

BSc (Hons) Public Health

Programme Specification

1. Programme title	BSc (Hons) Public Health BSc (Hons) Public Health with Foundation Year
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
3b. Language of study	English
4a. Valid intake dates	September
4b. Mode of study	Full Time (3 years)/Part Time (6 years)
4c. Delivery method	On-campus/Blended
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	N/A
6. Apprenticeship Standard	N/A
7. Final qualification(s) available	BSc (Hons) Public Health BSc Public Health DipHE Public Health CertHE Public Health
8. Academic year effective from	2024-25

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Evidence that you have capacity to work at Level 4 plus; for example:

5 GCSEs (Grade 4 or above) or equivalent including: English Language and Mathematics and Science **PLUS** one of the following:

- A Levels minimum two subjects with 112 UCAS tariff points or above, OR
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma normally with a minimum of DMM; OR
- Access to HE Diploma (Pass with 45 credits at level 3, of which all 45 credits must be at Merit or higher); OR
- International Baccalaureate (28 points).

Applications from mature candidates without formal qualifications are welcome provided they can demonstrate appropriate levels of relevant ability and experience

Applicants must be competent in English to study this course. For those for whom English is not their first language, the most commonly accepted evidence of English language ability is IELTS 6.0 (with minimum 5.5 in all four components) or equivalent.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) - students are welcome to apply to entry to year 2 or year 3 of the programme with appropriate prior qualifications.

Please refer to the programme specification for the Foundation Year for the criteria for admission to the BSc Public Health with Foundation Year programme.

<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/foundation-year-in-science>

10. Aims of the programme

This programme is designed to train competent and confident practitioners who are equipped with the knowledge and skills to work effectively as part of the Public Health workforce across the core domains of public health practice. Through a combination of theoretical knowledge and real-world application, students will develop a public health way of thinking about health issues, and the capacity to identify, appraise and address health needs at the population/ community level. We aspire to develop graduates who demonstrate leadership, professional ethical standards, creative solutions to problems, and a commitment to diversity and inclusivity in their work.

The programme aims to:

- Equip students with an understanding of the competencies required to support their role as practitioners in the multi-disciplinary settings of public health practice
- Develop the skills to identify the health priorities of a community, and the complex interaction of social structural and environmental factors that drive inequalities in health
- Enable students to design, implement and evaluate community population-based interventions using health promotion, protection and prevention approaches
- Provide critical appraisal, data analysis, research and evaluation skills to support professional practice

Develop leadership, communication, collaboration and problem-solving skills

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

- A1. The domains of public health practice and the different levels of intervention within these areas.
- A2. Health issues from a multi-disciplinary perspective
- A3. The social, structural and environmental determinants of health and health inequalities
- A4. The biological, behavioural and social theories underpinning health and the appropriate use of behaviour change techniques.

- A5. The different sources of data and research and intelligence, and their strengths and limitations
- A6. Methods of assessing population health needs
- A7. The public health approach to intervention, and how interventions are designed, delivered and evaluated
- A8. Legislation, regulation, licensing, policy, education, fiscal and economic measures to mitigate risk and promote and protect health
- A9. Funding of healthcare and the use of economic analysis to determine value for money and inform decision making
- A10. Principles of leadership, management, partnerships, communication, ethical and inclusive practice
- A11. The role of digital literacy in supporting knowledge acquisition and practice

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through engagement with learning activities such as key concept videos, in-class discussions and guidance, real-world case studies, problem-solving scenarios, seminars, workshops, laboratory and other practical sessions. Learning is further reinforced through a variety of directed and self-directed learning activities, including working on projects, critical literature appraisals, data analysis sessions, and portfolio development. These methods are designed to ensure that students' learning will be directed at consolidating knowledge and embedding understanding of how it relates to real life practice. Use of e-learning strategies will be integrated into the teaching to encourage digital literacy.

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding will be assessed by pre, intra and post-class exercises, quizzes, and presentations with guidance notes and links to further resources to encourage interaction with learning resources. Assessments will be both individual and group based.

B. Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

- B1. Develop practical skills in data management, visualisation and analysis to draw informed conclusions about health needs, provision and use of services
- B2. Identify community health needs, recognise where inequalities exist, and determine the behavioural, social and environmental factors that underpin them
- B3. Appraise the effectiveness of policies and strategies on the public's health and health inequalities
- B4. Apply an evidence-based, public health approach to the design, delivery and evaluation of health policies, interventions and campaigns using suitable tools and techniques
- B5. Identify, engage and work collaboratively with stakeholders (including service users) in assessing needs, and planning, delivering and evaluating services
- B6. Use and adapt appropriate methods to monitor and evaluate health interventions, and carry out research

- B7. Work collaboratively with colleagues and apply leadership skills to engage others, build relationships, manage conflict, encourage contribution and sustain commitment to deliver shared objectives
- B8. Communicate information in a range of ways appropriate for different audiences with different levels of health literacy
- B9. Reflect and write about own practice, lessons learned, and areas for personal and career development
- B10. Demonstrate professional characteristics in the course of work including ethical conduct, building trust; assuring confidentiality where appropriate; and awareness of diversity
- B11. Use information technology to effectively support learning

Teaching/learning methods

Skills will be developed through interactive participation in case studies, laboratory-based work, research appraisal and data analysis exercises.

Assessment methods

Students' skills will be assessed by:

- Presentations
- Problem-solving scenarios and case studies
- Timed exercises in computational skills, data visualisation/interpretation, and application of key concepts to real life scenarios
- Implementation of a research project (dissertation)

The assessments are designed to reflect the activities undertaken in typical public health practice settings

Graduate competencies

Graduate competencies are integrated into formative and summative assessments. The Epidemiology and Surveillance, Social and Economic Analysis in Public Health, Contemporary Issues in Global Public Health, and Research Methods and Science Innovation modules specifically develop a broad range of technological skills in scientific data collection, management and analysis. The Work Experience and Professional Practice Preparation modules seek to further enhance technological ability, collaboration and innovation in practice, and problem solving and delivery. The Communications and Public Health Interventions module seeks to underpin communications, empathy and inclusion to tackle public health problems. These skills are developed through written reports, case studies, presentations, and portfolio development. Skills may also be assessed through online exercises and presentations.

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12.1 Structure of the programme

Full Time Mode

YEAR 1

Semester 1

BIO1040 Sciences of Environmental and Public Health (30 credits)

PSY1110 Psychological Science: From Individuals to Society (30 credits)

Semester 2

BIO1280 Environmental and Public Health Stressors (30 credits)

BIO1025 Introduction to Law and Health Protection (30 credits)

YEAR 2

Semester 1

BIO2221 Epidemiology and Surveillance
(30 credits)

BIO2225 Social and Economic Analysis in Public Health (30 credits)

Semester 2

CHE2105 Research Methods and Science Innovation (30 credits)

PRS2460 Communications and Public Health Interventions (30c)

YEAR 3

Semester 1

BIO3799 Work Experience
(30 credits)

PRS3989 Dissertation
(30 credits)

Semester 2

BIO3638 Contemporary Issues in Global Public Health
(30 credits)

BIO3060 Preparing for Professional Practice (30 credits)

Indicative Part time route

YEAR 1

Semester 1

BIO1040 Sciences of Environmental and Public Health (30 credits)

Semester 2

BIO1280 Environmental and Public Health Stressors (30 credits)

YEAR 2

Semester 1

PSY1110 Psychological Science: From Individuals to Society (30 credits)

Semester 2

BIO1025 Introduction to Law and Health Protection (30 credits)

YEAR 3

Semester 1

BIO2221 Epidemiology and Surveillance

(30 credits)

Semester 2

CHE2105 Research Methods and Science Innovation

(30 credits)

YEAR 4

Semester 1

BIO2225 Social and Economic Analysis in Public Health

(30 credits)

Semester 2

PRS2460 Communications and Public Health Interventions

(30 credits)

YEAR 5

Semester 1

BIO3799 Work Experience

(30 credits)

Semester 2

BIO3638 Contemporary Issues in Global Public Health

(30 credits)

YEAR 6

Semester 1

PRS3989 Dissertation

(30 credits)

Semester 2

BIO3060 Preparing for Professional Practice (30 credits)

12.2 Levels and modules

Level 4

Compulsory

Students must take all of the following:

- BIO1040 Science of Environmental and Public Health
- BIO1280 Environmental and Public Health Stressors
- BIO1025 Introduction to Law and Health Protection
- PSY1110 Psychological Science: From Individuals to Society

