



Programme Specification

Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH

1	Awarding Institution	Queen Margaret University
2	Teaching Institution	Queen Margaret University
3	Professional body accreditation	tropED
4	Final Award	MSc International Health
	Subsidiary exit awards	PG cert; PG diploma
5	Programme Title	International Health
6	UCAS code (or other coding system if relevant)	
7	SCQF Level	11
8	Mode of delivery and duration	12 or 13 months FTE, Edinburgh based
9	Date of validation/review	May 2015

10. Programme Aim

Upon graduating from this programme, a Masters graduate will be able to work effectively at a senior level to promote the health and social well-being of populations in low, middle income and transitional countries through the development of effective and responsive health systems.

11. Benchmark statements/professional and statutory body requirements covered by the programme

N/A

12. Learning Outcomes of the Programme

Knowledge and understanding

- Demonstrate understanding of the key factors and forces shaping the health and well-being of disadvantaged populations in low, middle income and transitional countries;
- Acquire information on global health, and evaluate its relevance and validity;

Intellectual skills

- Apply social and structural analysis (including dimensions of gender, social and economic inequalities, power relations) to examine access to health care, equity and quality issues, as well as health outcomes;
- Apply appropriate analytical techniques of research and inquiry to formulate and execute an in-depth investigation of a key issue of concern in global health;
- Evaluate the accuracy and validity of published research to global health issues and assess its relevance to new situations.

Practical skills

- Implement strategies for effective planning and management responses to challenges faced by health systems within resource-poor settings;
- Critically analyse and respond effectively and appropriately to complex policy and practice issues in global health and development in diverse settings;
- Demonstrate competence in utilising relevant and appropriate tools and frameworks for planning, developing and managing health systems;

Transferable skills

- Demonstrate capacity to think critically, analyse experience and formulate responsive strategy;
- Search for evidence with which to tackle a problem using literature data bases, web search engines and knowledge of key websites;
- Communicate effectively to diverse audiences in global health and development for a using a range of media;

13. Teaching and learning methods and strategies

The programme teaching modules involve class-based and web-based learning. There will be formal lectures, seminars with individual student presentations and invited speakers, group work and guided reading. The students are encouraged to relate theory to practice and to work on real case studies, from their own countries, a country they have worked in or a country of their choice. A significant proportion of their study will be self-directed.

14. Assessment strategies

Assessment strategies are outlined for each module in the module descriptors, which are comprised of the following: written assignments; group presentations; critical appraisal of a research article; group project proposal; research proposal; and written dissertation. Standard QMU regulations in relation to the combination of module marks for overall award categories will be applied.

Programme structures and features, curriculum units (modules), credits and award requirements (including any periods of placement)

For full time participants, the course lasts 12 months if started in September or 13 months if started in January. Part time students can be registered starting either September or January each year and complete the programme after three years. Part-time students have up to seven years to complete the MSc programme.

Full time students	SCOTCAT credits	Part time students	SCOTCAT credits
Semester 1		Year 1, Semester 1	
Induction	0	Induction	0
CORE: Global Health and Social Policy	15	CORE Global Health and Social Policy	15
CORE Researching Global Health & Development	15	CORE Health Systems	15
CORE: Global Public Health	15		
CORE Health Systems	15		
	<i>Exit PG Certificate</i>		
Semester 2		Year 1, Semester 2	
CORE <i>Either</i> Qualitative Research Methods or Research Design and Proposal Writing	15	CORE <i>Either</i> Qualitative Research Methods or Research Design and Proposal Writing	15
Elective 1	15	Elective 1	15
Elective 2	15		
Elective 3	15		
	<i>Exit PG Diploma</i>		<i>Exit PG Certificate</i>
Semester 3			
Dissertation	60		
	<i>Exit MSc</i>		
		Year 2, Semester 1	
		CORE Researching Global Health & Development	15
		CORE: Global Public Health	15
		Year 2, Semester 2	
		Elective 2	15
		Elective 3	15
			<i>Exit PG Diploma</i>
		Year 3, Semesters 1 and 2	
		Dissertation	60
			<i>Exit MSc</i>

15. Criteria for admission

The standard minimum levels of entry for the MSc in International Health are one of the following:

- An honours degree in a related subject area
- A professional qualification in a related area recognised for professional body membership and equivalent in academic terms to an honours degree
- A qualification in a related area from a professional institution and not less than 3 years professional experience at a level approved by the Admissions committee.

16. Support for students and their learning

- 1) All students will be supported by a personal academic tutor and a dissertation supervisor who may be different
- 2) All students receive a student handbook
- 3) Student representatives are selected for both September and January starting students; staff-student consultative committees are held once per semester and representatives attend course committee meetings
- 4) A series of academic practice sessions have been established to support students' acquisition of academic writing and critical thinking skills. The sessions start during the induction week and carry on over the first 4 weeks of semester 1; a module descriptor outlines the range of issues covered
- 5) Three academic practice sessions are held in Semester 2 for students commencing study in January
- 6) Introductory session to IT are offered to students requiring support in the first 3 weeks of Semester 1 and where need to January entrants
- 7) Introduction to library procedures and database searching in Semester 1 (for September students) and semester 2 (for January students); more advanced search procedures offered during dissertation preparation in Semester 2.
- 8) The Centre for Academic Practice runs relevant workshops for postgraduate students throughout the academic year (e.g. SPSS, reference manager)
- 9) Students have access to student learning services, library and IT support
- 10) Students have access to careers, counselling and disability advice services.

18. Quality Assurance arrangements

This programme is governed by QMU's quality assurance procedures. See the QMU website for more detail: <http://www.qmu.ac.uk/quality/>