

Programme Specification

MSc Public Health

MSc Public Health with Professional Experience

<i>School:</i>	London
<i>Subject area:</i>	Public Health
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2026-27
<i>in the month(s) of</i>	September and February
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University London Campus
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Postgraduate Certificate Public Health Postgraduate Diploma Public Health
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Subject Benchmark Statement for Health Studies (November 2019) Master's Degree Characteristics (February 2020)
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Full time (12 months) Full time with professional experience (24 months) Standard Postgraduate periods of study ¹ for full time apply
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with Foundation Year</i>	No
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	No
<i>Opt-in YSJU Placement Year opportunity:</i>	No

Introduction and Special Features

MSc Public Health is designed to equip you with the essential skills required for your professional development and career pathway in public health, including rewarding and challenging roles related to applications of analytics across a wide spectrum of care. Moreover, the programme will build on management competencies, analytical techniques, and applied research skills. This programme is correlated to an interdisciplinary practice of health that uses scientific methods to collect, interpret and refine data with both quantitative and qualitative approaches.

Focussing on the changing place of health matters in modern society as the pandemic highlighted the importance and necessity of strong public health leadership in the world in which we live. Consequently, significant changes occurring in the organisation and practice of health demand a re- evaluation of the

established public health concepts in addition to considering new and emerging themes. Therefore, the MSc Public Health is designed to provide you with a breadth of skills and training so that you will, upon graduation, be equipped to lead public health teams or organisations, develop your own non-governmental organisation, or re-model public health activities in the UK or internationally.

Importantly, the programme will provide you with an understanding and knowledge of public health concepts, theories, principles, and domains within the context of United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Furthermore, there is an emphasis on critical application of theory to practice in order to satisfy the needs of this new market. You will be able to build on theoretical concepts and practical applications to meet specific requirements within real world scenarios. This is particularly emphasised on effective data analytical training to collect data from different areas of health, cost, pharmaceutical research, clinical and patient data across the sector, from both qualitative and quantitative perspectives.

The programme will be of a global nature discussing public health organisations and initiatives from a range of countries. The goal is for each student to relate to and apply United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals as a benchmark to their critical analysis. The curriculum is designed in an accessible and inclusive manner to support widening participation and underrepresented groups in HE. Application of knowledge is key to employment. Industry speakers from public health organisations, WHO, and other international health agencies and organisations will form a part of the course delivery.

You will engage in face to face delivery with digital enhancements, via a mixture of lectures, group seminars and pre-recorded online content. The focus will be on applied learning through a flipped classroom and scenario based pedagogical design, bridging a connection between lectures and seminar activities to stimulate active learning and engagement for both modes of delivery. In order to consolidate learning, activities will be driven by experience, technological immersion and interactive material to enhance retainment. At completion of the programme, you will be able to confidently work within health policy, consultancy, public health; lead health initiatives at community level (including co-production within community contexts, and community empowerment), or build your own ventures in the UK or internationally.

Admissions Criteria

Students must meet the University's general entry criteria for postgraduate study. In addition, students must have:

1. A Bachelor's degree or equivalent, achieved at Class 2:2 or above, from an approved university or institution or;
2. Current or recent work experience (within the last two years) appropriate to enable contribution to the programme.

MSc Public Health requires applicants from (national or international) health aligned backgrounds, including public health and/or health promotion, allied health, health-related studies, social sciences, biosciences, sport science, and environmental health. Either traditionally via the undergraduate route, or via substantial industrial/practical experience.

If the student's first language is not English, they need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If they do not have traditional qualifications, they may be eligible for entry on the basis of Recognition of prior learning (RPL). York St John University also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme Aim(s)

The overall aim of the programme is to develop critical understanding and global awareness of public health delivery, to develop skills and knowledge with reference to both individual, and organisational potential in any public health delivery system and organisation across the world. Students will be supported with developing critical awareness and understanding of key public health concepts, frameworks, policies, economically driven strategy, analysis, and applied research. Additionally, students will be able to critically and practically apply theory in creative and innovative ways alongside the ability to reflect upon the learning involved. An understanding of the science behind preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through qualitative research, alongside the experiences and challenges faced within public health through qualitative research, enhanced learning and self-directive approaches to overcome challenges is a main driver throughout this programme.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

- 7.1.** Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of key concepts and sciences related to the impact of social, economic, and ecological factors on public health.
- 7.2.** Practically apply data analytical skills across multidisciplinary platforms for effective implementation of public health interventions and the prioritising of resources.
- 7.3.** Critically assess the need for sustainable public health practices and promotions with respect to sexual and reproductive health from a national and global perspective.
- 7.4.** Effectively analyse the distribution, patterns, wider determinants of health, and disease in a defined population.
- 7.5.** Identify public health risk factors on both a macro and micro levels to make economical based decisions and target distinct segments for preventative measures in addition to appropriate public health interventions and strategies.
- 7.6.** Employ a holistic approach to public health practices and medical economic stratagems for the preservation of finite resources in the context of public health operations and national accessibility.
- 7.7.** Apply technical skills to investigate, evaluate and research relevant public health theory or frameworks for effective problem-solving.
- 7.8.** Construct, conduct, analyse and disseminate an independent and task-based piece of research in public health research utilising qualitative and/or quantitative methodologies.

