

Global Health

Stand-alone modules 2022-23



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Programme Administrator: Elizabeth Morris

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Introduction

Our MSC Global Health course focuses on understanding current global health issues, their complex determinants and potential solutions to various global health problems. The COVID-19 pandemic is yet another indication of how globalised our world has become and further reinforces the importance of global health. What are the determinants and who are the actors that influence peoples' health outcomes? What are the main health conditions that are of concern, and how are they interlinked? How can reliable preventative and treatment measures be put in place so that everyone, regardless of ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation can benefit? How do we tackle issues of gender inequity, weak health systems, education, climate change and other social determinants of health which are all so intricately intertwined?

For the academic year 2022-2023 teaching of the Global Health MSc will be predominantly in-person. Although offered as part of the whole course, the following modules are available to be studied as single (independent) modules:

- MDM101 Global Health Principles
- MDM102 Global Burden and Management of Disease
- MDM174 Research Practice in Global Contexts
- MDM150 Access to Medicines
- GH710 Communicable Diseases (dependent on level of interest)
- MDM175 Conflict Violence and Health (dependent on level of interest)

An overview of the content of these modules is given below.

It is possible to take any of these modules as Continuing Professional Development, with or without taking the assessment at the end of each module. If you pass the assessment, you may use credits obtained to contribute towards taking a postgraduate course in the future.

It is also possible to take a combination of three modules (MDM101 Global Health Principles and **two** others) as part of a PGCert in Global Health or 5 modules (MDM101 Global Health Principles, MDM102 Global Burden and Management of Disease, MDM174 Research Practice in Global Contexts and **two** others) as part of PGDip in Global Health. Please note that students must enrol on the PGDip/PGCert Global Health before they begin their final module to be eligible for the award.

For more information about taking a wider selection of individual modules at BSMS and to apply, please see the BSMS webpage on [single modules](#) and [continuing professional development](#).

If you have any queries, please contact Dr Anne Gatuguta, Senior Lecturer in Global Health via a.gatuguta@bsms.ac.uk. Alternatively, please contact the Course Administrator, Liz Morris, via GlobalHealthTeaching@bsms.ac.uk

Module delivery

The modules will take the form of in-person learning except where face-to-face delivery is not possible or is inadvisable e.g. where an external expert is unable to travel to Brighton.

Teaching and learning will be divided into **academic engagement hours** and **independent study**.

Academic engagement hours are staff-guided and staff-facilitated and may include any of the following:

- Scheduled in-person lectures
- Scheduled seminars and workshops
- Group tutorials
- engagement with asynchronous group learning via discussion boards (with lecturer facilitation)
- one-to-one tutorials (including receiving feedback on assessments, supervision of proposal & dissertation, etc)
- student engagement with formally scheduled peer learning (small group discussions)
- one-to-one (or group) supervision of proposals, dissertation, library skills etc.

Independent study hours are non-guided and include

- time spent revisiting materials in Blackboard and reviewing study notes
- additional reading, using sources that students have located themselves (e.g. via searches in the library or online)
- time spent preparing for and completing assessment tasks
- studying done without staff facilitation (for example study using library resources, or in informal groups of peers)

Timetable

The synchronous aspect of modules will be taught one day/one half day per week as below. Students will also need to allow time for the accompanying independent study.

