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This prospectus is intended as a general guide for postgraduate students. The information provided is, as far as possible, up-to-date and accurate at the time of publication. The University reserves the right to add, amend or withdraw programmes and facilities, to restrict student numbers and to make any other alterations as it may deem necessary. The regulations of the University of Otago are published annually in the University Calendar.

The restructured Public Health Postgraduate programmes contained in this prospectus are subject to final approval at time of printing.

Published: July 2014
We welcome your interest in our Public Health Postgraduate Programme. Public health has been defined as the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organised efforts of society.

There has been a resurgence of interest in public health in recent years. Reasons for this include the increasing value being placed upon health by individuals and communities, a shift towards health status outcomes as goals for health services, increasing environmental awareness, an increasing focus on Māori health, concerns about inequalities in health, inequity in access to care and issues in the provision, distribution, and financing of health services.

We believe that continuing changes in the health sector will lead to an expanding need for people with public health skills. Over the last 10-15 years an increasing workforce has had formal training in public health at either the certificate, diploma or masters level. We are confident that the Certificate, Diploma and Masters courses that we offer have been a major step forward in the development of these much-needed skills and warmly welcome applications for our courses for 2015. Several of the public health papers provide support for other disciplines such as health management, health research and environmental studies.

We have a wonderful team of academics across the three campuses who are involved in a wide range of public health related research. This ensures that the teaching is research informed and relevant. They, together with a very dedicated and efficient administrative team, ensure that the papers are of an exceptionally high standard.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR GILLIAN ABEL
Board of Studies Chair
Postgraduate Education in Public Health


Our Values Statement
MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH THE STUDY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health is such a diverse and vital area, encompassing all aspects of our lives. The issues which influence public health are often changing and knowledge is constantly evolving. The University of Otago’s expertise in public health is nationally and internationally recognised.

Postgraduate students in Public Health at Otago can develop skills relating to:

• Health Promotion
• How society affects health
• Epidemiological and social sciences research
• Public policy
• Health economics
• Health systems
• How the environment affects health
• Hauora Māori
• Public Health ethics and law

Regardless of which aspect of Public Health interests you, it is a field in which you will really make a difference.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Public health training opens up a number of career opportunities for graduates from health and non-health backgrounds.

A number of our graduates are working in international, national and regional health-related policy. Others have found jobs with district health boards, in planning and analysis roles or as part of the public health service teams (health promotion, environmental health). Some students go on to a career in research and evaluation of health services.

Recent students have come from degrees in pharmacy, nutrition, medicine, economics, psychology, physical education, sociology and law.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDY?

While postgraduate study requires commitment in terms of time for personal and professional development, it is a truly stimulating and rewarding path to take. Students should anticipate spending approximately 20 hours per week on each paper, including study time, assignment preparation, and class attendance.

Initial and ongoing guidance is given for students to assess, interpret, analyse, critique and evaluate theoretical and professional practice at an advanced level. This often requires balancing the demands of busy lives with academic endeavour.

A range of learning and teaching methodologies are used to support learning. At the start of each course, convenors and administration staff are available to provide information about the services and resources available within the University for students.
PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH IS PASSING THROUGH AN EXTRAORDINARY PERIOD OF INNOVATION. ITS CONTRIBUTION TO UNDERSTANDING AND IMPROVING HEALTH HAS NEVER BEEN HIGHER.


10 REASONS TO STUDY PUBLIC HEALTH WITH US

1. Build on an undergraduate degree in any discipline.

2. Study full time or part time, whatever suits. Papers are taught in 7 week terms giving you flexibility to arrange study around other commitments.

3. Choose your campus: Wellington, Christchurch or Dunedin where you will be provided with a supportive learning environment.

4. A broad range of paper topics enabling you to tailor your qualification to reflect your interests.

5. Qualification staircase: option to start with the Postgraduate Certificate and add papers to earn a Diploma or Masters.

6. Our qualifications provide personal and professional growth to increase your employment potential.

7. University of Otago qualifications are highly respected.

8. Network with and learn from people with skills and knowledge in areas that could open up opportunities for you.

9. Research informed teaching from lecturers representing a wide range of disciplines.

10. Public health is exciting and challenging, dealing with complex impacts on population health.
Qualifications in Public Health

Otago offers you choice and flexibility. There are twenty-one papers in Public Health available at postgraduate level across our three campuses. Each qualification has a required number of papers, some of which are core (compulsory) and the remainder can be chosen according to your interests.

