# Specialized Master in PUBLIC HEALTH METHODOLOGY

The Specialized Master in Public Health Methodology aims at developing and reinforcing methodological skills of public health actors, with a focus on middleand low-income countries issues but not limited to. The program is developed so that graduates will be operating in operational projects and/or scientific research.

### Curriculum

The programme includes a compulsory part (50 ECTS) and an optional part (10 ECTS must be chosen among the 15 proposed ECTS).

### **Compulsory part :**

- Biostatistics in public health (2 parts of 5 ects each)
- > Methods in epidemiology (3 ects)
- > Clinical-decision making (2 ects)
- > Contextual factors in public health (1 ects)
- Health system and public health research (4 ects)
- Health economics & risk management (5 ects)
- > Management of health services (3 ects)
- > Protocol development and health
- examination surveys (2 ects)
- > Qualitative methods (3 ects)
- Research in health : dissemination & systematic reviews (2 ects)
- > Thesis (15 ects)

In addition to these 50 credits, 3 optional courses, of 5 ECTS each, are offered. The student must take at least 10 ECTS in order to reach a 60 ECTS master.

#### **Options:**

- Advanced methods in biostatistics and epidemiology (5 ects)
- International health and rights : organizations and actors (5 ects)
- Infectious & environmental diseases : epidemiology & prevention (5 ects)

# **Distinctive features**

# of the programme

The programme is jointly run by three universities (ULB, UCLouvain and UMONS).

It is taught in English through a variety of teaching methods including : lectures, practical exercises, field visits (hospital, medical house), self-directed study followed by seminars and in-group works with peers. Students are also invited to attend local conferences and seminars (e.g. Be-cause Health, the Belgian platform for international health).

# Assets of the programme

This Specialized Master addresses methodologies of analysis and investigation of major health problems, including a global health approach. It also intends to give to the learners a strong basis for a systemic understanding of health problems as well as contextual and environmental factors that may determine answers to the main health issues.

Indeed, this training offers a strengthened specialization in quantitative methods (epidemiology and biostatistics), through applied learning using the tools necessary and that are subject to the final work (thesis). However, since such methods cannot be used alone in any public health perspective, other methods are addressed in complement and in a deep manner : analysis of contextual factors; analysis of health systems; epidemiology in conflict and emergency situations; research in NGOs; health economics; qualitative research; international rights and institutions... Learners will develop transversal skills such as research methodology, scientific writing and capitalization of public health actions. Teaching is based on hybrid and diverse methods, including topical examples and immediate and concrete applications through in-group and personal works steadily over the academic year.

# **Career prospects**

The programme is intended for health professionals, at different levels of the health system : medical doctors; nurses and other paramedical with complementary training in research; social sciences professionals involved in public health; biostatisticians and public health researchers; decision makers and executives...

The goal is to acquire high-quality scientific skills needed for the development of analytical and specialized approaches. The targeted skills tend towards the achievement of an overall objective intended to : «ensure methodological approaches and public health decision-makings, consistent with the needs of populations, communities and individuals.»

Through such an acquisition, the future graduates will be able to develop, lead, implement and evaluate public health programmes and projects, in international institutions, ministries of health, hospitals, as managers of health districts or centers, researchers in universities, research institutes, and in the frame of international research projects for instance.



### **MORE INFORMATION :**

M mphm.esp@ulb.be T +32 (0)2 555 40 13

PROGRAMME : http://www.ulb.be/en/programme/MS-STME