



Programme Specification

Queen Margaret University

EDINBURGH

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| 1 | Awarding Institution | Queen Margaret University |
| 2 | Teaching Institution | Queen Margaret University |
| 3 | Professional body accreditation | |
| 4 | Final Award | MSc Global Health |
| | Subsidiary exit awards | PG cert; PG diploma |
| 5 | Programme Title | Global 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. Aim of the programme

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. Specifically, the programme will give students the opportunity to:

- undertake advanced study of global health, drawing on a range of related disciplines such as anthropology, economics, epidemiology, health policy, management studies, psychology, public health and sociology.
- engage in debates examining current and future trends affecting the health of disadvantaged and vulnerable populations;
- enhance their lifelong learning and personal development skills.

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;

Intellectual skills

- Acquire information on global health and evaluate its relevance and validity;

- 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;
- Confidently engage in cross-disciplinary work and health and development partnerships at local, national and global levels.

Transferable skills

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

13. Teaching and learning methods and strategies

The programme involves class-based and web-based learning. There are formal lectures, seminars with individual student presentations and invited speakers, group work and guided reading. 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 is 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.

15. 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 Masters programme.

| Full time students | SCOTCAT credits | Part time students (example of progress) | SCOTCAT credits |
|---|--|---|--|
| Semester 1 | | Year 1, Semester 1 | |
| Induction | 0 | Induction | 0 |
| CORE: Global Health & Social Policy | 15 | CORE Global Health & Social Policy | 15 |
| CORE: Researching Global Health and Development | 15 | CORE Global Public Health | 15 |
| CORE Global Public Health | 15 | | |
| CORE <i>either</i> Health Systems <i>or</i> Social Development Policy and Practice; | 15 | | |
| | <i>Exit PG Certificate Global Health</i> | | |
| Semester 2 | | Year 1, Semester 2 | |
| CORE <i>either</i> Qualitative Research Methods <i>or</i> RDPW DL | 15 | CORE <i>either</i> Qualitative Research Methods <i>or</i> RDPW DL | 15 |
| Elective 1 | 15 | Elective 1 | 15 |
| Elective 2 | 15 | | |
| Elective 3 | 15 | | |
| | <i>Exit PG Diploma Global Health</i> | | <i>Exit PG Certificate Global Health & Dev</i> |
| Semester 3 | | | |
| Dissertation | 60 | | |
| | <i>Exit MSc Global Health</i> | | |
| | | Year 2, Semester 1 | |
| | | CORE Researching Global Health and Development | 15 |
| | | CORE: Select 1 from Health Systems OR Social Development Policy and Practice; | 15 |
| | | Year 2, Semester 2 | |
| | | Elective 2 | 15 |
| | | Elective 3 | 15 |
| | | | <i>Exit PG Diploma Global Health</i> |
| | | Year 3, Semesters 1 and 2 | |
| | | Dissertation | 60 |
| | | | <i>Exit MSc Global Health</i> |

16. Criteria for admission

The standard minimum levels of entry for the MSc in Global 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.

17. 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 (Eg. 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/>