Evidence Based Health and Healthcare		20	Core	Core	Core	Not Available
2	HS2053 Principles and Values in Health		20	Core	Core	Core	Core
2	HS2056 Information Management and Health		20	Option	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available

2	HS2064 Research Methods	Y	20	Core	Core	Core*	Not Available
2	HS2081 Measuring Health and Disease		20	Core	Core	Option	Core
2	HS2054 Health Promotion: Working with Groups		20	Option	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
2	HS2085 Managing Resources in Health		20	Option	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
3	HS3073 Work- based Learning – Employability	Y	20	Core	Core	Core*	Not Available
3	HS3080 Global Context of Public Health		20	Core	Core	Core	Core
3	HS3050 Power & Empowerment in Health Promotion		20	Option	Not Available	Option	Not Available
3	HS3085 Planning Change in Healthcare		20	Option	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
3	HS3063 Project		20	Core	Core	Option	Not Available
3	HS3051 Policies and Practices in Health		20	Core	Core	Core	Core
3	HS3086 Implementing Change in Healthcare		20	Option	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available

offered with support from ICS Ltd

*** The Skills Modules listed in the Joint Route are Core, unless the equivalent Skills Modules are taken in your other combined subject.**

Requirements for gaining an award

In order to gain an Honours degree you will need to obtain 360 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at Level one or higher PLUS
- A minimum of 120 credits at Level two or higher PLUS
- A minimum of 120 credits at Level three or higher

In order to gain an Ordinary degree you will need to obtain a minimum of 300 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at Level one or higher PLUS
- A minimum of 120 credits at Level two or higher PLUS
- A minimum of 60 credits at level three or higher

In order to gain a Diploma of Higher Education you will need to obtain at least 240 credits including a minimum of 120 credits at Level one or higher and 120 credits at Level two or higher.

In order to gain a Certificate of Higher Education you will need to obtain 120 credits at Level 1 or higher.

In order to gain a University Undergraduate Certificate students will need to obtain 40 credits at Level 0 or higher.

In order to gain a University Undergraduate Associate Certificate students will need to obtain 20 credits at Level 0 or higher.

Only one final award may be obtained.

Degree Classification

Where a student is eligible for an Honours degree, and has gained a minimum of 240 UEL credits at level 2 or level 3 on the programme, including a minimum of 120 UEL credits at level 3, the award classification is determined by calculating:

$$\frac{\text{The arithmetic mean of the best 100 credits at level 3}}{\times 2/3} + \frac{\text{The arithmetic mean of the next best 100 credits at levels 2 and/or 3}}{\times 1/3}$$

and applying the mark obtained as a percentage, with all decimal points rounded up to the nearest whole number, to the following classification

- 70% - 100% First Class Honours
- 60% - 69% Second Class Honours, First Division
- 50% - 59% Second Class Honours, Second Division
- 40% - 49% Third Class Honours
- 0% - 39% Not passed

Assessment

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning

Knowledge is developed through

- Guided reading
- Knowledge-based activities with feedback
- On-line question/ answer forums

Thinking skills are developed through

- Reflective/ thinking activities with feedback
- Analytical activities with feedback
- Evaluative activities with feedback
- Problem-solving activities with feedback
- On-line question/ answer forums

Practical skills are developed through

- Practical/ physical activities with feedback
- IT activities with feedback
- Research skills-based activities with feedback

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- The study medium, i.e. distance learning
- Planning activities with feedback
- IT activities with feedback
- All other activities with feedback
- Project work

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Coursework
- Essays
- Examinations

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Coursework
- Examinations
- Project work

Practical skills are assessed by

- Practical reports
- Portfolio compilation
- IT exercises
- Case study exercises
- Project work

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by

- Project work
- Group work
- IT exercises

Quality

How we assure the quality of this programme

Before this programme started

- There would be enough qualified staff to teach the programme
- Adequate resources would be in place
- The overall aims and objectives were appropriate
- The content of the programme met national benchmark requirements
- The proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy, and student support mechanisms

This is done through a process of programme approval, which involves convening a panel of academic experts including some subject specialists from other institutions. Each panel member scrutinises available documents and talks to the staff who will teach the programme before deciding whether it can be approved.

How we monitor the quality of this programme

The quality of this programme is monitored each year through evaluating:

- External Examiner reports (considering quality and standards)
- Statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate)
- Student feedback

Drawing on this and other information, programme teams undertake the annual Review and Enhancement Process which is co-ordinated at School level and includes student participation. The process is monitored by the School Quality Standing Committee.

Once every six years the University of East London undertakes an in-depth review of the whole field. This is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to current and former students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions. The result is a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

The role of the programme committee

This programme has a programme committee comprising all relevant teaching staff, student representatives and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the programme (e.g. library/technician staff). The committee has responsibilities for the quality of the programme. It provides input into the operation of the Review and Enhancement Process and proposes changes to improve quality. The programme committee plays a critical role in University of East London's quality assurance procedures.

The role of external examiners

The standard of this programme is monitored by at least one External Examiner. External Examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the programme
- To ensure that justice is done to individual students

External Examiners fulfil these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/ assignments
- Attending Assessment Boards
- Reviewing samples of Student work and moderating marks
- Ensuring that regulations are followed
- Providing feedback to the University through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future

Listening to the views of students

The following methods for gaining student feedback are used on this programme:

- Module evaluations
- Programme evaluations
- Polls via our website
- Student representation on the programme committee (held twice yearly).

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- Individual mailing letters as required
- Postings on UEL Plus and Connecting UEL (the Resource and Community site)

Listening to the views of others

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Further Information

Alternative locations for studying this programme

Location	Which elements?	Taught by UEL staff	Taught by local staff	Method of Delivery
-	-	-	-	-

Where you can find further information

Further information about this programme is available from:

- The UEL web site (<http://www.uel.ac.uk>)
- The Student Handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of Regulations and Policies
- UEL Quality Manual
- Regulations for the Academic Framework