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH (PGCertPH)
60 points
4 PUBH papers
Half year full-time or equivalent part-time

Endorsed Options
Environmental Health
PUBH 733 Environment & Health (15pts)
PUBH 734 Health Protection (15pts)
4 PUBH papers to the value of 30pts

Health Economics
PUBH 735 The Economics of Health Policy (15pts)
PUBH 736 Economic Evaluation (15pts)
4 PUBH papers to the value of 30pts

Health Promotion
PUBH 713 Society, Health & Health Promotion (15pts)
PUBH 745 Health Promotion Programme Planning & Evaluation (15pts)
2 further PUBH papers to the value of 30pts

Health Systems and Services
PUBH 714 Public Policy & Health Systems (15pts)
PUBH 744 Health Public Policy (15pts)
1 further PUBH paper to the value of 15pts

Māori Health
PUBH 701 Foundations of Hauora Māori (15pts)
PUBH 741 Hauora Māori – Policy, Practice & Research (15pts)
2 further PUBH papers to the value of 30pts

Research Methods
PUBH 711 Principles of Epidemiology (15pts)
PUBH 725 Applied Biostatistics 2 – Regression Methods (15pts)
PUBH 724 Introduction to Qualitative Research methods (15pts)
4 PUBH papers to the value of 60pts:
PUBH 738 Applied Biostatistics 1 – Fundamentals (15pts)
PUBH 739 Methods for Epidemiological Research (15pts)
PUBH 730 Environmental and Health (15pts)
PUBH 731 Health Protection (15pts)
PUBH 732 Prevention & Control of Disease in Populations (15pts)
PUBH 733 Global Health Law and Global Health Ethics – Fundamentals (15pts)
PUBH 740 Health Systems and Services Policy (15pts)
PUBH 741 Hauora Māori – Policy, Practice & Research (15pts)
PUBH 742 International Health Systems (15pts)
PUBH 743 Health Promotion Programme Planning and Evaluation (15pts)
PUBH 744 Health Public Policy (15pts)

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH (DPH)
120 points
8 PUBH papers
1 year full-time or equivalent part-time

4 Core Papers (Compulsory)
PUBH 711 Principles in Epidemiology (15pts)
PUBH 712 Foundations of Hauora Māori (15pts)
PUBH 713 Society, Health & Health Promotion (15pts)
PUBH 714 Public Policy & Health Systems (15pts)
4 PUBH papers to the value of 60pts:
PUBH 721 Methods for Epidemiological Research (15pts)
PUBH 722 Conducting Epidemiological Studies in Developing Countries (15pts)
PUBH 723 Survey Methods (15pts)
PUBH 724 Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods (15pts)
PUBH 725 Applied Biostatistics 1 – Fundamentals (15pts)
PUBH 726 Applied Biostatistics 2 – Regression Methods (15pts)
PUBH 732 Prevention & Control of Disease in Populations (15pts)
PUBH 733 Global Health Law and Global Health Ethics – Fundamentals (15pts)
PUBH 738 Applied Biostatistics 1 – Fundamentals (15pts)
PUBH 739 Methods for Epidemiological Research (15pts)
PUBH 740 Health Systems and Services Policy (15pts)
PUBH 741 Hauora Māori – Policy, Practice & Research (15pts)
PUBH 742 International Health Systems (15pts)
PUBH 743 Health Promotion Programme Planning and Evaluation (15pts)
PUBH 744 Health Public Policy (15pts)

Endorsed Options
Health Promotion
PUBH 743, PUBH 744 and two further PUBH papers to the value of 30 points.

Epidemiology
PUBH 721, PUBH 722, PUBH 724 and one further PUBH paper to the value of 15 points.

Social Research Methods
PUBH 723, PUBH 724, one of PUBH 725, PUBH 736, PUBH 743 and one further PUBH paper to the value of 15 points

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)
240 points
1 year full-time or equivalent part-time

Thesis Option
Completion of the DPH (120 points)
Plus
A Thesis (120 points)

Coursework Option
Completion of the DPH (120 points)
Plus
4 PUBH papers to the value of 60 points
Plus
a Dissertation (60 points)

Note:
Students must have completed one of the following prerequisite papers as part of the DPH or include it in their four Public Health papers if completing with Dissertation:
PUBH 721 Methods for Epidemiological Research (15pts)
PUBH 725 Applied Biostatistics 1 – Fundamentals (15pts)
PUBH 726 Applied Biostatistics 2 – Regression Methods (15pts)
PUBH 738 Applied Biostatistics 1 – Fundamentals (15pts)
PUBH 739 Methods for Epidemiological Research (15pts)
PUBH 740 Health Systems and Services Policy (15pts)
PUBH 741 Hauora Māori – Policy, Practice & Research (15pts)
PUBH 742 International Health Systems (15pts)
PUBH 743 Health Promotion Programme Planning and Evaluation (15pts)
PUBH 744 Health Public Policy (15pts)

Or an equivalent research paper(s) approved by the Public Health Academic Committee.

* The DPH endorsed in Health promotion is recognised by the Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand for providing advanced knowledge and understanding of the Ngā Kaikatanga Hauora mo Aotearoa Health Promotion Competencies for Aotearoa New Zealand.
POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

The Postgraduate Certificate in Public Health (PGCertPH) provides a University qualification in public health, with endorsed options. Some students, particularly those already working in the health sector, may wish to obtain a postgraduate qualification in public health, but do not wish to undertake a Diploma or Masters qualification. The postgraduate certificate provides such students with an appropriate qualification.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Public Health comprises four papers from the Public Health paper offerings. It is an integral part of the postgraduate Public Health programme. If students decide to continue their studies after obtaining the postgraduate certificate, they can be exempted from four papers in the Diploma in Public Health (DPH), thus obtaining a DPH by undertaking four further papers (four of the eight papers must be the compulsory papers for the DPH).

