PUBLIC HEALTH (MSc)

SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES 2020

How Much Does It Cost?

- Application fee is payable upon submission of application.
- Registration fee and refundable caution deposit are payable upon acceptance of the offer letter issued by the IMU Admissions Office.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMME FEES

All fees quoted are in Ringgit Malaysia unless stated otherwise. All IMU alumni who are self-funding their postgraduate studies and meet the eligibility criteria will be eligible for a 25% bursary.

**FEES OVERVIEW**

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What is IMU’s Public Health Programme About?

OVERVIEW

Public Health is the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health. Public health is not only concerned with maintenance of health by reducing or eliminating disease risks and environmental health hazards, improving social conditions, and encouraging healthy behaviours and lifestyles, it also encompasses the distribution and optimal management of healthcare services.

Professionals in public health today are faced with both old and new challenges. They range from infectious diseases such as influenza and the HIV / AIDS pandemic, chronic disease epidemics, cancer and obesity. The challenges also include the health of our increasingly elderly populations, high-risk behaviours that endanger our health such as smoking and substance abuse, the safety of our water and our food, as well as the threats of natural and manmade disaster including bioterrorism.

IMU’s Public Health programme will provide students from a wide range of health and related professional backgrounds with the knowledge and skills in public health sciences which will make them effective contributors in their field of healthcare. It is based on the World Health Organisation’s principles of Health for All, benefiting those in the equity, intersectoral collaboration, health promotion and disease prevention, international cooperation and community participation. The MSc in Public Health programme is suitable for those who want to advance in their careers in fields related to Public Health. Candidates include medical doctors, nurses, health officers, environmental service managers, hospital administrators, nutritionists, health education officers, environmental & health engineers, and pharmacists.

<table>
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<th>DEGREE / DURATION</th>
<th>COMMENCEMENT</th>
<th>MODE OF DELIVERY</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc in Public Health — 1 - 2 year (full-time)</td>
<td>March and September</td>
<td>- Conventional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 6 year (part-time)</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Open and Distance Learning (ODL)</td>
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A Word from the Programme Director

The IMU MSc in Public Health prepares one to face both old and new challenges – from infectious and chronic diseases to health risks posed by the modern society’s lifestyle – through multidisciplinary approaches that apply the latest scientific knowledge, common sense and team work to solve important health problems.

DR LWIN MIE AYE
Lecturer and Programme Director
MBBS (UM1, Ygn), MSc PH (IMU)
How Does the Programme Work?

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The IMU-MSc in Public Health programme has 44 credits in total which is delivered in conventional and ODL modes. Both modes have full-time and part-time where full-time programme consists of 2 semesters and part-time consists of 4 semesters. Each semester comprises 22 weeks of active learning. Together with other taught modules, students will be preparing a research project proposal in semester 1 and carrying it out in semester 2 followed by dissertation write up. Students who choose part-time study are allowed to take a minimum of 3 modules per semester.

Teaching and learning methods vary in line with the objectives of the course and include didactic lectures, guided and independent group exercises, practicals, seminars, workshops and problem-based self-directed learning. Field visits with hands-on experience in observing the public health challenges that are currently faced by the community are an integral part of the course. E-learning approaches are used extensively and include web-based courses, online simulation and virtual mentoring.

The programme is taught in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Kuala Lumpur City Council, non-governmental organisations and other public health-related institutions.

OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING

Open and Distance Learning (ODL) provides working professionals the flexibility and an opportunity to obtain a MSc in Public Health degree at their own convenience. It allows students to plan and pace their own learning while benefiting from all the teachings and supports that the University has to offer. The programme consists of 80% online teaching and learning sessions and 20% of on campus requirement.

The teaching methods include a series of online lectures supplemented by online discussions, forums and assessments. Students will also be assigned a mentor who will be available to answer any questions and provide feedback on their progress.

Time will be the ODL student’s most important commitment for this 44 credits master programme.

ASSESSMENT

Several assessment methods, designed for adult independent learners, are used to assess the knowledge, skill and attitude domains. They are mainly through written assignments, reflective reports, case study, seminar presentation, group discussion, practical assignment, written dissertation and viva voce.

