Master of Public Health (Advanced) (MPHA)

1. About the Master of Public Health (Advanced)

The Master of Public Health (Advanced) will equip health professionals from a broad range of backgrounds to work in leadership roles in the field of public health. Students will gain an understanding of the social, behavioural and cultural determinants of disease and will develop skills in the planning, evaluation, management and promotion of health programs to improve the health of populations. The course includes a strong foundation in the research disciplines of epidemiology and biostatistics which provides students with the analytical and communication skills required of public health practitioners and researchers. The MPHA has a global perspective on public and environmental health, with a particular focus on public health issues in the Asian region. Through case-study analysis, research, and an international focus on health issues and policies, this course prepares students to be an interdisciplinary, collaborative thinker and problem solver in the public health arena.

This course also allows you to enter or exit with a Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma of Public Health.

Key Program Learning Outcomes
- Assess and reflect on the ethical practice of public health, and the principles of access and equity
- Design and apply intervention strategies to detect, prevent and control diseases among human populations
- Critically evaluate financial, legal and economic aspects of health and health policy
- Interpret and apply local and global public health awareness to public health challenges
- Critically evaluate and communicate population health information to diverse audiences
- Apply knowledge and skills of systematic research to public health practice
- Critically evaluate innovative health policy and management to promote and optimise the health and welfare of various populations
- Critically analyse environmental risk factors that affect the health and safety of a given community or population
- Build and lead teams, and demonstrate negotiations and conflict management skills
- Design and apply collaborative methods for achieving organisational and community goals

Graduate employment opportunities

Students will be prepared for a career in areas such as health policy, project management, environmental health management, community health and health promotion. Career opportunities within government health departments, in public health teams, in community health and academia. Opportunities can also be found in non-governmental health agencies and international aid agencies
Jobs might include:

- Health Policy Advisor: Policy, program & project jobs - Local, State and Federal Government
- Health Promotion Officer: Government & non–government organisations (NGOs) (e.g. Cancer Council, Heart Foundation, ShineSA, Mental health and disability NGOs, primary health care organisations)
- Health Services: In Government, NGOs and private organisations e.g. health insurance organisations
- Project Officer and Community Development: For Government Agencies and NGOs working in the development field such as CareAustralia, Oxfam

- Research Officer
- Disease surveillance and research jobs - Government: State and Federal

Course Overview

Course Title	Master of Public Health (MPHA)		
Study Options – Domestic Australian students	Full-time Part-time Dynamic Online study	**Study Options – International students**	International students on a student visa must not enrol into any more than a third or 33% of online subjects over their course and must study at least one subject that is face to face in each trimester. International students on a student visa are required to study full time, i.e. the student must complete a minimum of 1.0 EFTSL of study per year.
Start Dates	February, June, September For specific dates visit the [website.](website)	**Course Length**	Full-time: 2 years Part-time: options available.
Payment Options - Domestic Australian students	**Upfront payment** This means tuition fees will be invoiced each semester and payment is required on or before the due date. **FEE-HELP** FEE-HELP is Australian Government's loan scheme for higher education degree courses. It can assist you in paying for all, or part of, your course fees. Repayments commence via the tax system once your income rises above a minimum threshold. Just like with any other debt, a FEE-HELP debt is a real debt that impacts your credit rating.	**Payment Options – International students**	**Upfront payment** This means tuition fees will be invoiced each semester and payment is required on or before the due date.
Course study requirements	It is expected that each subject, whether studied online or on-campus, will involve a combined total of 120 hours of structured and self-directed learning, which equates to approximately 10 hours a week for subjects over 12-week trimesters	**Assessment**	Assessments vary and include: critical analysis and essay writing, literature reviews, needs assessment, project development and evaluation, in-class debates, participation in online discussion forums, short questions, and research projects.

Locations	Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Online	Delivered by	Torrens University Australia
Provider	Torrens University Australia Ltd is registered as a self-accrediting Australian university by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA).	CRICOS Course Code	095594E
Provider obligations	Torrens University is responsible for all aspects of the student experience, including the quality of course delivery, in compliance with the *Higher Education Standards 2015*	Accrediting body	Torrens University Australia Limited ABN 99 154 937 005, CRICOS Provider Code: 095594E. RTO No. 41343
Course Fees	For details, refer to the website.	Any other fees	For details, refer to the website.