Module	Academic engagement hours	Independent study hours	Taught on	Assessment submission
MDM101 Global Health Principles 20 credits	Approximately 55, spread over 11 weeks	Approximately 145	Tuesdays, Autumn term starting 13 th September	Essay: December 2022 Poster: January 2023
MDM 102 Global Burden and Management of Disease 20 credits	Approximately 60 Spread over 11 weeks	Approximately 140	Thursdays, Autumn term starting 15 th September	Oral presentations: Nov – December Exam: December 2022
MDM174 Research Practice in Global Contexts 20 credits	Approximately 55 Spread over 11 weeks	Approximately 145	Wednesdays, Autumn term starting 14 th September	Practical Research Assignment: Jan 2023 Research Proposal: Jan 2023
MDM150 Access to Medicines 30 credits	Approximately 33 Spread over 11-12 weeks	Approximately 267	Tuesdays, 9.30-1pm February to May	Oral Presentation and essay (dates TBC)
GH710 Communicable Diseases 30 credits	Approximately 33 Spread over 11-12 weeks	Approximately 267	Days TBC – 3 hours per week, February to May	Essay and Critical Appraisal (dates TBC)
MDM175 Conflict, Violence and Health 30 credits	Approximately 33 Spread over 11-12 weeks	Approximately 267	Days TBC – 3 hours per week, February to May	Essay and Policy Advocacy Brief (dates TBC)

Please note that delivery of the modules GH710 Communicable Diseases and MDM175 Conflict, Violence and Health is subject to the level of interest. These modules will only run if there are sufficient student registrations

Fees

Fees will be proportional to the number of module credits.

Module	Number of credits	UK Fees	International Fees
MDM101 Global Health Principles / MDM102 Global Health Principles/ MDM174 Research Practice in Global Contexts	20	£1028	£2056

MDM150 Access to Medicines / GH710 Communicable Diseases / MDM175 Conflict Violence and Health	30	£1542	£3083
PGCert Global Health	70	£3084	£6168
<u>NB:</u> The fees indicated if for illustrative purposes only from the year 2021-22. For 2022-23, please contact us to get the exact amount.			



Module Summaries

MDM101 Global Health Principles

20 credits

This module provides the foundations for the study of global health. The module helps students locate health and disease within a global context and aims to develop a solid understanding of the diversity of factors and processes that, can impact on the health of individuals and societies around the world. It aims to introduce students to the field of global health through examining key determinants of health such as poverty, inequality, primary health care and health systems, economic globalisation, conflict, migration, climate change and stigma.

Aims

- To develop students' depth of knowledge and systematic understanding of the diverse factors and processes that determine health globally beyond clinical disease;
- to develop students' ability to critically assess knowledge and evidence at the forefront of the global health discipline;
- to develop students' comprehensive understanding of potential global health solutions in order to develop their ability to contribute to the improvement of health and the achievement of equity in health worldwide.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the module students are expected to be able to:

- Use theoretical and research-based knowledge from the forefront of the global health discipline to synthesize information on, and to critically evaluate and reason alternative approaches to the complex factors and processes that determine health globally;
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the diverse factors and processes that determine health globally beyond clinical disease and understand the implications of global health ethical dilemmas for current global health problems and their solutions;
- reflect on own and others' functioning in order to improve global health practice, policy and research;
- engage confidently in various forms of academic written communication with others, reporting information clearly, autonomously and competently.

Learning and teaching

The module has 55 hours contact time and 145 hours private study time to include preparation for assessments. There will be 5 hours of contact time per week over an 11 week term.

Assessment

The module is assessed through a 3,500 word essay and a poster (that should illustrate essay findings and conclusions). The essay contributes 70% and the poster contributes 30% towards the final mark.

MDM102 Global Burden and Management of Disease

20 credits

This module introduces students to the spectrum of disease found across the world, focusing on the most prevalent health problems globally. The module looks at the populations and social groups these diseases affect and the implications for individuals and societies before critically exploring current disease management strategies and their successes and/or shortcomings. The module touches only briefly on the biomedical aspects of the diseases, giving attention more to their broader socio-political, economic and environmental causes and solutions. Topics include malaria, tuberculosis, HIV, Neglected Tropical Diseases, non-communicable diseases, maternal, child and sexual health, nutrition and Water and Sanitation, global mental health and humanitarian aid.

