



course factfile

Integrated Research Methods for Public Health

Masters level: 30 credits

Certificate in Professional Development

This certificate is a programme from the Post Qualification Framework in the Faculty of Health and Applied Social Sciences.

Aim of the course

To provide a critical knowledge base of the philosophy and underpinning assumptions of health and social research (2) to prepare students to carry out empirical and literature based research within public health. After completing the module the successful student will be able to: (a) Demonstrate a critical understanding of the key paradigms and methods in health and social research. (b) Demonstrate his/her ability to analyse quantitative and qualitative data. (c) Select and justify appropriate methods for a given research topic or research question.

Structure and length of the course

The programme will be delivered on Tuesdays for either a half or a full day each week and is taught to all students enrolled on the MSc Public Health modular masters programme. Lectures and seminars will be used to develop knowledge and understanding of the philosophy and methods of research. Tutorials and self assessment exercises will be used to explore topics covered on the programme and to facilitate the sharing of ideas and knowledge. IT based sessions will be used for practical data analysis. Students will be encouraged to read widely and to keep abreast of current trends and issues.

The Government's agenda over recent years has included an emphasis on evidence based practice and increasing public health capacity and this CPD will go some way towards achieving that goal.

Attendance

There is only one intake per year. It runs from Mid March to the end of July each year.

Course content

- Epidemiological research methods, including inferential statistics
- Surveys and questionnaires
- Qualitative research methods and data analysis

- Philosophical underpinnings of different research paradigms
- Writing a research protocol – clarifying topic and choosing methods
- Paradigm debate

Assessment

- Seen examination relating to epidemiological research methods and interpretation of data
- Writing research protocol for qualitative and quantitative scenarios
- Essay on paradigm debate

Entry requirements

Candidates are required to possess a good honours degree (minimum 2:2) in any discipline.

For mature applicants not in possession of a first degree, the programme leader will take into account the relevant professional qualifications (e.g. nursing registration, qualification in social work, environmental health qualification) and experience. They must satisfy the programme team of their ability to study at Masters level through a portfolio demonstrating appropriate skills in the workplace. This portfolio could include copies of written and other work; papers presented at conferences; publications; reports and research proposals.

Award

Certificate in Professional Development 15 credits at Masters level

Programme Leader

Dr Henrietta Collier – senior lecturer
Kingsway House 4th Floor
Hatton Gardens
Liverpool L3 2AJ
Tel: 0151 231 8754 email h.e.collier@ljamu.ac.uk

Faculty Admissions Team
Faculty of Health & Applied Social Sciences
Liverpool John Moores University
79 Tithebarn Street
Liverpool L2 2ER
Tel: 0151-231 5829