ADVANCED MASTER IN PUBLIC HEALTH METHODOLOGY

This course aims to strengthen the links between academic research and applied topics such as health programmes and health systems management. It aims to equip graduates with the knowledge and skills to undertake epidemiological and public health research as well as to provide leadership and technical support in public health programmes and policy, particularly in middle and low income countries. Students acquire a large degree of autonomy in the use of public health methods and the transmission of this knowledge in professional life.

Students come from a wide range of backgrounds and countries. At least one year’s experience in public health related work is recommended but not required. The programme is taught in English.

CURRICULUM

The compulsory programme is built around two main axes: disciplines relevant to public health research methodology:
- Fundamentals of epidemiology
- Clinical epidemiology
- Demography
- Statistical quantitative and qualitative methods
- Statistics with computing
- Contextual factors in public health

And modules related to the planning, management and evaluation of health systems and services:
- Operational research and health planning
- Health services strategies and evaluation
- Principles of management
- Human resource management
- Health systems management
- Hospital management.

The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including: lectures, practicals, field visits (hospital, medical house), self-directed study followed by seminars and groupwork with peers.

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme is jointly run by two universities members of the Académie Wallonie-Bruxelles (ULB and UMons) which have a partnership agreement with the University of Liverpool for the part of the programme related to the qualitative methods.

At the side of the programme, the students have the opportunity to follow two lectures (fifteen hours each) given by two invited lecturers from middle or low income countries. The lectures deal with specialized topics within the area of expertise of the lecturers. One of the lecturers is usually a former student which brings stimulating exchange with the class.

Students are also invited to attend the annual seminar of the Belgian Platform for International Health (Be-cause Health).

ASSETS OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme aims to develop knowledge and skills but also to help students to turn what they learnt into action. The students acquire a large degree of autonomy in the use of public health methods and the transmission of this knowledge in professional life. The multidisciplinary approach of the programme opens a wide range of career prospects: oriented towards research or towards field action or policy making.

The diversity of the students’ backgrounds and experiences brings a variety of viewpoints in learning activities but also the opportunity to develop relationships all over the world.

CAREER PROSPECTS

- Academic sector: the programme may serve as excellent preparation for students wishing to go on to take a PhD
- Universities, health research centres: epidemiologist, biostatistician, researcher in health services and policies
- Community and hospital medicine: public health physician, district officer
- National and international health agencies: programme or project officer/manager, public health surveillance specialist
- Non-governmental organizations: medical coordinator, project manager
- Health Ministries: regional programme coordinator, consultant/officer in national health policy and planning

INFORMATIONS, PROGRAMME, ETC. CONSULTEZ LE SITE:

http://catalogue.ulb.ac.be/prog/MC-STME