

KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

**SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMME
(MPH)**

1.0 PREAMBLE

The master's degree in Public Health and Epidemiology was established in 1996 at Kenyatta University as multi discipline programme to train general practitioners in the various sub-discipline of Public Health. The majority of those admitted were graduates from programmes in Biomedical sciences, human and veterinary medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, epidemiology, environmental and occupational health, health services research, health education and promotion, sociology, anthropology, central and local government, industry and commerce.

The programme in its course design and modes of content delivery emphasized on the breadth of subject coverage across disciplines in a student-centered fashion with ample flexibility to allow for self-centered fashion with ample flexibility to allow for self-directed study by individual students.

Although the programme has so far proved quite successful, market forces have indicated that there is a need to re-examine and revise the course content with a view to making the course more competitive.

Experience and feedback from MPH students, stakeholders in the health sector, and strategic training partners have been instrumental in the current revised Master of Public Health Programme.

2.0 RATIONALE

The solutions to many current global public health problems require practitioners who are highly trained and specialized in specific aspects of public health. That specialized training should strive to provide the student with the requisite knowledge base, inculcate appropriate attitudes and develop skills in collection, collation of information, formulation and presentation of views. It should also develop the capacity for independent thought, creativity, capability and skills in effective information dissemination with a view to finding practical solutions to public health problems.

3.0 VISION

To be a highly competitive center of excellence in training, research and scholarship.

4.0 MISSION

The promotion of health for all and the prevention of disease through the empowerment of communities to take control over health-related risk factors and thereby improve their well-being.

5.0 OBJECTIVES

- a) To provide a broad-based repertoire of knowledge, attitudes and skills for the diagnosis and analysis of public health issues.

- b) To inculcate the theoretical framework and application of epidemiological principles and statistical techniques in the assessment of scientific evidence, community health needs, planning and evaluation of public health programmes.
- c) To provide an understanding and application of the principles of disease prevention and health promotion in the development of public health intervention strategies.
- d) To develop investigative procedures and methods for planning appropriate responses to events potentially hazardous to community health such as disease epidemics and natural disasters.
- e) To equip the students with appropriate knowledge and professional ethics in research and natural disasters.
- f) To enhance the performance of public health managers and their organizations through an objective understanding and application of the principles of public health law, health policy development and reforms including occupational health and safety.
- g) To equip the students with requisite knowledge and skills in the planning, organization, management and financing of health services.
- h) To underscore the role played by food, nutritional security, bioethics, intellectual property rights and disaster management in human health promotion

6.0 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- The common regulations for all Masters degrees in the university and the school of health sciences.
- A holder of a first degree in the following fields: Medicine Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Dentistry.
- A holder of a first degree, first class honors or second class honors (upper division) in the following health related fields: Nutrition and Environmental Health related field.
- A holder of a second class (lower division) in the above disciplines with a minimum of two years post qualification experience in a health related field.
- A holder of a first degree with Postgraduate Diploma in Public

Health with at least 2 years relevant post qualification experience.

7.0 DURATION AND PROGRAMME OF STUDY

- The master of Public Health (MPH) shall extend over a period of at least 18 months
- The degree shall be offered by coursework, examination and thesis.
- The coursework shall comprise a series of lectures, practical field courses for a minimum of 2 weeks, visits, demonstration, reports, case presentations and practicals.
- During the first two semesters of study, the students will take at least 14 units comprising 11 core and 3 in an area of specialization.
- In the subsequent 2 semesters, students will carry out research work in their area of specialization, prepare and present a thesis for examination.
- The degree Master of Public Health (MPH) in specialized areas will be awarded as follows:
 - a. MPH - Epidemiology and Disease Control
 - b. MPH - Disaster and Management
 - c. MPH - Health Care Management
 - d. MPH - Community Health and Nutrition
 - e. MPH - Biomedical Statistics
 - f. MPH - Health Education and Promotion

8.0 EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

- The common university examinations regulations governing masters Degree programmes shall apply.
- Students on the MPH programme will assessed through continuous assessment tests (CATS) and a written examination in each unit.
- Each unit will be marked out of 100 marks with the written examination and CATs constituting 70% and 30%, respectively.
- The pass mark per unit will be 50%
- Students must pass all the units constituting the coursework before embarking on research work for the thesis.
- During the subsequent 2 semesters, students will carry out thesis research and be examined as per current examination regulations on thesis.
- Each student must pass the thesis examination and submit the corrected version of the thesis before being presented for graduation

- Thesis examination will be governed by university examination regulations.

9.0 GRADING

Each unit shall be marked out of 100. The marks shall be translated into letter grades as follows.

Letter Grade	Range of Marks
A	70 and above
B	60 - 69
C	50 - 59
F	below 50

10.0 CERTIFICATION

The degree that will be awarded is Master of Public Health - MPH.

11.0 SAMMARY OF COURSE UNITS

CORE UNITS

a) FIRST SEMESTER (7 CORE UNITS)

HPH 700: Medical Statistics
HPH 702: Principles of Epidemiology
HPH 703: Health Services Management and policy
HPH 706: Community Health
HPH 723: Law, Ethics and Public Health
HPH 726: Health Management Information Systems
HPH 727: Socio-Cultural Dimensions of Health

b) SECOND SEMESTER (4 CORE UNITS)

HPH 701: Methods in Health Research
HPH 709: Health Promotion
HPH 714: Health Project Management
HPH 719: Primary Health Care

3 units in the area of specialization as show in below

This program has six (6) areas of specialization; each area of specialization will comprise of 7 units, namely the 4 core units in 8.1 (b) above and a further 3 area specific units as listed below:

a) MPH - EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DISEASE CONTROL

HPH 717: Epidemiology in Practice
HPH 708: Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology
HPH 716: Infectious Disease Dynamics

b) MPH - DISASTER MANAGEMENT

HPH 713: Principles of Disaster Management
HPH 707: Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction
HPH 711: Supply Management Systems in Disaster (SUMMA)

c) MPH - HEALTH SERVICES MANAGEMENT

HPH 718: Health Care Financing
HPH 725: Health Economics
HPH 721: Socio Marketing in Health Care

d) MPH - COMMUNITY HEALTH AND NUTRITION

HPH 710: Nutrition and Health

HPH 720: Sexual and reproductive health (maternal; and child health)

HPH 715: Management of Communicable and Lifestyle Diseases.

e) MPH - BIOMEDICAL STATISTICS

HPH 705: Population Dynamics

HPH 722: Statistics Computing

HPH 724: Multivariate and Survival Analysis

f) MPH - HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

HPH 704: Health Communication and Behavior change

HPH 721: Social Marketing in Health Care

HPH 712: Social Work and Community Health Development

FIELD COURSE

In addition to course work students will undertake a two-week field course involving data collection, analysis and interpretation in designated areas including communities, institutions or industries. This will expose the students to practical challenges in public health. The student 's report from this field exercise will be examined by academic members of staff in their respective areas of specialization.

