



UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG

Master's Programme in Public Health Science

Sahlgrenska Academy • University of Gothenburg

Public health is a multi- and inter-disciplinary field that focuses on preventing disease and promoting population health. The 2-year master's Programme in Public Health Science at the University of Gothenburg includes the core competencies needed for future leaders in public health to positively affect population health. Students gain theoretical knowledge and practical skills to take on relevant future roles in public health to improve the health of populations.

Students can focus on a variety of health issues through elective health courses that allows one to become more advanced in a particular area. For example, students can gain advanced knowledge of causes and dynamics of health inequalities and their relation to human rights, theories, and models for equalizing potential inequities by structural efforts in society.

Alternatively, students can focus on the importance of society's organization and other structural factors for the health status of populations, including studies of the social determinants of health, such as income, educational level, discrimination, and access to health care.

Otherwise, students can also choose to gain advanced knowledge about the

relationship between economic development and health, methods for evaluating economic costs and benefits of public health interventions, and advanced quantitative data analysis.

Further, students can focus on the importance of economic development and policy for population health, how regulations can affect population health, and how to assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of public health interventions.

In the third term students can select an internship to gain experience working in a specialized area of public health and in the forth term, the thesis course allows students to independently explore research that is relevant to advancing public health.

Sem	Master's Programme in Public Health Science		Course type
1	Public health foundations and areas of application 15 hec Folkhälsovetenskapens utgångspunkter och tillämpningsområden 15hp		Mandatory main area course Fulltime
	Health equality and the right to health 7,5 hec Jämlik hälsa och rätten till hälsa 7,5 hp		Mandatory main area course Part time
	Qualitative methods in public health 7,5 hec Kvalitativa metoder inom folkhälsovetenskap 7,5 hp		Mandatory main area course Part time
2	Epidemiology and biostatistics 15 hec Epidemiologi och biostatistik 15 hp		Mandatory main area course Fulltime
	Health economics: foundations, areas of application and methodology 15 hec Hälsoekonomi: utgångspunkter, tillämpningsområden och metodik 15 hp	Social epidemiology: theories, methods and practical implications 15 hec Socialepidemiologi: teori, metod och praktiska implikationer 15 hp	Elective main area course Fulltime
3	Advanced course in health economics evaluation 15 hec Hälsoekonomiska utvärderingar: fördjupningskurs 15 hp	Governing health equality: policy, interventions and evaluations 15 hec Strategiskt arbete för Jämlik hälsa: policy, interventioner och utvärdering 15 hp	Elective main area course Fulltime
	Work and health: health promotion and disease prevention 7,5 hec Arbete och hälsa: hälsopromotion och sjukdomsförebyggande ansatser 7,5 hp		Optional course Part time
	Migration and health in a social, demographic and political context 7,5 hec Migration och hälsa i ett socialt, demografiskt och politiskt sammanhang 7,5 hp		Optional course Part time
	Public health work: interventions, implementation and evaluation 30 hec Praktiskt folkhälsoarbete: intervention, implementering och utvärdering 30 hp		Optional course Part time
	Public health work: intervention planning and evaluation 15 hec Folkhälsoarbete: planering av intervention och utvärdering 15 hp		Optional course Part time
4	Master's thesis in public health science 30 hec Examensarbete i folkhälsovetenskap 30 hp		Mandatory main area course Part time

Alumni testimonials



Name: **Emily Staaf**, 26

Country of origin: England

Master's Programme in Public Health Science, 2019-2021.

With a background in lab-based studies, Emily felt it was time to try something new. A course in global health aroused the interest for public health and healthcare infrastructure, leading to the application to the master's programme in public health science. During her studies, Emily concentrated her studies in health economics. Emily describes the experience during the programme as fun and rewarding.

– The best part was the diversity. Both that the classmates came from diverse backgrounds and that the courses covered many different topics within the field of public health. I learned to see things from new perspectives, and I gained both practical and theoretical skills that I use today in my work. During the programme the teachers were a useful resource. Whenever I needed help or thought something was extra interesting, I could ask them, and they would put me in the right direction.

Emily did an internship and wrote the thesis at a private consultancy firm, which led to a job as a health economist at the firm.

– I was lucky to get a job at the workplace where I had my internship and wrote my thesis. Knowing what I know now, I would redo the programme since it was fun, interesting, and led me to where I am today. I think that the public health programme suits people who are interested in how the different aspects of public health intersect. The curriculum includes medical aspects, but also politics, sociology, ethics, how the different aspects interlink with each other, and how decisions are made.



Name: **Sianga Mutola**, 36

Country of origin: Zambia

Master's Programme in Public Health Science, 2019-2021.

With work experience in the Zambian Ministry of Health and as a tutor for several years, Sianga Mutola wanted to upgrade his skills with a master's education. With a long interest and advocacy for population health and gender equality in Zambia, he found the master's Programme in Public Health Science allowed to be an excellent fit since he could take courses focused on health equity.

After being awarded a scholarship, he moved to Sweden, became a course representative for his class, and secretary of the Educational Council of Public and Global Health (ECoPGH). He conducted his internship and thesis with a university research group and gained programming and analytical skills that made it possible to follow his passion for doing relevant public health work using quantitative data analysis. Sianga highlights:

– This is an international programme that brings students from all over the world. You not only learn theoretical and practical skills during classes but also from activities outside class. The best part was the way Gothenburg University runs its programs with a student-centered approach. The faculty try as much as possible to develop skills in students, solve the academic challenges that they face, and encourage interaction among students from different backgrounds.

As he explains:

– Public health is interdisciplinary, and it brings people from different professional backgrounds. The program gives you several platforms to stand on. You can do advocacy work, policy analysis, monitoring, evaluation, economic advising, politics, and research.

In his current job as a project manager for an adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights project at CARE International in Zambia, he uses much of the knowledge and skills learned during the programme. As for the future, Sianga is also looking forward to continuing his training with a Ph.D. in the field of Global Public Health.

Entrance requirements

- Bachelor's degree or professional degree qualification corresponding to at least 180 credits or equivalent.
- Knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS.

Selection

Applications will be ranked by the Institute of Medicine based on students' degrees earned, work and research experience, and motivation for applying to the program. Verification of degree and English requirements must be submitted together with a CV. More information and application via www.universityadmissions.se.

After graduation

Once you have completed your education, you will have a master's degree in Medical Science.

Job opportunities

Job opportunities are wide-ranging in the public and private sectors, including strategic public health planning, evaluation, administration, and leadership at local,

national, and international levels. Suitable arenas are county councils, community organizations, private organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as well as national (governmental) and international (bilateral, multilateral) organizations.

Tuition fees

EU and EEA citizens do not pay tuition or application fees. Non-EU or EEA citizens are required to pay tuition and application fees. Refer to the program webpage for the most up to date information on fees.

Information about Gothenburg and the University of Gothenburg

Gothenburg is Sweden's second largest city with over half a million inhabitants. The city is located at the west coast and has both a port and nearby beaches.

The University of Gothenburg dates back to 1891 and consists of eight faculties, 38 departments, approximately 49 000 students, and 6 000 staff members.

The programme also has partnerships for exchanges in four locations abroad and internships in Sweden and abroad. Research is also done in collaboration with the University Hospital and other universities and public health authorities.

Swedish



For more information visit:

English



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