ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE at Grade C or above in five subjects, which must include English language and Mathematics. GCSE equivalents are not accepted, eg Key Skills Level 2, Adult Numeracy, Adult Literacy.

All GCSEs must be achieved prior to application.

Plus a minimum of 260 UCAS points which may be obtained from a variety of qualifications. For further information visit: www.bcu.ac.uk/publichealth.

Places are also subject to a satisfactory Occupational Health Check, a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and registration with the Independent Safeguarding Authority.

International - IELTS score 6.0.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This innovative course has been developed to enable you to gain an understanding of the inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approaches to public health. As a student you will develop the knowledge, skills and foster the necessary attitudes for the complex and diverse nature of the subject and working within the wider public health arena.

The modules you will be taking incorporate the nine key areas outlined in the Public Health Skills and Career Framework (surveillance and assessment of health, assessing the evidence for health, policy and strategy, leadership and collaborative working, health improvement and protection, public health intelligence, academic public health, and health and social care quality), which in turn relate to the three domains of public health practice (health protection, health improvement and service quality).
This course will use a variety of teaching methods. As the course is full-time, you will be expected to attend campus for timetabled sessions, supporting these with the opportunity to use virtual resources that are available through the internet. If you don’t have broadband at home you will be able to access these resources on campus. In addition, you will develop the skills necessary for working as a public health practitioner whilst on placement.

You will study a range of subjects such as:
- Foundations for personal and professional skills
- Understanding Health
- Research skills for Public Health for evidence-based practice
- Leadership for Public Health
- Understanding epidemiology in Public Health
- Contemporary issues in Public Health
- Public Health organisations
- Health protection
- Health policy for Public Health
- Health inequalities and public health action
- Community profiling

You are assessed throughout each academic year on your understanding of issues related to public health and your ability to critically analyse and evaluate this knowledge and understanding via written assignments, case studies, action plans, reflective diaries, group presentations, a portfolio, and a research or management project. In addition, the development of the skills necessary for working as a public health practitioner will be assessed whilst on placement and throughout the programme.

Public Health provides the opportunity for lifelong learning, and the BSc (Hons) awarded on successful completion of this course forms the basis for progression into further study. We afford you the opportunity to remain with us to study for your MSc Public Health or MSc Health and Social Care and onwards to undertake a PhD.

For further information on such courses, as well as other postgraduate schemes offered by Birmingham City University, please visit the postgraduate section of the website.

Many are taught as part-time flexible modules to fit around your work and domestic commitments and allow for academic and/or practice development.

Our aim at Birmingham City University is to equip our students with the knowledge and practical skills to work in the fast and ever-changing and dynamic world of public health. This is whether you see your future career in local authority public health services, the NHS, in the voluntary or private sectors. Examples of the variety of employment options include:
- Public health practitioner
- Health promotion advisor
- Health trainer and training coordinator
- Community development and community outreach worker
- Health information officer
- Youth work
- Drug and alcohol team and project worker
- Health researcher

Should students wish to pursue a career in public health, on graduating from this course, students will have attained ‘know how’ and a range of ‘show how’ competencies for their portfolio assessment for the UK Public Health Practitioner Register.

You will be eligible to apply for a means-tested student loan from your Local Education Authority and to apply for the Birmingham City University bursary.