2. Essential requirements for admission

The general admission criteria that apply to Torrens University Australia courses can be located by visiting the Torrens University Australia website - https://www.torrens.edu.au/general-admission-information-for-torrens-university-australia-ltd.

3. Admission Criteria

Title of course of study	Master of Public Health (Advanced)
Academic Entry Requirements	• A completed qualification at AQF level 7 (bachelor degree) or above from an Australian University or an equivalent overseas higher education qualification.
Applicants with work and life experience	Applicants without formal qualifications at AQF7 or above may be considered for entry to the Graduate Certificate of Public Health on the basis of a combination of formal (below AQF7) or non-formal qualifications and seven years of relevant experience in a health professional role. Applications will be assessed on a case by case basis. Successful completion of the Graduate Certificate will allow automatic entry to the Graduate Diploma or Master of Public Health with 100% credit.
English Language Proficiency	**International Students**

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(applicable to international students, and in addition to academic or special entry requirements noted above)	• Equivalent IELTS 6.5 (Academic) with no skills band less than 6.0

Other admission options

Special Entry	Not applicable

4. How to apply

Via direct application to the institution

- o https://apply.torrens.edu.au/

5. Advanced standing/academic credit/recognition of prior learning (RPL)

You may be entitled to credit for prior learning, whether formal or informal. Formal learning can include previous study in higher education, vocational education, or adult and community education. Informal learning can include on the job learning or various kinds of work and life experience. Credit can reduce the amount of study needed to complete a degree.

Applicants admitted based on prior higher education study may be eligible for Advanced Standing in the form of credit and/or recognition of prior learning (RPL) under the Torrens University Australia Credit Policy - (https://www.torrens.edu.au/policies-and-forms).

- Students with completed subjects may be eligible for specified credit and/or elective exemptions
- Students who have completed a qualification at AQF level 5 (diploma) or above may be eligible for block credit (where a block credit agreement exists)
- Students with a mix of formal study and informal and/or non-formal learning may be eligible for recognition of prior learning in addition to any credit approved.

Credit will not be applied automatically. Applicants must apply for credit and/or RPL as early as possible prior to each study period, with applications not accepted after week 2.

For further information about credit and recognition of prior learning please see http://www.torrens.edu.au/apply-online/course-credits

6. Where to get further information

- Torrens University Australia (TUA) Website
  - o https://www.torrens.edu.au/
- Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) Website
  - o https://www.qilt.edu.au/

7. Additional Information

Course Structure

Title of the course of study:	Master of Public Health			
Structure of the course of study:	The Master of Public Health Advanced comprises 16 subjects for a total of 160 credit points. • Core subjects: 8 subjects • Specialisations: 1 • Electives: 7 The Master of Public Health (Advanced) would normally be undertaken over 2 years full time study or 4 years part time study.			

	Subject Code	Subject Title	Core or elective (in this course)	Pre-requisite or Co-requisite	Credit Points
Level: 400					
1	PUBH6000	Social, Behavioural and Cultural Factors in Public Health	Core	Nil	10
2	PUBH6003	Health Systems and Economics	Core	Nil	10
3	PUBH6002	Global and Environmental Health Issues	Core	Nil	10
Level: 500					
4	PUBH6005	Epidemiology	Core		10
5	PUBH6206	Health Promotion and Community Health	Core	Pre-requisite PUBH6000	10
6	STAT6200	Biostatistics	Core	Co-requisite PUBH6005	10
7	Specialisation	*Select 1 Specialisation from the table below*	Specialisation		10
Level: 600					
8	PUBH6001	Health Policy and Advocacy	Core	Pre-requisite PUBH6000 PUBH6003	10
9	PUBH6007	Program Design Implementation and Evaluation	Core	Pre-requisite PUBH6206	10
10	Elective	*Select Elective from the table below*	Elective		10
11	Elective	*Select Elective from the table below*	Elective		10
12	Elective	*Select Elective from the table below*	Elective		10
13	Elective	*Select Elective from the table below*	Elective		10
14	Elective	*Select Elective from the table below*	Elective		10
15	Elective	*Select Elective from the table below*	Elective		10

16	Elective	*Select Elective from the table below*	Elective		10
			Total Credit Points/EFTSL		**160**
Course Rules:		To graduate with this qualification, a student must satisfactorily complete 12 subjects consisting of eight core, one specialisation and three electives, (10 credit points each), for a combined course total of 120 credit points. The Master of Public Health is normally, undertaken over 1.5 years full time study or 3 years part time study.			