The Postgraduate Certificate in Public Health would normally be completed in half an academic year of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

BRIDGET MURPHY

Postgraduate Certificate in Public Health 2014

Bridget’s background was in survey design. After 15 years designing social surveys at Statistics New Zealand, she joined the Ministry of Health in 2012 to work on the New Zealand Health Survey. Bridget had graduated with an MSc in Psychology 20 years earlier and decided to up-skill for her Ministry job by completing the PGCertPH and chose the endorsement in Health Services Policy.

“I found my lecturers inspirational and they encouraged great rapport within the class. I enjoyed getting to know my fellow students, many of whom were older students with a wealth of experiences.”

Bridget relished the broad perspective the content of the papers gave her. Her paper choices covered Society, Health and Public Policy, Epidemiology and Biostatistics. The later content was directly relevant and helpful to her current analytical work on the Health Survey.

“The PGCertPH was so rewarding that I am tempted to continue studying to improve my prospects for alternative careers within the public health sector.”

STUDENT PROFILE
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH

The Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health (DPH) is a broad-based qualification which is highly sought after by a range of employers. Candidates are required to hold a degree or to have an appropriate professional qualification.

This is a relevant and practical postgraduate qualification, with graduates being able to identify and understand public health issues, and depending on which optional papers are taken, gain the skills to analyse and use health data, design appropriate health promotion strategies, plan and evaluate public health interventions, work collaboratively with professionals and the community, appreciate resource allocation and cost issues in health and uphold ethical standards.

The DPH consists of 4 core papers, with a further 4 papers chosen from the schedule enabling the qualification to cover a broad range of Public Health topics. The Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health would normally be completed in one academic year of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

For those who are planning to go on to a Master of Public Health, a research paper relevant to the intended methodological approach needs to be included as one of the optional 4 papers. This is in addition to the core Epidemiology paper.

We expect that the majority of students will complete an unendorsed DPH. However there are three endorsed options for those with specific interest areas in Epidemiology, Health Promotion or Social Research Methods.

STUDENT PROFILE

REBECCA LLEWELLYN
Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health 2013

Having an undergraduate degree in neuroscience and psychology, Rebecca wanted to study and work at a level of greater influence than her original plans of being a clinical psychologist would allow.

“I really wanted to find a way to tackle the root causes of the various social ills of our society and not just take a 'band-aid approach', catching people at the bottom of the cliff. I wanted to find a way to prevent them from falling off in the first place.”

Rebecca appreciated the space the DPH structure gave to both explore existing, and uncover new areas of interest. She gained a greater understanding of the options available from having the opportunity to come into contact with current professionals in the field.

“I have been amazed again and again at the breadth of what public health entails: from politics at the global scale right down to local community building initiatives.”

What Rebecca finds most encouraging is the transferability of the skills she has developed so far:

“I am now completing my Masters, studying how different modes of political engagement can impact population health. I’m doing some casual research work looking at supportive care in cancer, and in the future I would like to pursue research in the area of spirituality and health. The possibilities are as broad as you want them to be.”
GRADUATE PROFILE

• What determines health?
• What health inequalities are seen in the population and how do they arise?
• What are the foundations of hauora Māori?
• How can we study public health issues?
• What is the role of public policy and the health system in public health?
• How do we evaluate the usefulness of health research and incorporate it into our work?
• How can we effectively and equitably prevent disease and address health inequalities?

These are the types of questions that our students explore during their Diploma in Public Health. Our graduates will possess an extensive knowledge of public health and skills in the critical analysis of research evidence and intervention strategies. They will be able to apply their knowledge and skills to public health problems. In addition, all our graduates will possess the following broad sets of attributes:

INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE
Commitment to intellectual openness and curiosity, as well as an awareness of the need for an interdisciplinary response to the complexity of public health problems.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
Appreciation of health problems from a population perspective, including global patterns of health and their determinants

LIFELONG LEARNING
Commitment to the on-going acquisition of new knowledge and new skills, and an ability to apply these to current and emerging issues in public health.

SCHOLARSHIP
Commitment to the fundamental importance of acquisition and development of knowledge and understanding.

THESE ATTRIBUTES INCLUDE THOSE MOST OFTEN SOUGHT BY EMPLOYERS:

Communication: Ability to communicate information and arguments effectively, both orally (e.g. presentations to a group and one-on-one interviews) and in writing (e.g. reports, essays, papers and posters).

Teamwork: Ability to work effectively as both a team leader and member, in the workplace and community. Able to understand differing points of view and compromise when necessary to achieve a goal.

Self-motivation: Capacity for self-directed activity and the ability to work independently.

Cultural Understanding: Knowledge and appreciation of hauora Māori within the framework of the Treaty of Waitangi. Knowledge of the impact of culture on health and the need for culturally appropriate public health responses.

Research: Ability to analyse public health problems, assess evidence for effective interventions,

Critical Thinking: Ability to critical analyse public health issues and solutions to them.

Ethics: Application of ethics and knowledge of ethical standards when analysing public health problems and developing effective interventions.

Information Literacy: Ability to apply specific skills in acquiring, organising, analysing, evaluating and presenting information.
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The Master of Public Health degree (MPH) is an internationally recognised qualification in its field. It provides an opportunity for students to pursue a research degree at postgraduate level (thesis or dissertation) in the field of public health. A Masters will deepen your understanding of public health and give you research experience.

