



*Programme syllabus for*

# **Erasmus Mundus Master Programme in Public Health in Disasters, 120 credits**

*Masterprogrammet i hälsoinsatser vid katastrofer, 120 hp*

## **Basic programme information**

Programme code	5HD24
Name of the programme	Erasmus Mundus Master Programme in Public Health in Disasters
Number of credits	120.0 credits (120.0 ECTS credits)
Starting date	The syllabus applies to students who commence their studies in or after autumn 2024.
	Approved revisions of the syllabus are described under the heading Transitional Provisions.
Decision date	2023-09-06
Decided by	Committee for Higher Education
Last revision	2024-05-02
Revised by	Committee for Higher Education
Reference number	3-838/2024
Specific eligibility requirements	A Bachelor's degree or a professional degree of at least 180 credits in Health, Management and Administration, Law, Social or Technical sciences. Proficiency in English equivalent to the C1 English level in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): * IELTS: minimum score 6.5 overall with 6.5 in writing and a minimum of 6.0 in all other elements, or * TOEFL (IBT): minimum score 79 points with at least 20 points in the writing section, or * TOEFL (paper based): minimum score 550 points.
Main field of study	Public Health in Disasters
Qualification	Degree of Master of Medical Science (120 credits) with a Major in Public Health in Disasters <i>(Medicine masterexamen med huvudområdet hälsoinsatser vid katastrofer)</i>
	The programme leads to a joint degree between Universidad de Oviedo, University of Nicosia and Karolinska Institutet.
	A student who fulfils the requirements for the award of a qualification shall, upon request, be provided with a certificate.

# Outcomes

## Outcomes of second cycle education according to the Higher Education Act

Second-cycle courses and study programmes shall be based fundamentally on the knowledge acquired by students during first-cycle courses and study programmes, or its equivalent.

Second-cycle courses and study programmes shall involve the acquisition of specialist knowledge, competence and skills in relation to first-cycle courses and study programmes, and in addition to the requirements for first-cycle courses and study programmes shall:

- further develop the ability of students to integrate and make autonomous use of their knowledge,
- develop the students' ability to deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, and
- develop the students' potential for professional activities that demand considerable autonomy, or for research and development work.

## Outcomes of the Degree of Master (120 credits) according to the Higher Education Ordinance

### *Knowledge and understanding*

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

### *Competence and skills*

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to clearly report and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

### *Judgment and approach*

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall:

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

## Outcomes of the study programme at Karolinska Institutet

On completion of the programme, the student should be able to show their capacity to:

- interpret how and to what extent vulnerability, capacity and hazards contribute to the development of a disaster
- systematically apply knowledge about and explain different health consequences of disasters
- apply knowledge about and explain different health consequences of climate change
- explain disaster risk reduction, response, and recovery and describe how different aspects interrelate
- analyse and interpret lessons learnt from past disasters with the aim of formulating strategies for better management of future disasters
- prioritize among needs and plan for implementation and follow up of needs-based public health responses in disasters
- identify and reason around ethical aspects in public health response and research in disaster
- interpret research results in the disaster field with insight into the potential and limitations of science, and
- identify knowledge gaps, and under supervision design and perform research in the field of public health in disasters.

## Content and structure

The Master's programme is a jointly developed university educational programme offered in collaboration with Universidad de Oviedo (Spain) and University of Nicosia (Cyprus) and it is granted as an Erasmus programme by The European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

The aim of the programme is to, through knowledge, experience and research build capacities that will reduce disaster risks and contribute to better and more targeted public health-based responses following disasters.

The programme is a linear programme where the three universities offer courses during one semester each. The programme is concluded with a degree project (thesis) course provided at all three universities for the divided student group.