Optional: None

Progression requirements: Students must pass at least 90 credits to progress to Level 5. *To achieve Honours, failed credit will need to be repeated.*

Level 5

Compulsory

Students must take all of the following:

- BIO2221 Epidemiology and Surveillance
- CHE2105 Research Methods and Science Innovation
- BIO2225 Social and Economic Analysis in Public Health
- PRS2460 Communications and Public Health Interventions

Optional: None

Progression requirements: Students must have passed at least 210 credits to progress to Level 6. *To achieve Honours, failed credit will need to be repeated.*

Level 6

Compulsory:

Students must take all of the following:

- BIO3638 Contemporary Issues in Global Public Health
- BIO3799 Work Experience
- PRS3989 Dissertation
- BIO3060 Preparing for Professional Practice

Optional: None

Progression requirements: N/A

12.3 Non-compensatable modules

Module level/ Module code

Level 4 BIO1025

Level 5 PRS2460

Level 6 All modules

13. Information about assessment regulations

This programme will run in line with general University regulations:

<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies>

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

Employers want graduates who have developed the ability to be flexible and adaptable, work in teams, communicate with fellow employees and customers, take initiatives and responsibility and,

when necessary, take the lead. Many of these qualities can be learned and developed through placements. Equally important is the fact that these experiences help you develop your own ideas about the career you want, what will suit you best, and perhaps the kind of work or employers you wish to focus on. It is much easier to identify the positive and negative aspects of a particular career if you have experienced it first-hand.

Accordingly, in your programme, you will undertake a work experience module along with a related module on preparing for professional practice during year 3. Work Experience placements are supported across the University by MDXWorks who work closely with your programme team. Together with MDXWorks, they offer workshops, one-to-one advice and other services such as:

- writing CVs and covering letters
- completing application forms
- password protected access to the placement website
- help arrange interviews and where possible create links with employers

Where students are unable to secure their own placements, the University will explore opportunities for virtual placements.

Further information and guidance notes are available online.

15. Future careers / progression

The BSc in Public Health equips graduates with a wide range of transferable knowledge and skills that are practically relevant to employers and will support personal development and career progression within public health. The award, including the format of learning and assessment, has been specifically structured to reflect real life practice in the workplace. Public health careers are as diverse as the field itself, and upon graduation, you will be ideally placed to begin a career in a wide variety of public and private sectors such as the NHS, local and national government agencies, private health and social care companies, non-governmental and international organisations. The skills and knowledge you will have gained will leave you well equipped for varied roles such as Public Health Practitioner, Health Improvement Practitioner, Data Analyst, Community Support Officer, or Health Promotion Worker.

Students can also continue their academic careers at Middlesex University on the postgraduate programmes in Public Health, Social Work, Nursing, Environmental Health, Occupational Safety and Health Management, or Sustainability and Environmental Management, further enhancing their future career development and opportunities.

16. Particular support for learning

The University provides a number of points of support for students. Academic support is provided through an individually appointed Academic Advisor and by the Learning Enhancement Team who advise students on literacy, English language, and numeracy for example. The Disability and Dyslexia Support Service offers support to students with these needs during their time at Middlesex.

There is an on-line learning platform to provide module and programme support.

Sheppard Library provides a wide range of physical and online resources and study spaces.

Students will be supported with their coursework and subject understanding in small group tutorials or on a 1:1 basis. Student Learning Assistants provide peer-learning support and can assist students with their work in class, as well as through 1:1 or small group discussion.

All students will have a named Academic Advisor each year who will provide programme support throughout their programme.

17. HECos code(s): 100473

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s): Health Studies (2019)

19. Reference points

- QAA subject benchmarks (Health Studies)
- Public Health Practitioner apprenticeship standard
- Middlesex University Regulations
- Middlesex University 2031 Learning Framework
- Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook

20. Other information

Indicators of quality:

- Progression statistics and good awards
- Students' feedback
- External examiners communication, both formal reports and other engagement
- Student employability
- Academic Professional Panel