The MPH is a supervised degree, enabling students to work in close association with active researchers. MPH graduates will have developed research skills that may be applied in public health policy, practice or research settings.

The prerequisite for the Master of Public Health is the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health, or an equivalent public health degree.

An MPH can be completed in one academic year of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study. Students have the option of either completing a thesis (120 points) or doing a dissertation (60 points) and four additional 15 point Postgraduate Public Health papers not already completed to gain their DPH.

Those interested in MPH study should contact their nearest Department for further information (see back cover for contact details). Enrolments for the thesis option may be accepted at any time; however students must first have discussed their proposed thesis or dissertation with a member of the academic staff of one of the Departments.

Faculty of Public Health Medicine registrars may be eligible for early entry to the MPH in order to meet the Faculty of Public Health Medicine training requirements to start the thesis or dissertation in the first year of their training. Such candidates must have achieved a standard satisfactory to the Board of the Faculty of Medicine in the papers taken in the first semester of the DPH.

STUDENT PROFILE

MELISSA LUDEKE
Master of Public Health 2011

“Studying at the University of Otago provided me with the ideal environment to explore my interest in women’s health. It gave me a solid foundation in the latest Public Health knowledge along with the skills and confidence to take on new professional challenges. The high-level of commitment and expertise of my lecturers and supervisors ensured that I felt inspired and well-supported throughout my study”.

After finishing an undergraduate degree in Sociology and Psychology, Melissa Ludeke sought an opportunity to pursue her interest in public health. At the University of Otago she completed her Masters exploring Women’s views on smoking, tobacco control and cessation. She conducted in-depth qualitative interviews with twelve adult female smokers living in Hornby, Christchurch. A thematic analysis revealed that smoking was intrinsically linked to the lived circumstances of the women, determined by wider social structures that undermined their adaptive capacity to quit.

Since the completion of her Masters, Melissa has pursued experiences to work on women’s health issues internationally. She went on to spend a year at a university in Kenya, assisting with the establishment of a research centre for the study of female genital cutting. Following this, Melissa has been working in Vietnam as an Advisor for a sexual reproductive health organisation. She has recently taken on a new role at PATH, an international health organisation with a wide range of projects in Vietnam addressing reproductive, maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis control, vaccines and immunizations. Melissa values the continued support she receives from her supervisors at the University of Otago to pursue her goals in her areas of interest.
**PhD IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

A PhD provides an unequalled opportunity to carry out in-depth research and analysis of a particular Public Health issue. University of Otago offers the supervision of leading researchers from many different backgrounds. We aim to create a stimulating and supportive environment for emerging researchers.

Intending applicants for doctoral study will have demonstrated the ability to progress to an advanced degree and have a keen interest in research. Interested students are encouraged to view staff profiles on the web.

Joint arrangements can be made across departments to provide supervision and where necessary, with other tertiary institutions.

Those interested in embarking on a PhD should contact their nearest Department for further information (see back cover for contact details). Enrolment in a PhD is not limited to the beginning of semesters; they may be accepted at any time of the year.

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**RAMONA TIATIA**

**PhD 2014**

Ramona graduated from Otago with a BA in the late 1980s and was catapulted towards advocacy in fields of youth work, community development, prisoner drug and alcohol rehabilitation, social work training and employment relations within the unions.

Public Health felt like a natural fit, completing one of the Public Health papers as part of her Master of Social Sciences Research at Victoria. Several years later Ramona did her PhD within the Public Health Department in Wellington, and joined a very supportive research group, He Kainga Oranga/ Housing and Health Research Programme.

“At University of Otago I was encouraged to collaborate and explore ideas outside of my own expertise. They provided me with the learning and professional environments; being able to wrestle with the big picture thinkers, many of whom, across the different Otago campuses are key leaders in their own respective Public Health fields.”

Ramona completed her PhD entitled ‘Family-centred healing at home: A Samoan epistemology of Samoan families’ experiences of home dialysis and home detention in Aotearoa/New Zealand’ in April 2014. Improving home built environments and assistance of public authorities can help families better meet the formal requirements of home-based health and justice services. Fuel poverty, lack of indoor storage, minimal spatial heating and waste disposal; and poor access to vocational and rehabilitation programmes can diminish the positive outcomes of independence and freedom.

“Crafting and refining; tools of original PhD work, led to Samoan landscapes, ocean tides and winds as symbolic and practical ways of understanding chronic illness and home imprisonment that many Maori and Pacific live with in Aotearoa. To the families I have worked with on this journey: Malo le faiwal!”

