

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
Public Health Administration and Healthcare Administration
Doctoral and Master's Programmes

I. Instructional Philosophy and Mission

- A. IUGS students are typically mid-career professionals who completed their post-baccalaureate coursework. Students who need additional coursework to fulfil their requirements will be provided the opportunity to take the course(s) at another accredited post-baccalaureate institution or through independent study at IUGS. Coursework submitted for advanced standing transfer credit must be approved by the Dean. The coursework must be relevant to the students' academic and/or professional goals and be consistent with the degree that is to be earned. The primary mission is to assist these students to complete a doctoral degree in their chosen area of study to improve and advance the fields of public health and healthcare.

II. Degrees Offered

- A. IUGS offers PhDs in Public Health Administration and Healthcare Administration, Doctor of Public Health Administration (DPHA), Doctor of Healthcare Administration (DHA), and Master of Science degrees in both domains.
- B. Students are eligible for conferral of the PhD with the completion of a research-based dissertation, using an action learning framework. Students are eligible for conferral of the Doctor of Public Health or Healthcare Administration degree with the completion of a doctoral project showing the application of their learning to an applied area of interest. Students are eligible for conferral of the Master of Science degree with the completion of a Master's research-oriented thesis, using an action learning framework.
- C. All students will demonstrate mastery of the competencies through a combination of coursework, seminar participation, and professional experience.
- D. The PhD Dissertation tends to be theoretical and involves more secondary than primary research.
- E. The DPHA the DHA and the MSc Projects tend to seek a practical solution or outcome for a question or need. It involves more primary than secondary research.

III. Advanced Standing Academic Credit Transfer Requirements

- C. Academic credits may be transferred from other institutions according to IUGS's advanced standing academic credit transfer policy. The student's portfolio and previous post-baccalaureate academic transcripts are reviewed by the Dean and discussed with the student to determine his or her goals. Credits for up to 66 hours of advanced standing transfer credit will be approved after this process for doctoral candidates. For these candidates, instruction at IUGS is provided via study and at the 8 day Graduate Seminar at the 10 day Residency Programme. Only grades of "C" or better will be accepted in transfer for academic standing. In addition the students overall average must be "B" or better.

IV. Instructional Requirements, Strategies, and Sequence

- A. A total of 93 post-baccalaureate credit hours are required for doctoral degrees, a minimum of 27 credits must be taken at IUGS. Some of these may be taken via independent study or at other post-baccalaureate institutions approved by the Dean.
- B. Up to 66 post-baccalaureate academic credits may be transferred from other accredited post-baccalaureate academic institutions according to IUGS's Advanced Standing Academic Credit Transfer Policy.
- C. A total of 42 post-baccalaureate credits are required for Master's degrees, with a minimum of 15 credits taken at IUGS. Up to 27 post-baccalaureate academic credits may be transferred from other accredited post-baccalaureate institutions.
- D. Instructional methods include:
 - 1. Review and, as approved, acceptance of previous relevant post-baccalaureate coursework that meets the criteria of IUGS for advanced standing academic credit transfer;
 - 2. As needed, independent study or courses completed at other post-baccalaureate institutions approved by the Dean to complete the required coursework;

3. Assigned readings of texts and academic journal articles;
 4. Interactive lectures;
 5. Small group discussions;
 6. Use of electronic media (Questia online library provided by the University and other selections by the student, mentor, and Dean);
- E. The instructional requirements and sequence include the following coursework to be successfully completed at IUGS:
1. Public Health or Healthcare Administration Research Design I (6) credits for the Doctoral degree and (3) credits for the Master's degrees;
 2. Public Health or Healthcare Administration Research Design II (6) credits for the Doctoral degrees;
 3. Upon completion of the research requirements, the development of the Doctoral Dissertation or Project commences under the leadership and consultation of an appropriate mentor, who is approved by the Dean.
 4. Dissertation and Oral Defence or Doctoral Project and Oral Examination (12) credits or Master's Thesis and Oral Defence or Master's Project and Oral Examination (6) credits;
 5. Oral panel Defence of the PhD Dissertation and the Master's Project, or oral examination of the Doctoral Project or Master's Project;
 6. The 5-day Graduate Seminar at the (7) day Residency Programme (3) credits
 7. A mastery of examination materials is required;
- F. For doctoral degrees, Public Health or Healthcare Administration Research I must be completed, approved, and filed before work on Research Design II begins.
- G. Public Health or Healthcare Administration Research and Design I and II are prerequisites to undertaking the Dissertation or the Doctoral Project.
- H. Research I is a prerequisite to undertaking the Master's Thesis, Research II is not required for a Master's degree. The Dissertation and Doctoral Project are not prerequisites for the 5- day Graduate Seminar at the 7- day Residency. However, it is

recommended that all required coursework prior to the research courses be completed.

V. Public Health Administration

A. Public Health Administration Philosophy and Mission

1. Public Health is a broad field with many areas of specialisation that share a central philosophy and focus. Public Health professionals improve the health of people, families, communities and societies; improve public policy domains to include health in all policies, ultimately thereby reducing the need for primary health services. Public health professionals work at local and global policy and practice levels. IUGS has designed a post-baccalaureate programme tailored assist returning international mid-career public health professionals to:
 - a) expand their knowledge and practice of public health policy administration;
 - b) improve their leadership abilities;
 - c) enable them to advance both their own careers and the field by completing a doctoral or master's degree.

