

Never Stand Still

Medicine

School of Public Health and Community Medicine



Research at SPHCM

Research is a fundamental part of the work of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, addressing a number of key local, national and global public health issues. SPHCM has a vibrant, thriving research culture and a pipeline for research development from research students to post-doctoral researchers and senior research leaders, which makes it one of the leading research schools in Australia.

Our largest areas of research strength, underpinned by large research groups, are in our six flagship areas, each of which has dedicated staff and students:

- Global Health
- Infectious Diseases
- Primary Health Care
- Indigenous Health
- Social Research
- Health Systems Leadership and Management

SPHCM is very strong in both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies across our flagship areas – and a range of other areas. The School has strong research programs with a large number of domestic and international candidates, as well as talented post-doctoral

researchers from around the country and internationally. SPHCM hosts post-doctoral fellows, reflecting a fertile environment for growth of talented early career researchers. We have strong partnerships with government, the community, health authorities and non-government agencies. SPHCM has a vibrant research student community with over 150 research students currently studying with the school and 60 graduates over the last 3 years. This makes it one of the largest public health research programs in Australia.

Research programs we offer

Our School offers excellent research programs to public health and health service researchers aimed at beginner, intermediate and experienced levels. Options are available for research only degrees (PhD and Masters by Research) or combined coursework and research (Masters of Philosophy). The SPHCM also offers a unique Professional Doctorate in Applied Public Health (DrPh). We offer:

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Professional Doctorate in Applied Public Health - UNSW Future Health Leaders Program
- Masters by Research
- Master of Philosophy in Public Health

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program is recognition of successful research experience. The PhD is designed as advanced research in a specialised area and comprises 100% research. Candidates are expected to submit an original thesis which substantially contributes to knowledge in the field. The thesis is usually expected to be between 75,000 and 100,000 words.

Entry requirements

Candidates must have a Bachelor with Honours degree including a thesis or equivalent; MBBS (from an Australian or New Zealand university) OR a Masters degree with a significant research component in a relevant discipline OR must have relevant and appropriate research experience and at least one first author refereed publication in a journal of sufficient standing.

PhD opportunities

We are pleased to announce that students with a coursework Masters degree from the School will be considered for entry to the PhD program if they have a suitable research proposal and the agreement of two potential supervisors and have fulfilled the requirements for Articulation from Masters by Coursework to PhD program.

PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE IN APPLIED PUBLIC HEALTH



UNSW Future Health Leaders Program

The SPHCM offers a unique Professional Doctorate in Applied Public Health (DrPH) which is designed to be delivered in partnership with a suitable health workplace.

The DrPH is aimed at strengthening practitioner based knowledge and practice with graduates able to generate and use evidence within the context of real-world challenges and priorities.

As a qualification it is in line with international trends demonstrating the advantages of a professional doctorate for practitioners and leaders in public health and health management as an alternative to a PhD.

Graduates of the professional doctorate are recognised as advanced health professionals and practitioner researchers who can take on senior and leadership roles within public health and health service settings.

Candidates fulfil the requirements for the DrPH while working – through workplace experience, formal coursework and education seminars, workshops, and a thesis which reflects original research undertaken through professional practice.

Candidates are supervised by SPHCM academic supervisors and workplace supervisors for the duration of their candidature.

MASTERS BY RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Masters by Research programs are designed primarily as training in advanced work and comprises 100% research. Candidates must demonstrate their ability to undertake research by the submission of a thesis embodying the results of an original investigation or design comprising 40,000 to 70,000 words. Candidates can apply to upgrade during their Masters by Research to a PhD program, subject to School and Faculty approval.

The School offers four Masters by Research specialisations:

- Master of Community Medicine (2810)
- Master of Public Health by Research (2845)
- Master of Health Professions Education by Research (2885)
- Master of Health Administration by Research (2960)

Entry requirements

Candidates must have a MBBS or equivalent medical degree OR have been awarded a Bachelors degree, and have relevant experience.

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC HEALTH

The Master of Philosophy in Public Health (MPhil) program is an excellent option for students who have no previous research experience or for students who do not meet the eligibility criteria for a Masters by Research or PhD. It is a research degree designed to provide research training for candidates who wish to develop competence in research in public health, or who wish to progress to a PhD. Research training is supplemented with coursework to provide in-depth discipline skills and/or skills in relevant research methods.

Program structure

The MPhil comprises 24 units of credit (UOC) of coursework selected from the

Master of Public Health coursework program, and a thesis of no more than 40,000 words on an approved topic.

Advanced standing

Advanced standing may be given for courses completed as part of a Master of Public Health or equivalent, subject to approval.

Entry requirements

A candidate for the degree:

- shall have been awarded a Bachelors in a relevant discipline from the University of New South Wales, or equivalent program from another university; or
- in exceptional cases, equivalent academic and professional qualifications as may be approved by the Higher Degree Committee of the Faculty of Medicine.

For more information on our programs visit our website or contact us:

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