Specialisation subjects.		**Select ONLY 1 from the list below.**			
4	DHI401	Digital Health and Informatics	Specialisation	Pre-requisite PUBH6000	10
5	DTH501	Design Thinking	Specialisation	Nil	10

Elective Bank					
Subject Code		**Subject Title**	**Elective** (in this course)	**Pre-requisite or Co-requisite**	**Credit Points**
Level: 400					
1	SDR404	Self-care and Developing Resilience	Elective	Nil	10
2	ATC401	Advanced Therapeutic Communication	Elective	Nil	10
3	LSD403	Life Stages and Development	Elective	Nil	10
Level: 500					
1	MEH505	Mental Health	Elective	Nil	10
Level: 600					
1	PUBH6013	Qualitative Research	Elective	Pre-requisite PUBH6005	10
2	PUBH6008	Capstone A: Applied Research In Public Health	Elective	Pre-requisite All Core MPH Subjects	10
3	PUBH6012	Capstone B: Applied Research In Public Health	Elective	Pre-requisite PUBH6008	10
4	POA612	Positive Aging	Elective	Nil	10
5	GAL613	Grief and Loss	Elective	Nil	10
6	SEW615	Social & Emotional Well-being in Australian Indigenous Populations	Elective	Nil	10
7	EPA618	Empowerment and Advocacy	Elective	Nil	10
8	CRA616	Consumer Rights and Advocacy	Elective	Nil	10
9	MGMT6012	Management Perspectives	Elective	Nil	10

	Elective Bank				
	Subject Code	**Subject Title**	**Elective** (in this course)	**Pre-requisite or Co-requisite**	**Credit Points**
10	MGT601	Dynamic Leadership	Elective	Nil	10
11	MGT600	Managing People and Teams	Elective	Nil	10
12	MGT602	Business Decision Analytics	Elective	Nil	10
13	PROJ6000	Principles of Project Management	Elective	Nil	10
14	PROJ6002	Project Planning & Budgeting	Elective	Nil	10
15	PROJ6003	Project Execution & Control	Elective	Nil	10
16	MIS608	Agile Project Managements	Elective	Nil	10
17	MGT621	Critical Reading and Research Proposal	Elective	Nil	10
18	PROJ6004	Contracts and Procurement	Elective	Nil	10
19	PROJ6006	Organisational Behaviour & People Management	Elective	Nil	10
20	ECON6000	Economic Principles & Decision Making	Elective	Nil	10
21	FIN6017	Financial Management	Elective	Nil	10
22	MKTG6002	Marketing	Elective	Nil	10
23	THS601	Thesis 1	Elective	Nil	10
24	THS602	Thesis 2	Elective	Nil	10
		Electives can be selected from the suggested list or other TUA courses (pre-requisites permitting). Electives chosen from other TUA courses must have prior approval from the Program Director or delegate.			

Course Rules

To graduate with this qualification, a student must satisfactorily complete 16 subjects. Eight core subjects and one specialisation and seven electives of 10 credit points each, for a combined course total of 160 credit points. The Master of Public Health (Advanced) would normally be undertaken over 2 years full time study or 4 years part time study.

Subjects

Subject Descriptions
PUBH6000 Social, Behavioural and Cultural Factors in Public Health – Core

Begin your journey into the public health industry with an introduction to the principles of public health and fundamentals of public health practice. You will consider the way major social determinants of health affect a population's health outcomes, while examining the role of public health stakeholders in addressing health inequality and inequity.

Learn about the theoretical and conceptual health intervention frameworks and apply these to different populations, including Indigenous and disadvantaged populations. The integration of digital health into public health practice will also be covered.