Ramona is now working as a Research Fellow on two studies within the University of Otago. As an active executive member in the New Zealand Public Health Association, she collaborates with lead agencies to support services and policies that promote wellbeing within Māori and Pacific communities in Aotearoa and the South Pacific region.
Health Management Qualifications

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HEALTH MANAGEMENT (PGDipHealMgt)

120 points made up from:
Public Health papers from the following schedule to the value of 60 points:

- PUBH 713 Society Health & Health Promotion (15pts)
- PUBH 714 Public Policy & Health Systems (15pts)
- PUBH 735 The Economics of Health Policy Decision Making (15pts)
- PUBH 736 Economic Evaluation (15pts)
- PUBH 742 International Health Systems (15pts)
- PUBH 744 Healthy Public Policy (15pts)

Plus approved papers from the schedule for the Master of Business Administration to the value of 60 points:

Recommended courses include:
- Human Resources Management
- Financial Accounting
- Management Accounting Control
- Operations Management
- Management Information Systems
- Marketing Management

For those studying at the Wellington Campus:
Master of Business Administration Programme
Victoria University of Wellington

For those studying at the Christchurch Campus:
Master of Business Administration Programme
University of Canterbury

For those studying at the Dunedin Campus:
Master of Business Administration Programme
University of Otago, Dunedin

MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES ENDORSED IN HEALTH MANAGEMENT

MHealSc HLMT

240 points
Two options available:

Thesis Option
Completion of the PGDipHealMgt
Plus
Thesis (120 points)

Or
Dissertation Option
Completion of the PGDipHealMgt
Plus
Two approved research methods papers from the following schedule to the value of 30 points:
- PUBH 721 Methods for Epidemiological Research (15pts)
- PUBH 723 Survey Methods (15pts)
- PUBH 724 Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods (15pts)
- PUBH 725 Applied Biostatistics 1 – Fundamentals (15pts)
- PUBH 726 Applied Biostatistics 2 – Regression Methods (15pts)

Plus
Two further approved Public Health papers to the value of 30 points
Plus
A Dissertation (60 points)
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HEALTH MANAGEMENT

The Postgraduate Diploma in Health Management is a programme of study that draws equally on public health and business administration. Participants study health systems, policy and health economics in the public health programme and a suite of recommended papers in business.

Those most likely to benefit from the programme are health professionals moving into managerial roles, managers taking up positions in the health sector, and those in existing health management positions seeking both to advance their skills and to enhance their understanding of the sector and their role within it.

The programme, aside from its academic and vocational relevance, also provides students with an opportunity to work with colleagues drawn from a range of health and management backgrounds.

MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES (HEALTH MANAGEMENT)

The Master of Health Sciences (Health Management) offers an advanced qualification in management, which includes a research component of either a supervised thesis or dissertation. It is suitable for students who wish to pursue a higher level career in Health Management and it will provide evidence of in-depth, independent investigation into topics selected by students.

PHD IN HEALTH MANAGEMENT

Public Health staff at all three campuses have a range of research interests and Doctoral research supervision is available. Interested students are encouraged to visit the website and view staff profiles.

ANNA CAREY
Postgraduate Diploma in Health Management 2010

“My Postgraduate Diploma in Health Management has enabled me to progress my career. The combination of the Public Health Papers at University of Otago and the MBA papers at University of Canterbury provided me with a range of skills I have continued to use both in management and hands on nursing”.

Anna is a registered nurse with a Bachelor of Nursing. She commenced the PGDipHealMgt while a Nurse Manager at an Aged Care Facility and after completing, became a client manager for a Designated Health Audit Agency coordinating the audits of District Health Boards throughout the country against the Health and Disability Services Standards. During this time Anna also worked as an auditor of Aged Residential Care facilities.

Anna now works for the South Island Alliance Programme Office (SIAPO), an alliance of the five South Island District Health Boards, as an Aged Care Monitoring Auditor. Her study has assisted her in this role which involves analysis of evidence submitted by Aged Care service providers to verify their progress in meeting both contractual requirements and the Health and Disability Services Standards.

At this point in her career Anna sees the value in continuing her postgraduate study and is enrolled to complete her Masters.
# 2015 Timetable

## SEMESTER 1

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<th>Term 1</th>
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<td>23 February – 10 April</td>
<td>20 April – 17 June</td>
<td>6 July – 21 August</td>
<td>31 August – 7 November</td>
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- **PUBH 712** Foundations of Hauora Māori
- **PUBH 711** Principles of Epidemiology
- **PUBH 733** Environment and Health
- **PUBH 741** Hauora Māori – Policy, Practice and Research
- **PUBH 735** The Economics of Health Policy Decision Making
- **PUBH 724** Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods
- **PUBH 723** Survey Methods
- **PUBH 734** Health Protection
- **PUBH 737** Public Health Law and Ethics – Fundamentals
- **PUBH 738** Global Health Law and Global Health Ethics
- **PUBH 725** Applied Biostatistics 1 – Fundamentals
- **PUBH 726** Applied Biostatistics 2 – Regression Methods

## SEMESTER 2

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<th>Term 3</th>
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<td>6 July – 21 August</td>
<td>31 August – 7 November</td>
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- **PUBH 713** Society, Health and Health Promotion
- **PUBH 744** Healthy Public Policy
- **PUBH 725** Public Health Law and Ethics – Fundamentals
- **PUBH 732** Prevention and Control of Disease in Populations
- **PUBH 726** Conducting Epidemiological Research in Developing Countries
- **PUBH 736** Economic Evaluation
- **PUBH 714** Public Policy and Health Systems
- **PUBH 743** Health Promotion Programme Planning and Evaluation
- **PUBH 721** Methods for Epidemiological Research