The first semester's introductory courses comprise 30 ECTS credits and are offered by the University of Oviedo. These core module courses focus on essential concepts and tools in disasters, and, on evaluation, management and reduction of disaster risks. The second semester courses are offered at Karolinska Institutet. It forms a progression in public health in disasters and contains three courses with a focus on global health, public health response in health crisis and disasters and finally a method course with focus on qualitative methods and evaluation methods in health crises and disasters. The student will learn how to adequately and based on needs, prioritize, plan, implement and follow up public health interventions in disasters as well as how to plan and implement qualitative research methods in disasters. The third semester courses are offered at the University of Nicosia and focus on quantitative research methods in disasters in three courses: principles of epidemiology and public health, applied statistics for epidemiology and public health epidemiology and prevention of chronic and infectious diseases in a global context. The final semester is devoted to a degree project (thesis), either at the University of Oviedo, the University of Nicosia or Karolinska Institutet.

### Scientific knowledge, competence and approach

The student will develop competencies and skills in public health response in disasters, based on current knowledge and on scientific grounds. The programme's focus is new findings and how these can be interpreted and understood in relation to existing knowledge. The student is trained to search, review as well as present and discuss scientific information. Scientific methods are integrated in all courses in the programme and students obtain training in independently applying their knowledge. The method courses further strengthen the student's ability to independently review and analyse evidence in the main field.

During the final part of the education, the degree (thesis) project, the student is expected to apply this by

independent collection of data and analysis of information that concerns public health in disasters. Likewise, the student will develop awareness and understanding of global, ethical, social and sustainability aspects in the area of public health in disasters.

### **Practice Integrated Learning**

Practice integrated learning is a generic term for the pedagogical models that are based on interaction and integration between higher education and working life. Practice integrated learning may take the form of placements, study visits, observing teaching activities, staff exchange training schemes or field studies within outpatient and in-patient healthcare, social care or other relevant activities.

The students will not be provided practice integrated learning in a traditional sense. The students will, however, have opportunities to meet with different organisations in the field of public health response in disasters. Study visits will be organised by all three universities as part of respective course.

During the education the student will also encounter research active lecturers. The student will thus continuously take part in the academic environment. During the degree project the student could work independently in a research field that relates to public health in disasters.

### **Internationalisation**

The Master's programme is in its nature international with a general aim to increase exchange and understanding in and outside EU. Courses in the programme are permeated with an international perspective that develops students' understanding and reflection around health problems related to disasters in different contexts, for example low- or middle-income countries, with different poverty and health-related questions. This gives students competence to work in both multicultural environments and in an international labour market.

## **Other guidelines**

### **Grading scale**

The students will be graded according to the grading scale given in each course. The grades are specified in the grading system at respective university. At Karolinska Institutet all grading scales are criterion-referenced. The pass grades are A, B, C, D and E. The fail grades are Fx and F. The grading scale is defined in each course syllabus.

### **Language of instruction**

The teaching language is English.

## Study plan with constituent courses

Name of the course	Credits	Main field of study	Cycle	Course coordinating university
Essential Concepts and Tools in Disasters	10	Public Health in Disasters	Second	UNIOVI
The Environment, the Climate and Disasters	10	Public Health in Disasters	Second	UNIOVI
Evaluation, Management and Reduction of Disaster Risk	10	Public Health in Disasters	Second	UNIOVI
Global health and Disasters / Global hälsa och katastrofer	7.5	Public Health in Disasters	Second	KI
Public Health Response in Health Crisis and Disasters / Hälsoinsatser vid hälsokriser och katastrofer	15	Public Health in Disasters	Second	KI
Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methods in Disasters / Kvalitativ forskning och utvärderingsmetoder i katastrofer	7.5	Public Health in Disasters	Second	KI
Principles of Epidemiology in Public Health	10	Public Health in Disasters	Second	UNIC
Applied Statistics for Epidemiology in Public Health	10	Public Health in Disasters	Second	UNIC
Epidemiology and Prevention of Chronic and Infectious Diseases in a Global Context	10	Public Health in Disasters	Second	UNIC
Master Thesis / Examensarbete	30	Public Health in Disasters	Second	UNIOVI/KI/UNIC