



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

MPH233 Work and health: health promotion and disease prevention, 7.5 credits

Arbete och hälsa: hälsopromotion och sjukdomsförebyggande ansatser, 7,5
högskolepoäng
Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Institute of Medicine on 2020-02-07 and was last revised on 2022-05-05 to be valid from 2022-11-02, autumn semester of 2022.

Field of education: Medicine 100%

Department: Institute of Medicine

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a part of the Mastersprogram in Public health science but can also be given as a free standing course.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Public Health Science (M2PHP)

Main field of studies

Public Health Sciences

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Qualification for admission to the programme requires professional degree/Bachelor's degree of at least 180 credits in a health science, social science, science, economics, arts or engineering field of education and grade Passed/E in English B/English 6

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Explain basic concepts for the relations between health and risk factors from the work environment and the general environment, including principles for risk assessment.
- Describe health consequences after exposure to common risk factors for public and occupational health.
- Explain how social position (e.g., gender, socioeconomic position) and welfare systems influence work conditions and health at work.
- Explain principles for national and international regulations and governance for the work environment and the general environment.

Competence and skills

- Independently and collectively identify common risk factors in the work environment and the general environment and suggest promotive and preventive measures, based on empirical data and theory.
- Identify and describe challenges for health at work in high-risk environments, and in precarious work
- Communicate with stakeholders, based on evidence-based knowledge and theories of risk communication.

Judgement and approach

- Critically appraise how work and environmental conditions relate to ethical principles, human rights, and sustainable development.

The course is sustainability-related, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria.

Course content

The course aims to provide a deeper understanding of the interplay between working conditions, environmental exposures, and individual and public health. The course provides knowledge about chemical, physical, organizational, and psychosocial environmental factors, as well as basic principles for risk assessment, risk management and risk communication.

Students will also gain knowledge and understanding of opportunities and barriers for national and international regulations in the field. The course content is relevant for both national and international conditions and the student will have flexibility in directing individual assignments in line with experience and interest.

The Master's Programme in Public Health Science is connected to Sustainable

Development Goal (SDG) 3 (ensure healthy lives and wellbeing for all) as well as target 4.7, to 'ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development'. The course MPH234 also specifically relate to goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth).

Form of teaching

The course adopts student centered learning, focusing on student activity and interaction. The course is normally supported by lectures, seminars, individual assignments, group work and supervised group discussion grounded in research and real-world examples. Some lectures and teaching activities (i.e., group work and supervised group discussion) are performed together with the course MPH234.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

All teaching and teaching material will be in English but written assignments can be conducted in Swedish for free-standing students (not program students).

Assessment

The course will be examined through:

- Examination session 1: an individual oral presentation followed by group discussion about national and international regulations related to work environment and general environment
- Examination session 2: an individual written report and an individual oral presentation in form of role play about the risk assessment and risk communication in real-world cases.
- Three mandatory seminars and two mandatory short written assignments with peer response.

Re-examination is given with an equivalent task (oral and written) of the ordinary examination. Incomplete or absence from any of the mandatory tasks will be compensated for by additional tasks according to instructions from the course leaders.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be

guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years, after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

For the grade Pass (G), the student must have achieved the Pass (G) on both examination sessions and on all the mandatory tasks in the course (seminars and short written assignments).

To pass with distinction (VG) for the entire course, the students must have achieved the grade Pass with Distinction (VG) for both examination sessions, and the grade Pass (G) on all the mandatory tasks in the course (seminars and short written assignments).

Course evaluation

The course evaluation is carried out in writing and orally with the students. The course leader is responsible for analyzing the evaluations and giving propositions for improvement. The analysis and propositions of development is shared with the students through the program council and the learning platform.

The result and potential changes should be shared to both the students who carried out the evaluation and the students that are about to start the course.