**KEY**

- Core
- Campus
- Distance

Each paper is worth 15 points.
**Paper Descriptions**

**PUBH 711 PRINCIPLES OF EPIDEMIOLOGY**
(15 points) Core Paper for DPH
20 April – 17 June 2015

This paper will introduce students to the principles and practice of epidemiology in public health. In the first part of the paper, students will learn how they can identify patterns of health or disease in populations to address questions such as: Which groups of people are more likely to suffer poor health? Is health improving over time? Does health vary by place? Students will learn about epidemiological study designs and methods, and identify what types of important public health questions they can be used to investigate. Students will learn how to identify and assess potential error in epidemiological studies and how to measure the potential associations between exposures and disease. By the end of the paper students will be critically appraising published epidemiological studies and addressing questions such as does this study provide valid evidence about the cause of this disease in this population?

**PUBH 712 FOUNDATIONS OF HAUORA MĀORI**
(15 points) Core Paper for DPH
23 February – 10 April 2015

This paper aims to provide an overview of the fundamental aspects and approaches required to understand Hauora Māori. Students will develop an appreciation of the context and determinants of hauora Māori; in particular, the impact and role of historical and political events and their relation to contemporary hauora Māori outcomes will be explored and considered.

**PUBH 713 SOCIETY, HEALTH & HEALTH PROMOTION**
(15 points) Core Paper for DPH
6 July – 21 August 2015

In this paper, students will gain an appreciation of the history of public health and health promotion, both internationally and in New Zealand. They will develop knowledge and skill in analysing the determinants of health and health inequalities, including the role of social and political processes. Students will explore strategies for change and gain knowledge and skill in using health promotion concepts and frameworks to promote health.

**PUBH 714 PUBLIC POLICY & HEALTH SYSTEMS**
(15 points) Core Paper for DPH
31 August – 7 November 2015

The aim of this paper is to analyse the roles and function of public policy, health policy and health systems in fostering population health. This paper equips students with knowledge of how government is structured, the contribution of public policy and health policy to population health, as well as skills in policy advocacy. It also explores how health systems are structured, funded and assessed with particular reference to New Zealand.

**PUBH 721 METHODS FOR EPIDEMIOLOGICAL RESEARCH**
(15 points) Distance Taught
31 August – 7 November 2015

This paper builds on the Principles of Epidemiology (PUBH711), to provide a deeper understanding of epidemiological ideas and methods for those who intend to carry out epidemiological studies in public health. Students will learn in more depth about epidemiological study design and a range of approaches for dealing with confounding and bias in the design and analysis of studies of risk factor-disease associations. Students will have the opportunity to explore a specific methodological issue in epidemiology. By the end of the paper students will be able to design, implement and analyse an epidemiological study with appropriate oversight (e.g. Master of Public Health thesis) or as part of a research team.

**PUBH 722 CONDUCTING EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**
(15 points) Distance Taught
6 July – 21 August 2015

This research methods paper is focused on conducting epidemiological research in developing countries. Such studies have unique challenges including the development of the research question, the methodologies that are used, and the conduct of the research project. This paper will specifically prepare students who will be doing a research project in a developing country as part of their Masters or PhD, or who anticipate conducting research in a developing country in the future.
PUBH 723 SURVEY METHODS  
(15 points)  
23 February – 10 April 2015  
This research paper will enable students to develop the skills involved in planning a survey, including how to identify appropriate research questions, define concepts and test theory effectively, construct and validate a questionnaire, sample participants and analyse data descriptively. The lecturer will give support to students find a research topic in which they are interested and this topic will be developed in the assignments. The paper will give an appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of questionnaire methodologies and prepare students for research at Masters level.

PUBH 724 INTRODUCTION TO QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS  
(15 points)  
20 April – 17 June 2015  
This paper will give students an understanding of the strengths and the theoretical underpinnings of qualitative methodologies used in public health research from different disciplinary perspectives. We will look at a range of qualitative methodologies as well as the usual ways of collecting qualitative data. Students will develop skills on how to assess and ensure the rigor of qualitative studies as well as ensure that ethical issues are addressed in the design of their research. The paper takes an experiential approach, with students working on a research topic of their interest. It will provide a good grounding for undertaking qualitative research at a Masters level.

PUBH 725 APPLIED BIOSTATISTICS 1 – FUNDAMENTALS  
(15 points) Distance Taught  
23 February – 10 April 2015  
This distance paper will introduce students to the use of statistical methods in health sciences research and is highly recommended for all students that want and/or need to analyse quantitative data. Students will learn the theory needed to perform basic descriptive analysis as well to correctly understand appropriate statistical methods to test quantitative questions. The paper has a strong applied component and students will learn how to perform analysis with computational software, particularly how to generate high-quality plots and report results for thesis and scientific journals. Topics covered include descriptive statistics, hypothesis testing and simple linear regression and correlation. For this paper, students must have access to a computer with an internet connection.