Programme Structure

Full Time Programme Structure (12 months)

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					Compulsory (C) or optional (O)	non-compensable (NC) or compensable (X)
LDP7001M	7	1	Health Promotion: Principles and Practice	20	C	X
LDP7002M	7	1	Healthcare Analytics	20	C	X
LDP7003M	7	1	Health Economics	20	C	X
LDP7004M	7	2	Introduction to Epidemiology	20	C	X
LDP7005M	7	2	Public Health for an Ageing Population	20	C	X
LDP7006M	7	2	Sexual and Reproductive Health	20	C	X
LDP7007M	7	All	Applied Research Project	60	C	NC

September students commence with LDP7001-3M. February students commence with LDP7004-6M.

Full Time Programme Structure with Professional Experience (24 months)

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					Compulsory (C) or optional (O)	non-compensable (NC) or compensable (X)
LDP7001M	7	1	Health Promotion: Principles and Practice	20	C	X
LDP7002M	7	1	Healthcare Analytics	20	C	X
LDP7003M	7	1	Health Economics	20	C	X
LDP7004M	7	2	Introduction to Epidemiology	20	C	X
LDP7005M	7	2	Public Health for an Ageing Population	20	C	X
LDP7006M	7	2	Sexual and Reproductive Health	20	C	X
LDP7008M	7	All	Applied Research Project (Professional Experience)	60	C	NC

September students commence with LDP7001-3M. February students commence with LDP7004-6M. Professional experience will take place during the second year of the programme, with the option of a professional placement, or YSJU London's Enterprise Academy. Skills acquired will be assessed via the Applied Research Project. Please see the 'Professional Experience (Option)' section below.

Professional Experience (Option)

Professional experience is the perfect opportunity to enhance your career prospects and deepen your understanding of your chosen area of expertise. The MSc Public Health programme is available with a 12-month/24-month option for professional experience (depending on mode of study selected – full or part time), allowing you to gain knowledge and skills in the UK to evidence your capabilities (minimum of 9 months professional experience activity required).

YSJU London offers support to those seeking professional experience, through tailored services provided by our London Student Opportunities Team, such as career appointments, employer visits, career fairs in London and York and access to exclusive jobsites. While there is no guarantee you will secure a placement,

as this decision sits entirely with employers, we can guarantee you will have access to professional experience through our Enterprise Academy (EA). EA is our flagship entrepreneurship and leadership development programme, giving you the chance to design and develop your business as well as yourself. The experience takes place over semester one and two, with optional student consultancy projects designed to enhance employability occurring during the summer months.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

The learning, teaching and assessment philosophy is based on the principles of learner-driven pedagogy, integrative curriculum design, and sustainable assessment, to develop the innovative professional and reflective practitioner. The programme is focused on developing an array of desirable graduate attributes, through inclusive and equitable teaching and assessment practices, that prioritise your experience and leaders of tomorrow. As a result, there are several tenets that underpin the programme's design including:

- The use of active learning approaches, which are practical, authentic, and experiential in nature;
- Develop levels of responsibility, accountability, and autonomy over time;
- Focusing on holistic competence, as well as programme content;
- Encouraging reflection as an aid to learning.

The programme recognises that you are likely to bring significant experience and knowledge, that can be shared, and subsequently shape the learning environment. Therefore, the programme's pedagogy is divergent, rooted in project-based and inquiry-led learning. You may not have engaged in conventional education for some time or may never have formally studied public health at undergraduate level. Thus, support with study skills, conventions of academic analysis and scholarly writing will be available throughout the duration of the programme.

All modules are designed and delivered utilising a range of face to face delivery with digital enhancements, learning and assessment techniques, including (online/video) lectures, workshops, seminars, debates, discussion forums and tutorials. By utilising a range of assessment practices, the programme will ensure an inclusive and individualised experience, through mechanisms such as portfolios, presentations, vivas, and project-based research. Each Module Tutor will provide formative assessment opportunities and feedback/forward, to inform your work prior to submission. You will benefit from a variety of feedback modes (as appropriate to the method of assessment), encompassing verbal/audio, written/rubric, live/in-person and via individual and/or group coaching techniques. Feedback received will detail how you can develop areas of research, subject knowledge, and professional practice.

Progression and Graduation Requirements

The University's [general regulations for](#) postgraduate awards apply to this programme. Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the programme structure section as non-compensable.

Internal and External Reference Points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

Date written / revised: June 2022

Programme originally approved: