

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)



AT A GLANCE

START DATES

February or July

DURATION TO COMPLETE

18 months full-time
(or part-time up to 4 years)

POINTS

180

FEATURES

Practicum or Research Project

SCHOLARSHIPS

Visit canterbury.ac.nz/scholarships

The Master of Public Health (MPH) is a professionally focused postgraduate qualification that equips students with the knowledge and practical skills to improve population health and address public health challenges.

Overview

With a strong applied component, either through a work-integrated practicum or a research-based project, graduates will be work-ready and able to critically apply their skills to real-world public health issues.

This qualification is grounded in equity, community engagement, and culturally responsive practice, preparing students to contribute meaningfully to public health in Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

What does the programme cover?

The MPH is structured around core public health knowledge, electives, and a practical capstone experience.

Core courses (135 points):

- HLTH470 – Qualitative Research Methods for Health
- PUBH420 – Public Health Essentials: Building Blocks for Impact
- PUBH421 – Hauora Māori
- PUBH422 – Health Systems in Action: Policy, Innovation and Equity
- PUBH424 – Social and Political Epidemiology
- PUBH623 – Healthy Societies: Empowering Change through Health Promotion
- Capstone (choose one – 45 points):
 - PUBH630 – Public Health Practice: Experiential Learning Practicum
 - PUBH631 – Public Health Research: Public Health Research: Community Based project

Electives:

You'll tailor your learning with electives aligned to your interests and career goals. Some examples are:

- HLTH403 – Environmental Health
- HLTH430 – Motivating Behaviour Change
- POLS440 – Principles and Practice of Policy and Governance
- Other approved electives are also available.

Career Opportunities

Graduates are prepared for roles such as:

- Public health advisor
- Health promoter or educator
- Policy analyst or researcher
- Epidemiologist

Career pathways span government agencies (e.g. Ministry of Health, Te Whatu Ora), NGOs, PHOs, research institutes, and international organisations.

Entry Requirements

To apply, you'll need:

- A relevant bachelor's degree with a B average at 300-level (e.g. health sciences, Māori and Indigenous studies, sociology, psychology, statistics, etc.)
- Or academic equivalent standing
- International students must meet UC's English language requirements

Admission is subject to approval by the Executive Dean of Health or delegate.

More information

Oranga | Health student Advice team
Email: studyhealth@canterbury.ac.nz
Web: www.canterbury.ac.nz/health