PUBH 726 APPLIED BIOSTATISTICS 2 – REGRESSION METHODS  
(15 points) Distance Taught  
20 April – 17 June 2015  
This distance paper will introduce students to the main regression methods in health sciences research and is highly recommended for all students that want and/or need to analyse quantitative data. The paper builds on knowledge and skills learned in PUBH725 and also has a strong applied component. From a public health point of view, students will learn how to generate and interpret statistical models to adjust for confounders as well as identifying the variables that have a statistical effect on the outcome of interest. The regression topics covered include: multiple linear regression, logistic, Poisson, survival analysis and longitudinal studies. For this paper, students must have access to a computer with an internet connection.

PUBH 732 PREVENTION & CONTROL OF DISEASE IN POPULATIONS  
(15 points)  
6 July – 21 August 2015  
This paper will introduce students to the application of epidemiology to prevent and control disease in populations. It will enable students to learn how to assess the health status and health needs of a population and monitor the occurrence of both communicable and non-communicable diseases in a population. Aspects of disease prevention and control will be considered such as the effectiveness of immunisation to prevent infection, the accuracy of risk prediction to define those most likely to develop a disease and the strengths and weaknesses of screening to detect early cases of disease in a population.
In addition, students will learn some methods to evaluate the impact of various prevention and control strategies. By the end of the paper students will have skills in assessing what diseases are important in a population, what methods can be employed to prevent or control these diseases and how to assess whether the strategies have been successful.

**PUBH 733 ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH**  
(15 points)  
23 February – 10 April 2015

The quality of our physical living environment is fundamental to human survival and quality of life. Human habitats have changed radically over time and the built environment now dominates. At the same time, humans have been changing global ecosystems in unprecedented ways, with far-reaching implications for public health. This paper provides an introduction to the links between human habitats, environmental sustainability and human wellbeing. It furnishes students with theoretical and methodological knowledge; skills for undertaking integrative research and decision-making; and tools for communicating with a variety of audiences. Links with Māori wellbeing, as well as links with health and social inequalities, are integrated throughout.

**PUBH 734 HEALTH PROTECTION**  
(15 points) Distance Taught  
20 April – 17 June 2015

Principles of health protection and their application to environmental health practice in New Zealand. Topics studied include: an overview of the important environmental hazards and diseases affecting New Zealand and our region, water and air quality, food safety, indoor and work environments, infectious disease control, and environmental health emergencies. There will be a strong emphasis on developing critical skills for health protection, including: environmental epidemiology, risk assessment and management, basic toxicology, health protection law, public health surveillance, outbreak investigation, cluster investigation, emergency management, environmental research methods, and effective use of evidence.

**PUBH 735. ECONOMICS OF HEALTH POLICY DECISION-MAKING**  
(15 points)  
23 February – 10 April 2015

This paper provides insights into the economic policy tools available to regulate and incentivise health care market issues. Students will be introduced to concepts of health care markets, competition, efficiency and economies of scale. Skills will be provided to analyse costs of health care services, including marginal and opportunity costs. Health care markets and market failure will be covered, including problems with health insurance, information asymmetry, adverse selection, externalities and monopolies. Students will obtain skills in analysing the advantages and disadvantages of policy options including payment incentives/disincentives, co-payments, capitation, taxation, subsidies and regulation. Case-studies will include taxation of tobacco and alcohol.

**PUBH 736 ECONOMIC EVALUATION**  
(15 points)  
31 August – 7 November 2015

Students will obtain skills in economic evaluation, including cost-effectiveness analysis and methods for informing decision-making on investments in new health technologies. Methods for analysing costs of health interventions will be introduced. Students will learn options for valuing outcomes of health services including traditional methods such as saving of life, as well as valuing improvements in quality of life. This paper will provide students with an understanding of cost utility analysis and cost benefit analysis. Case studies will include the methods that statutory agencies use to make decisions on purchasing new health technologies, such as those used by PHARMAC and NICE. This paper will also cover methods used in the WHO and World Bank studies of the Burden of Disease and how these are used to investigate investments in health interventions. Students will also gain an understanding of different options for prioritisation.
PUBH 737 PUBLIC HEALTH LAW AND PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS – FUNDAMENTALS
(15 points)  Distance Taught
23 February – 10 April 2015

Focuses on the framework, scope and content of core public health law in New Zealand with the viewpoint of law as a tool for public health. Analyses and discusses key concepts and frameworks in public health ethics with implications for law. Covers basic legal concepts and skills in understanding and researching law; analyses concepts fundamental to public health law and ethics, in particular risk, enforcement, and international law. Legal concepts and ethical frameworks are applied to critical topics in public health law: communicable disease, environmental health and public health emergencies. Law and ethical issues relating to risk factors for noncommunicable diseases, in particular tobacco, alcohol, food and nutrition, are summarised. Taught from Wellington, the paper includes a two-day workshop in Wellington at the beginning of term one.

PUBH 738 GLOBAL HEALTH LAW AND GLOBAL HEALTH ETHICS
(15 points) Distance Taught
20 April – 17 June 2015

Analyses emerging ideas on global public health law and global health ethics and how international law, including international trade law and intellectual property law with their impacts on public health; discusses legal and ethical issues arising from application of public health law to diseases of the 21st century with global dimensions (NCDs, chronic disease); globalisation and communicable disease; global law in relation to health and the environment.