Aims

- To develop students' depth of knowledge and systematic understanding of the major existing and emerging global health problems, their existing control measures and the actors involved;
- to develop student's ability to critically approach the strategies used to prevent and manage disease and disability globally and locally;
- to develop students' ability to critically assess knowledge and evidence at the forefront of the global health discipline;
- to develop students' ability to contribute to future global health research, policy and practice.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the module students are expected to be able to:

- Use theoretical and research-based knowledge from the forefront of the global health discipline to synthesize information, and to critically evaluate and reason alternative approaches to meet the challenges of the leading causes of death and disability globally;
- compare the major variations in causes of death and disability between regions and appraise the theories of why these variations exist;
- reflect on own and others' functioning in order to improve global health practice, policy and research;
- engage confidently in academic written communication with others, reporting information clearly, autonomously and competently.
- engage confidently in academic oral communication with others

Learning and teaching

The module has 60 hours contact time and 140 hours private study time to include preparation for assessments. There will be 5-6 hours of contact time per week over an 11 week term.

Assessment

The module is assessed through a 15 minute oral presentation and an unseen, 3-hour exam, worth 25% and 75% respectively towards the final mark.

MDM174 Research Practice in Global Contexts

20 credits

Module Aims

The module aims to:

- Give students a sound understanding of research methods and design in the field of global health.
- Make students familiar with the trade-offs involved in research choices so that they can make conscious decisions for their own research;
- Provide students with the theoretical and practical skills needed to collect, manage, analyse and interpret quantitative and qualitative research data;
- Develop students' ability to critically assess evidence and practice at the forefront of the global health and intersecting disciplines;
- Develop students' ability to prepare a sound research proposal with a clearly justified focus, appropriate research design and full consideration of ethical issues when applicable.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the role of evidence in the practice of global health and allied disciplines and of the different types of evidence used to inform research, policy and practice;
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the different theoretical and methodological approaches to research in global contexts (including the principles and processes of qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method research) and effectively justify their strengths, limitations and potential contributions;
- Critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline;
- Develop a tractable research question into a research proposal that effectively incorporates ethical considerations;
- Select and justify the appropriate choice of methodology and research methods as appropriate for a given research topic, context and aim;
- Autonomously utilise various research techniques to collect and analyse data.

Learning and teaching

The module has 55 hours contact time and 145 hours private study time to include preparation for assessments. There will be 5-6 hours of contact time per week over an 11 week term.

Assessment

The module is assessed through a Practical Research Assignment (PRA) and a 3,500 word Research Proposal. The Practical Research Assignment contributes 35% towards the final mark and the Research Proposal contributes 65% towards the final mark. In order to pass this module, you will need to pass both assessments.

MDM150 Access to Medicines

30 credits

The module introduces students to the importance of Access to Medicines for improving health and health equity globally. Some of the issues covered in this module are: actors and agencies involved in access to medicines, interventions for improving access to medicines and how they can be applied to emerging diseases, global aspects of substandard and falsified drugs; medicines pricing and affordability; medicines supply chain; access to medicines in humanitarian settings, global issues around adherence to and rational use of medicines, and the role of the pharmaceutical industry in access to medicines. The module is taught by speakers from BSMS and internationally renowned experts.

Aims

- To develop students' depth of knowledge and systematic understanding of global access to medicines
- to develop students' ability to critically assess knowledge and evidence at the forefront of research, policy and practice related to access to medicines
- to develop students' comprehensive understanding of potential interventions to improve access to medicines both now and in the future

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module, students will be able to:

- Describe the role of access to medicines in improving health and current policies for achieving this access;
- evaluate barriers to achieving access to medicines;
- discuss the current issues and controversies surrounding access to medicines;
- discuss societal and structural determinants of medicines access in resource-poor settings;
- identify specific challenges faced by high-risk groups, and vulnerable populations;
- critically analyse current interventions to facilitate access to effective medicines;
- critically appraise available evidence, policies and practice & make recommendations for future strategies to improve access to medicines;
- reflect on own and others' functioning in order to improve global health practice, policy and research;
- engage confidently in academic written and oral communication with others, reporting information clearly, autonomously and competently;
- produce an original analysis of a key issue regarding access to medicines.

Teaching and Learning

There will be 3 hours of contact time per week over a 12-week semester in the form of lectures, seminars, debates, group work and discussions, tutorials and oral presentations.