For the award of the degree of MSc in Public Health, students must successfully complete all 12 modules.

CONVENTIONAL AND ODL (FULL-TIME: 1 YEAR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER</th>
<th>March to August Modules</th>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Public Health Practices (2 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Management and Economics (4 credits)</td>
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<td>Health Promotion (3 credits)</td>
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<td>Population Health (4 credits)</td>
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<td>Medical Sociology (3 credits)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dissertations (9 credits)</td>
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<td><strong>SEMESTER 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarter 3 (13 weeks)</td>
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<td>Methods in Epidemiology (4 credits)</td>
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| Occupational Health (3 credits)

6 MONTHS 6 MONTHS

The curriculum is reviewed periodically and is subject to change.
CONVENTIONAL AND ODL (PART-TIME: 2 YEARS)

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ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A Bachelor Degree in related discipline with a minimum cGPA of 2.75 or equivalent, as accepted by the University’s Senate; or

A Bachelor Degree in related discipline not meeting cGPA of 2.50, can be accepted subject to a minimum of 5 years working experience in relevant field.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

For International Students

1. IELTS : Band score 5.0; or
2. TOEFL (PBT) : Overall score of 410-413; or
3. TOEFL (iBT) : Overall score of 34; or
4. Cambridge English : Advanced (CAE) : Overall score of 160; or
5. Cambridge English : Proficiency (CPE) : Overall score of 180; or
6. Pearson Test of English (PTE) : Overall score of 36

The following categories of students are exempted from the above requirements:

1. International students from countries in which English is the first language.
2. International students who graduated from any Malaysian or other institutions where the curriculum is delivered in English.
Why Study Public Health at IMU?

1. An Established Private Healthcare University

IMU is Malaysia’s first and most established private medical and healthcare university with over 28 years of dedicated focus in healthcare education. IMU achieved the SETARA-2017 Tier 6 status (Outstanding) under the Mature University category.

2. Renowned and Highly Experience Faculty

Students will be supervised by staff who are experts in their field with well-established reputations nationally and internationally. The academic community of IMU pursues and achieves excellence in a wide range of research activities. Many of them present their findings in international conferences to keep up to date with the latest development in specialised areas. They also publish their findings in international peer-reviewed journals.

3. Recognised by JPA

The IMU MSc in Public Health is recognised by the Malaysian Public Service Department (JPA) and the Ministry of Health (MOH). With this recognition, healthcare professionals who are working in the public sector especially MOH who want to advance in their careers in a related field can choose to study the IMU MSc in Public Health programme. Our graduates of this Masters degree can also apply to work in the public sector.

4. Unique Curriculum

This programme has a research component in its curriculum in which the student is required to complete a research project. There will also be field visits to the Ministry of Health, the Local Council and Non-Governmental Organisations as part of the experiential learning component of the programme. E-learning approaches are also used extensively including web-based e-learning in the programme.

5. Research Partnerships

Students will benefit from the University’s research collaborations with various local and foreign institutions in areas such as cancer, bioactive molecules, nutrition and environmental health. Close links have also been established with local hospitals, especially Hospital Tuanku Ja’afar in clinical research.
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Learn from Our Experienced Lecturers

**PROF DATUK LOKMAN HAKIM S**

MD, DAP&E, MScPH, PhD, FAMM, FAMS, FASc, MNS(Hon), FAFMM(Hon)

Prof Datuk Lokman Hakim S is a Professor of Public Health at the School of Medicine, Director of the Institute of Research, Development and Innovation and Pro Vice Chancellor for Research at the IMU, Kuala Lumpur. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine Malaysia and was the Past President of the College of Public Health Medicine of the Academy. He is also a Fellow of Academy of Medicine of Singapore and Fellow of the Academy of Science Malaysia. He was formerly the Deputy Director General of Health (Public Health), MOH Malaysia. He is a current member of WHO Advisory Group for Pandemic Influenza Preparedness for the period of 2017 - 2019 and recently extended it to 2020 - 2022.

