



School of Public Health  
Departement Openbare Gesondheid  
Isikolo Sempilo Yoluntu



## Master of Public Health

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TRACK



Division of Environmental Health | UCT

Faculty of Health Sciences  
University of Cape Town

<https://health.uct.ac.za/school-public-health/divisions/environmental-health>

<http://www.publichealth.uct.ac.za>

Applications will open on **1<sup>st</sup> April**  
Applicants must apply online by **31st**  
**July (International) &**  
**30th September (SA) at:**  
<http://applyonline.uct.ac.za>

### What is Environmental Health?

**Environmental Health (EH)** is an interdisciplinary academic and research specialization of Public Health which focuses on the relationships between **people's health** and their **environment**.

EH addresses physical, chemical, biological, social, and psychosocial factors in the environment.

EH aims to **control** and **prevent environmental hazards** and to promote health and well-being through environmental strategies.



*Environmental Justice*

Many disciplines contribute to EH: **epidemiology** and **toxicology**, **psychology** and **communications**, **urban planning** and **food science**, **law** and **ethics**, and more.

EH thinking takes a systems approach, embracing complexity, and focusing on "upstream" factors as well as on "downstream" health impacts.

### Why Study Environmental Health?

- To conduct research for evidence-based policy making.
- To make an impact on policies affecting the lives of vulnerable populations.
- Because 33% of the global burden of disease is due to EH factors (WHO 2016).



*Climate Change & Health Effects*

### What can I do with an MPH in Environmental Health?

- Work for **government** in health, environment, waste management, or pollution control
- Work in an **academic** or **research** institution
- Work for an **international development organization**
- Be a **consultant**

## Programme Structure

**6** Core Courses + **4** Electives

+  **Mini-dissertation**  
on an EH topic

### Core Courses include:

- > Environmental Health and Policy
- > Children's Environmental Health
- > Climate Change, Pollution and Health
- > Public Health and Society
- > Introduction to Epidemiology
- > Quantitative/Qualitative Research



*Children's Environmental Health*

### \*Possible elective & specialization choices (not exhaustive):

#### Chemicals:

- International Chemicals Management Agreements
- Pesticide Risk Management
- Research Literacies
- Chemicals Risk Management
- Chemicals Risk Assessment
- Pesticide Toxicology
- Risk Communication and Policy Brief Development

#### Climate Change:

- Introduction to Climate Change
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

#### Epidemiology and Biostatistics:

- Biostatistics I and II
- Epidemiology of Non-communicable Diseases

#### Rights based Approach:

- Public Health and Human Rights

#### General:

- Public Health Practicum
- Qualitative Research Methods

#### Health Systems

- Health policy and Planning

#### Health Economics

- The economics of Health Systems

*\*Convenor approval required and credits may vary*

## Further information

The full programme brochure can be downloaded at:  
<https://health.uct.ac.za/school-public-health/postgraduate-teaching-masters-programmes-master-public-health-mph/overview-about-programme>

The **Environmental Health Track** is convened by the Environmental Health Division in the School of Public Health and Family Medicine in the UCT Faculty of Health Sciences.

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