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for BSc Public Health

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
A1	The domains of public health practice and the different levels of intervention within these areas
A2	Health issues from a multi-disciplinary perspective
A3	The social, structural and environmental determinants of health and health inequalities
A4	The biological, behavioural and social theories underpinning health and the appropriate use of behaviour change techniques.
A5	The different sources of data and research and intelligence, and their strengths and limitations
A6	Methods of assessing population health needs
A7	The public health approach to intervention, and how interventions are designed, delivered and evaluated
A8	Legislation, regulation, licensing, policy, education, fiscal and economic measures to mitigate risk and promote and protect health
A9	Funding of healthcare and the use of economic analysis to determine value for money and inform decision making
A10	Principles of leadership, management, partnerships, communication, ethical and inclusive practice
A11	The role of digital literacy in supporting knowledge acquisition and practice
Skills	
B1	Develop practical skills in data management, visualisation and analysis to draw informed conclusions about health needs, provision and use of services
B2	Identify community health needs, recognise where inequalities exist, and determine the behavioural, social and environmental factors that underpin them
B3	Appraise the effectiveness of policies and strategies on the public's health and health inequalities
B4	Apply an evidence-based, public health approach to the design, delivery and evaluation of health policies, interventions and campaigns using suitable tools and techniques
B5	Identify, engage and work collaboratively with stakeholders (including service users) in assessing needs, and planning, delivering and evaluating services
B6	Use and adapt appropriate methods to monitor and evaluate health interventions, and carry out research
B7	Work collaboratively with colleagues and apply leadership skills to engage others, build relationships, manage conflict, encourage contribution and sustain commitment to deliver shared objectives
B8	Communicate information in a range of ways appropriate for different audiences with different levels of health literacy
B9	Reflect and write about own practice, lessons learned, and areas for personal and career development
B10	Demonstrate professional characteristics in the course of work including ethical conduct, building trust; assuring confidentiality where appropriate; and awareness of diversity
B11	Use information technology to effectively support learning

Programme outcomes	Highest level achieved by all graduates
A1	Level 6
A2	Level 6
A3	Level 6
A4	Level 6
A5	Level 6
A6	Level 6
A7	Level 6
A8	Level 6
A9	Level 6
A10	Level 6
A11	Level 6
B1	Level 6
B2	Level 6
B3	Level 6
B4	Level 6
B5	Level 6
B6	Level 6
B7	Level 6
B8	Level 6
B9	Level 6
B10	Level 6
B11	Level 6

Module Title:	Module code by level	Programme outcomes
Module Title: Sciences of Environmental and Public Health	Module code by level: BIO1040	Programme outcomes: A1/A11/B7/B8/B9/B11
Module Title: Psychological Science: From Individuals to Society	Module code by level: PSY1xxx	Programme outcomes: A2/A3/A4/B5/B7/B8
Module Title: Introduction to Law and Health Protection	Module code by level: BIO1025	Programme outcomes: A1/A2/A3/A5/A7/A8/A10/B2/B3/B5
Module Title: Environmental and Public Health Stressors	Module code by level: BIO1280	Programme outcomes: A2/A3/A4/A11/B8
Module Title: Research Methods and Science Innovation	Module code by level: CHE2105	Programme outcomes: A5/A11/B1/B11
Module Title: Epidemiology and Surveillance	Module code by level: BIO2221	Programme outcomes: A5/A6/A8/A11/B1/B2/B3/B6/B8/B11
Module Title: Social and Economic Analysis in Public Health	Module code by level: BIO2225	Programme outcomes: A1/A2/A3/A4/A5/A6/A8/A9/A11/B1/B2/B3/B6/B7/B8/B11
Module Title: Communications and Public Health Interventions	Module code by level: PRS2460	Programme outcomes: A2/A3/A4/A5/A6/A7/A8/A10/A11/B2/B3/B4/B5/B7/B8/B11
Module Title: Dissertation	Module code by level: PRS3989	Programme outcomes: A5/A6/A7/A11/B1/B2/B3/B6/B8
Module Title: Contemporary Issues in Global Public Health	Module code by level: BIO3638	Programme outcomes: A1/A3/A5/A8/A10/A11/B1/B2/B3/B6/B7/B8/B11
Module Title: Work Experience	Module code by level: BIO3799	Programme outcomes: A3/A5/A8/A9/B1/B2/B3/B6/B7/B8/B9/B10/B11
Module Title: Preparing for Professional Practice	Module code by level: BIO3060	Programme outcomes: A2/A3/A4/A5/A6/A8/A9/A11/B1/B4/B5/B7/B9/B10/B11