Taught from Wellington, this paper includes a one-day workshop in Wellington at the beginning of term two. Students with an appropriate background who have not passed PUBX737, may be admitted with approval (for example a background in law or ethics).

PUBH 741 HAUORA MÄORI – POLICY, PRACTICE AND RESEARCH
(15 points)
20 April – 17 June 2015

This paper aims to provide key insights into aspects of New Zealand health policy and service development and delivery, as well as various research contexts and approaches that relate to Hauora Māori. Key examples will be explored and critically analysed to enhance understanding of the critical role Hauora Māori has within the policy, practice and research contexts within New Zealand.

PUBH 742 INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEMS
(15 points)
6 July – 21 August 2015

This paper examines the global forces and institutions that shape health systems, challenges faced by developing and developed countries, and the different methods for assessing health systems' performance.

PUBH 743 HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAMME PLANNING AND EVALUATION
(15 points)
31 August – 7 November 2015

This paper aims to introduce the principles and practice of health promotion programme planning and evaluation. Students will be equipped to understand the planning and evaluation process including the relevant theory, literature, planning models, evaluation approaches and ways to operationalise Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Interactive approaches to teaching and learning are used.

PUBH 744 HEALTHY PUBLIC POLICY
(15 points)
6 July 2015 – 21 August 2015

The goals of this paper are to develop an appreciation of the key role that public policy plays in population health and to develop skills in understanding, analysing and intervening in the making of healthy public policy. To this end, the paper is designed to critically investigate public policy and policymaking; understand the policy process and the role of evidence within it; and apply policy evaluation.
Applying for entry

ELIGIBILITY
As guidance, a general requirement for entry into Postgraduate Public Health courses is a good undergraduate degree, diploma, or professional qualification, which would normally equate to a B average overall. You must supply an Academic Transcript to prove that you have the appropriate pre-entry qualifications.

APPLY ONLINE
The university has introduced a compulsory online application process for programme admission and enrolment (e:Vision), apply via the University of Otago website, otago.ac.nz/publichealth, click on the box “Apply online to study at Otago”.

Returning students will be able to login to their e:Vision portal with their student username and password to apply for further programmes. Students are required to complete enrolment/paper selection for each year they are studying.

All candidates need to:
1. Be admitted to a programme. The approval for this process is via an admissions committee.
2. For each year of study, complete enrolment/selection of papers for that year.
3. For each year of study, complete the declaration online following Course Approval.
4. Pay fees after accessing the invoice from e:Vision.

FEES
Fees must be paid by early February for first semester papers, and mid-July for second semester papers.

Tuition fees are prescribed by the University Council, and are generally not finalised until November of the year prior to taking effect. Once set, they can be found on the University’s website: General Information: www.otago.ac.nz/study/fees
Individual paper costs: www.otago.ac.nz/subjects/index

Alternatively please contact:
The Fees Office
University of Otago
Tel +64 03 479 9006
Email Student.finance@otago.ac.nz

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
All graduates from a non-New Zealand university for whom English is not their first language are required to provide evidence of adequate proficiency in both spoken and written English.

This evidence will normally be a satisfactory pass in a standard examination in English language proficiency. Applicants must obtain this before they can be considered for entry to the postgraduate papers for the Diploma in Public Health.

This process enables applicants to be aware of the level of proficiency needed to do this course, and allows staff to assess the suitability of students to undertake the course.

The recommended examination is the academic module of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), for which we require a score of 7.5 or above. This examination is held locally at the following places:

Wellington
The English Language Institute at Victoria University
Tel 04 471 5316

Christchurch
Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology
PO Box 540, Christchurch
Tel 0800 242 476

Dunedin
Otago Language Centre
Level 2, St David 2 Building, 75 St David Street
PO Box 56, Dunedin
Tel 03 479 5250
The University holds graduation ceremonies in Dunedin each year in May, August and December. Students who have completed the requirement for a Postgraduate Diploma or Masters degree may attend these ceremonies. Postgraduate Certificates are awarded “in absentia” via these Dunedin graduation ceremonies, i.e. students receiving Postgraduate Certificates cannot be presented with the certificate at a graduation ceremony.

All students need to apply via their e:Vision portal for the award of their qualification before it can be either presented to them or posted (“in absentia”).

Information and applications for graduation are sent out to all finalists in early September.

For information on the Dunedin graduation ceremonies, please email graduation@otago.ac.nz.
The Postgraduate Public Health programme is planned and managed by a Board of Studies. Present membership of the Board is as follows:

The Chair
Heads of Departments (3 Campuses)
Course Directors (3 Campuses)
Associate Dean Māori, Health Sciences Division
Academic Co-ordinator for the Postgraduate Education in Public Health Programme.
This prospectus is intended as a general guide for postgraduate students. The information provided is, as far as possible, up to date and accurate at the time of publication. The University reserves the right to add, amend or withdraw programmes and facilities, to restrict student numbers and to make any other alterations as it may deem necessary. The regulations of the University of Otago are published annually in the University Calendar.

The restructured Public Health Postgraduate programmes contained in this prospectus are subject to final approval at time of printing.

Published: July 2014
Postgraduate Programmes in Public Health
Prospectus

University of Otago, Wellington
University of Otago, Christchurch
University of Otago, Dunedin