

MSc Med in Public Health

Preparedness of Candidates, Availability of Supervisors and the Suitability of Dissertation Topics:

This is a Masters degree by dissertation only.

Candidates will not be admitted to the masters dissertation degree in the School of Public Health & Family Medicine unless:

1. a supervisor can be found within the School who is willing and able to supervise the research, and
2. they are adequately prepared to be able to engage with masters level studies.

As a rough rule of thumb for assessing the quantum of work required, a Masters by dissertation should result in one or perhaps two publishable articles in an accredited scientific journal.

1. the candidate should be cognisant of research methods and have the requisite level of knowledge and/or skills in epidemiology and biostatistics or other core public health disciplines (e.g health economics) required for the dissertation work.

2. candidates who have not received formal training in public health disciplines, and who do not have the requisite research experience, may be required to undertake coursework studies in the Masters of Public Health (MPH) programme as a precondition for admission to this dissertation programme. However, the intention to embark on a masters dissertation is no guarantee of acceptance into the MPH coursework programme.

3. the candidate should have a coherent and feasible idea for a proposal that is translatable into a formal research protocol;

4. the candidate should be in a position to obtain the necessary data

5. candidates need to have access to adequate facilities for collection, analysis and interpretation of data and to be able to write up their findings in an academic and scientific style. Such facilities may include computer facilities, email and internet access.

6. The Dissertations Programme Convenor (Professor L London) will assist a potential candidate by putting him or her in touch with possible supervisors in the School, should the intended area of work be within the scope of interest of members of the School.

7. Candidates are required to complete their dissertation within 2 years of registration. This can be extended to 3 years in special circumstances.