PUBH6002 Global and Environmental Health Issues - Core

Continue to build industry-relevant skills by examining the impact environmental factors have on the health and safety of local and global communities. Topics include the elements that comprise an environment; the causal links between chemical, physical and biological hazards and their impact on health; and the factors that influence environmentally compromised health outcomes. You will explore current solutions and develop new ways to address environmental threats, such as waste management, water pollution, air pollution and global warming. The influence of globalisation and foreign relations on the social, economic and political determinants of health will also be discussed. Lastly, there will be a focus on environmental disaster prevention, management and recovery, and the health impacts of climate change that you, as public health practitioners of the future, will have to take into consideration..

PUBH6003 Health Systems and Economics - Core

Explore fundamental topics relating to health systems and health economics as you delve further into the public health industry.

Learn about various theoretical and conceptual frameworks of health systems, as well as financial and resourcing requirements – both of which are vital for the justification of planning and delivery of effective public health programs. You will be introduced to different strategies to facilitate successful navigation within health care systems in Australia and other countries around the world. Important issues, including the development of policies, the role of the government, public health funding and expenditure, and public health programs and services, will be closely examined to provide you with an overall picture of how health systems are organised on a local, national and global scale

PUBH6005 Epidemiology - Core

Gain significant insight into the public health industry by understanding the role of epidemiology in prevention and screening, and disease surveillance response. The key concepts of incidence, prevalence and causation in relation to this will be explored. You will learn how to interpret key sources of data and use basic epidemiological measures to draw appropriate inferences. Develop skills to help you identify the strengths, limitations and appropriate uses of various research designs and methodologies in health research. Then extend these skills by critiquing different study designs with respect to research question/hypothesis. Finally, bring together the knowledge and skills you have acquired by elaborating on the role and potential application of epidemiology in public health research, policy and advocacy

PUBH6206 Health Promotion and Community Health - Core

Building upon your knowledge of public health principles, the next focus will be on health promotion principles and the theories and concepts of community health.

You will now learn how to apply health promotion principles, theoretical frameworks and strategies into health promotion intervention for diverse communities. A practical assessment of the health status of various communities will illustrate the value of health promotion interventions that integrates community capacity building and community empowerment. The concept of health emergency preparedness and response will also be explored in relation to health emergency planning in crisis situations. To conclude your journey into

the public health industry, you will have opportunities to connect with the industry via workshops, case studies and detailed lectures.

STAT6200 Biostatistics - Core

Analysing data is one of the central activities in the public health industry. Learn how to investigate basic statistics and concepts used in public health research and practice to interpret results in journals and government reports. A practice-based approach to statistical analysis – using specialised software – will enable you to apply basic analyses to public health data.

PUBH6001 Public Health Policy and Advocacy - Core

Policymaking is not a straightforward process, especially in health policy where the ideal approach is to minimise the push and pull of politics and power in favour of positive health outcomes for populations. In this subject, students will discover that the health policy making environment, as well as policy implementation and sustainability of policies, is complex and influenced by many competing factors. Students will explore and apply theories of agenda-setting, which describe the impact various influences have on health issues. These include the historical and contemporary context of a health issue, the political ideologies and values shaping policy, and who is involved in the whole process.

Additionally, students will examine theories and policymaking models that will enable them to analyse the development and implementation of health policy. Through an ethical lens, students will develop the knowledge to evaluate the success of health policy and critique the use of evidence to inform and evaluate policy. They will also compare and critique concepts to inform their perspectives of health policy within the Australian healthcare setting and the global influences on domestic health policy.

Lastly, students will be asked to think about a health issue being experienced by a certain population group and to analyse the role of advocacy in shaping policy around it.

PUBH6007 Program Design Implementation and Evaluation - Core

An opportunity to advance the skills required of the public health professional in planning for the design, development, implementation and evaluation of community health promotion and disease prevention initiatives. Attention will be given to evaluating the importance of needs assessment in a community, or in any healthcare sector. Students will also learn about program theory and logic model in the planning and implementation of programs, and how to write a program and evaluation plan. Implementation of programs, including stakeholder engagement and program management processes, will also be explored. Students will evaluate programs, including the process, impact and outcome evaluation. Students will examine the principles and resources required to make evaluation successful, as well as the reporting and dissemination of evaluation findings.