Assessment

The module is assessed through a 15 minute oral presentation (25%) and a 3500 word essay evaluating a current policy or programme designed to improve access to medicines in a resource-poor setting (75%).

GH710 Communicable Diseases

30 credits

This module examines the communicable diseases causing the greatest burden of disease in resource rich and poor settings and critically analyses the evidence informing prevention and control of communicable diseases.

Aims

- To provide students with a comprehensive understanding of communicable diseases in resource-poor settings;
- To equip students to critically assess current policies & programmes designed to prevent and control communicable diseases.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module students are expected to be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the global burden of communicable diseases, including antimicrobial resistance and new and emerging infections;
- Comprehensively identify and assess various biological, societal and structural determinants of communicable diseases in different contextual settings, recognising the specific challenges faced by high-risk groups and vulnerable populations within one single setting;
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of prevention and control strategies for communicable diseases and the actors involved; including the use of surveillance systems and international agreements;
- Critically assess available evidence and current interventions in order to make recommendations for future strategies in communicable disease prevention and control.

Learning and teaching

The module has 36 academic engagement hours (contact time) and 264 hours private study time to include preparation for assessments. There will be 3 hours of contact time per week over a 12-week semester in the form of lectures/seminars.

Teaching and Learning

The module is assessed through a 1500 word critical appraisal of selected papers on a current communicable disease challenge (50%) and a 3000 word essay evaluating a current policy or programme designed to prevent or control a specific communicable disease in resource-poor settings (50%).

MDM175 Conflict, Violence and Health

30 credits

Conflict and violence affect millions of people globally and are important determinants of both physical and mental health. This module builds students' critical understanding of the complex relationship between conflict, violence and health. It will examine conflict and violence at individual, community, national and global levels, critically analysing the factors and relationships that influence the development of different forms of violence in diverse contexts. The module helps students engage with and critically explore inter-disciplinary, inter-sectoral and inter-institutional interventions for prevention and control.

Module aims

- To develop students' depth of knowledge and systematic understanding of the epidemiology of conflict and violence, building their skills to critically analyse the determinants and consequences of various forms of conflict and violence;
- To develop students' critical understanding of the strategies used and challenges in addressing conflict and violence as well as the current state of research in the subject;
- To describe and critically appraise current approaches to preventing conflict and violence-related health conditions.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the module students are expected to be able to:

- Understand the various forms of conflict and violence and their complex pathways of impact on physical and mental health;
- Critically appraise the political, economic, environmental and social factors that contribute to various forms of conflict and violence;
- Demonstrate critical understanding of the key determinants of physical and mental health problems associated with conflict and violence and the different ways to mitigate their impact on people's health;
- Engage confidently in critically assessing different approaches to – research and interventions on conflict and violence and understand the importance of advocacy as a tool for addressing conflict and violence;
- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the need for multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral and multi-institutional collaboration when it comes to preventing and alleviating the health impacts of conflict and violence.

Assessment

The module is assessed through a 3000 word essay (60%) and a 1000 word policy advocacy brief (40%) addressing a current conflict and violence issue in a specific context.

And finally.....

What our students said about our course:

“I particularly enjoyed being taught by people who had done the work in real life and being able to discuss the issues with people from different backgrounds.”

“The interactive teaching sessions: there was a feeling that everyone was welcome to contribute to the discussion and the wide variety of topics were covered by a multidisciplinary team of professionals.”

“I enjoyed that the lecturers always allowed us space to express our viewpoints. There is very good support for both academic and non-academic struggles and the staff are very approachable.

“I was especially impressed with how the team tackled teaching in the pandemic... I don't feel that my studies were disadvantaged at all”.

“The Global Health Course has been very well structured to support learning. The lectures have been really interactive and the team have done so well teaching remotely this year”.

“Given that the module was online I think it all went very smoothly with hardly any technical glitches. The course administrator was amazing at making sure everyone was in the right place at the right time”.