B. Public Health Administration Course Content Domain Requirements

1. Required course domains* (or equivalency as assessed and approved by the Dean of Faculty) include:
 - a) Statistics or Biostatistics;
 - b) Epidemiology Principles and Methods;
 - c) Community Health;
 - d) Public Health Policy Development and Leadership;
 - e) Public Health and Cross-Cultural Issues;
 - f) Public Health Programme and Staff Management;
 - g) Public Health Regulations and Accreditation;
 - h) Public Health Leadership Development;
 - i) Performance Management Systems;

- j) Quality Improvement and Assurance.
2. Examples of Elective Course Domains (courses relevant to the particular student's area of study that may be transferred for advanced standing or taken as independent study courses):
- a) Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health;
 - b) Ecological Public Health;
 - c) Geographical Health Assessment;
 - d) Social Justice and Public Health Policy;
 - e) Community Health Mobilisation.
- Only grades of "C" or better will be accepted in transfer for academic standing. In addition the students overall average must be "B" or better.

C. Public Health Administration Intended Competencies and Outcomes

1. Public Health Administration competency requirements are designed to prepare public health leaders by ensuring their expertise in the conceptual foundations of public health, applied research methods, leadership and communication skills, and a substantive area of specialisation. All doctoral and master's students will demonstrate mastery of the competencies through a combination of coursework, seminar participation, and professional experience. Public Health Administration graduates will demonstrate the following competencies:
- a) Understanding of the three core competencies and ten essential services of public health policy, practice, research, and theory;
 - b) Ability to analyze issues and problems in community public health using community health needs/resource (CHN/R) assessments, participatory community research, and statistical methods;
 - c) Ability to synthesise information from various sources (e.g., combine census and locally collected data) to assess significance of health and demographic issues, identify relationships among policy domains (e.g., the "Health in All Policies"

strategy), and develop strategies for addressing public health problems/issues in an area of interest or specialisation in a manner that contributes to the evidence base of public health practice and public health scholarship;

- d) Leadership in designing and implementing policies, strategies, and interventions that address a significant public health problem/issue;
- e) Ability to assess and utilise communication and social media strategies across diverse communities and audiences to inform and influence programme and policy decisions;
- f) Vision and philosophy for professional leadership in public health.

VI. Healthcare Administration

A. Healthcare Administration Philosophy and Mission

1. The general philosophy of healthcare administration is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of primary health services to the communities served. IUGS has designed a doctoral and master's programme tailored to assist returning international mid-career healthcare administration professionals to:
 - a) expand their knowledge and practice of health administration;
 - b) improve their healthcare system leadership abilities;
 - c) enable them to advance both their own careers and the field by completing a doctoral or master's degree. Students who need additional coursework to fulfil their requirements will be provided the opportunity to take a course at an accredited post-baccalaureate institution or through independent study courses at IUGS to fulfil the requirement.

B. Healthcare Administration Course Content Domain Requirements

1. Required course domains* (or equivalency as assessed and approved by the Dean of Faculty) include:
 - a) Statistics or Biostatistics;
 - b) Epidemiology Principles and Methods;
 - c) Financial Analysis in Healthcare Systems;

- d) Healthcare Administration and Leadership;
 - e) Healthcare Law, Regulations, and Ethics;
 - f) Healthcare Strategic Planning and Management;
 - g) Healthcare Policy Development;
 - h) Healthcare Performance Management and Quality Improvement Systems;
 - i) Management of Healthcare Reimbursement Systems.
2. Examples of Elective Course Domains (courses relevant to the particular student's area of study that may be transferred for advanced standing or taken as independent study courses):
- a) Management Information Systems;
 - b) Healthcare Data Systems Management and Operations;
 - c) Healthcare Systems Licensing and Accreditation;
 - d) Managing Healthcare Human Resources;
 - e) Healthcare Informatics;
 - f) Healthcare Education;
 - g) Global Issues in Healthcare Policy;
- Only grades of "C" or better will be accepted in transfer for academic standing. In addition the students overall average must be "B" or better.

C. Healthcare Administration Intended Competencies and Outcomes

1. Upon completion of their degrees, Healthcare Administration graduates will demonstrate competencies and outcomes in the following areas of scholarship and practice:
 - a) Knowledge of the underlying relevant theoretical frameworks for studying health, health services and health policy;
 - b) Knowledge of the evolution, structure and functioning of the U.S. health system;

- c) Ability to identify and analyze relevant literature on what is known and what are the frontiers of knowledge in their area of interest;
- d) Ability to select, defend and implement an appropriate study design, with attention to the reliability and validity of results;
- e) Ability to recognise the need for and employ specialised techniques (e.g., measurement theory or qualitative analysis) if appropriate;
- f) Ability to analyze their data and draw appropriate conclusions and identify important implications suggested by their data;
- g) Professional competence in teaching, communication and grant writing;
- h) These competencies and outcomes are designed to prepare healthcare administration leaders by ensuring their expertise in the conceptual foundations of healthcare administration, the ability to evaluate research for applied utility in their field and conduct applied research, leadership and communication skills, and a substantive area of specialisation.

VII. Course Instructors

The number of instructors for each course will vary, but will be a minimum of at least three including:

1. Dean, Faculty of Public Health and Healthcare Administration;
2. The Mentor;
3. Faculty and Visiting Lecturers;
4. Dissertation, Thesis or Project Committee Members.

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