**A/PROF RANJIT DE ALWIS**

Associate Professor

MBBS (Ceylon), MSc Occupational Med (Lond), D Ind Health (London & Eng), MD Comm Med (Colombo), FCCP (Sri Lanka)

A/Prof Ranjit De Alwis obtained his medical degree from the University of Ceylon, a MSc in Occupational Medicine from the University of London, a Diploma in Industrial Health from the Royal College of Physicians, England and a MD in Community Medicine from the Post Graduate Institute of Medicine in Sri Lanka. He has a wide work experience as a District Medical Officer and as the head of occupational health in Sri Lanka. He has also worked as a consultant in Occupational Safety and Health at the International Labour Organisation. He has a wide experience in undergraduate and postgraduate education.

**A/PROF TAN KOK LEONG**

Associate Professor

MBBCh, BAO, LRCP&S (Ire), MPH, MPH (Family Health)

A/Prof Tan Kok Leong received his Medical degree from the Royal College of Surgeon, Ireland in 1997 and Master in Public Health subspecialised in Family Health from University Malaya, Malaysia in 2008. He was with the Ministry of Health Malaysia for 10 years before embarking in academia. He has over 10 years of teaching experience in both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Dr Tan has published over 20 research papers in the field of public health and medical education. His research interest is in childhood feeding and children with special needs.

**A/PROF CHANDRASHEKHAR**

Associate Professor

MBBS (India), Doctor of Medicine (MD) Community Medicine (India), Diploma in Tropical Medicine & Public Health (Germany), MSc International Health (Germany)

A/Prof Chandrashekar is medical doctor from India. He specialises in community medicine and international health. He has vast teaching experience of 18 years in India, Nepal and Malaysia.

**A/PROFranjit De Alwis obtained his medical degree from the University of Ceylon, a MSc in Occupational Medicine from the University of London, a Diploma in Industrial Health from the Royal College of Physicians, England and a MD in Community Medicine from the Post Graduate Institute of Medicine in Sri Lanka. He has a wide work experience as a District Medical Officer and as the head of occupational health in Sri Lanka. He has also worked as a consultant in Occupational Safety and Health at the International Labour Organisation. He has a wide experience in undergraduate and postgraduate education.

**PROF DATUK LOKMAN HAKIM S**

MD, DAP&E, MScPH, PhD, FAMM, FAMS, FASc, MNS(Hon), FAFMM(Hon)

Prof Datuk Lokman Hakim S is a Professor of Public Health at the School of Medicine, Director of the Institute of Research, Development and Innovation and Pro Vice Chancellor for Research at the IMU, Kuala Lumpur. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine Malaysia and was the Past President of the College of Public Health Medicine of the Academy. He is also a Fellow of Academy of Medicine of Singapore and Fellow of the Academy of Science Malaysia. He was formerly the Deputy Director General of Health (Public Health), MOH Malaysia. He is a current member of WHO Advisory Group for Pandemic Influenza Preparedness for the period of 2017 - 2019 and recently extended it to 2020 - 2022.

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A/Prof Chandrashekar is medical doctor from India. He specialises in community medicine and international health. He has vast teaching experience of 18 years in India, Nepal and Malaysia.
MScPH Degree from IMU is accepted and recognised globally. A key thing that gave me an edge in a very competitive and surplus work force in Nigeria, was the Internship at UNHCR Kuala Lumpur. It provided the experience I needed to launch my career in a sector that hardly employs inexperienced graduates. **Obinna Francis Onunkwor from Nigeria (MScPH 2015)**

The programme is really beneficial because it provides comprehensive scopes in term of the history and structure of health systems and organisation, management and health economics. This has really prepared me by instilling an understanding of public health field. I am grateful to be part of this programme and appreciates how it has facilitated my professional development as well as my current PhD project in which related to public health nutrition among adolescents. **Ng Ai Kah from Malaysia (MScPH 2013)**

I think, initially there was a struggle as I did not have much work experience prior to doing my master degree. But once I got my first job (which was within 3 months of finishing my MScPH), it got easier. **Hay Mar Win from Myanmar (MScPH 2016)**

The skill and knowledge I learnt from MScPH programme helps me a lot in my current job. **Syeda Razelin Kashem from Bangladesh (MScPH 2017)**
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