DTH501 Design Thinking - Specialisation

Design Thinking is an approach to innovation that involves identifying 'problems' or issues in a particular context, considering those who have a stake in these problems/issues and then designing a range of possible solutions that are tested and refined in practice. In this subject, students will explore the concepts and processes of Design Thinking, including the origins of Design Thinking and Integrative Thinking, and outline their use across a specific discipline and context.

Following these general processes, students will then use Design Thinking to identify and justify an issue within their own professional context. Through this Design Thinking process, students will engage in reflection

and analysis of their own professional skills, knowledge and judgement, and ultimately arrive at an advanced understanding of their role as both an innovator and leader.

DHI401 Digital Health and Informatics – Specialisation

Digital health (or e-health) competency is an essential part of employability in the health and well-being sector in the current world, and one that is mandatory for Australian health professionals.

Develop your knowledge in this area by exploring the current and emerging information communication technologies (ICTs) in use within the Australian health sector, including national e-health records, tele-health, tele-medicine, m-health, mobile apps, wearable technologies, internet of things (IoT), AI and others. The strategic use of technologies and methods to protect the privacy and security of citizens (for example, permission blockchain), along with respective legal frameworks (policies and law), will also be examined.

Learn how to identify basic applications of "health informatics" in the public health context, focusing on health surveillance methods in prevalence (for example, disease surveillance, mapping, contact tracing). The relevance of specific data sets and how these are synthesised using ICT tools and techniques will also be considered. Current methods will be evaluated, with an applied focus on how social media and technology tools (for example, GIS) are being used in public health surveillance.

Lastly, you will consider how digital technology applies to your chosen profession (doctor, nurse, paramedic, allied health). You will also reflect on how technology augments public and population health skills and how health care ethics need to be coordinated across different health care professions.

Locations

The Master of Public Health Advanced can be studied fully online or at the below Torrens University Campuses:

- South Australia (Adelaide)
- Queensland (Brisbane)
- Victoria (Melbourne)
- New South Wales (Sydney)

Campus Facilities and Services

All campuses are designed to provide students with professional spaces in which to learn and work. They have been planned with student study needs in mind with well-equipped accessible learning spaces as well as student breakout areas for group work and spending time with friends.

- ✓ The Customer Service Hub – our friendly and experienced staff can give help and advice about courses, your enrolment and campus life, including all services and activities on campus

- ✓ Counsellors are available for students to consult with on a range of personal issues

- ✓ Student wireless access throughout the Campus

- ✓ Student break-out and relaxed study spaces for group work

- ✓ Student lounge areas – most with microwaves, fridge and kitchenette facilities

- ✓ The Learning Hub, home to the Learning Support Team, encompasses Learning Skills Advisors, Learning Technology Advisors, and Library & Learning Skills Officers. It provides an integrated, holistic support pro gram for students throughout the study lifecycle within a library/collaborative study environment.

- ✓ Support and workshops with highly qualified staff in the areas of Academic skills, Library skills, and technology skills, both on campus and online

- ✓ Physical and digital resources relevant to studies, such as books, journals, multimedia, databases

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✓ Self-check kiosks for library loans and print and copy facilities

A positive student experience

Torrens University Australia values the importance of a positive student experience, and therefore has robust processes to resolve student complaints. The Student Complaints Policy, and associated procedures, can be accessed from the [website](https://www.torrens.edu.au/policies-and-forms) (https://www.torrens.edu.au/policies-and-forms).

Paying for your qualification

We offer two payment options for this course:

- **Upfront payment**

   If you want to complete your qualification debt-free you can choose to pay as you go. This means tuition fees will be invoiced each semester and payment is required on or before the due date using EFTPOS, credit card or direct transfer.

- **FEE-HELP**

   FEE-HELP is Australian Government's loan scheme for higher education degree courses. It can assist you in paying for all, or part of, your course fees. Repayments commence via the tax system once your income rises above a minimum threshold ($45, 881 in 2019-20). Just like with any other debt, a FEE-HELP debt is a real debt that impacts your credit rating.

   Further information about FEE-HELP, including eligibility, is available at:
   - FEE-HELP website:
      http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/fee-help/pages/fee-help-
   - FEE-HELP booklets:
      http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helpfulresources/pages/publications

Austudy and Abstudy

Students enrolled in this course may be eligible for government assistance, such as Austudy or Abstudy.