



## **Module Specification**

### Introduction to Public Health

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Introduction to Public Health

**Module code:** UZVYEQ-30-1

**Level:** Level 4

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Health, Community and Policy Studies

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** This module introduces learners to core concepts and issues in public health, including the history and how contemporary public health practice has developed. Learners will examine a range of issues, including the wider determinants of health, sociological approaches to health and wellbeing, health inequalities, and community capacity building. The module will ground learner thinking within the political and democratic landscape in which public health operates

and will introduce learners to key pieces of legislation that are relevant to public health practice.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** To introduce students to the key aspects, approaches and domains of public health practice, including how the study of health in populations has developed over time.

To explore the ways in which socio-economic, environmental and other wider determinants affect the health of populations.

To consider equity issues in relation to the health of populations, including health inequalities and notions of social justice.

To examine the various ways in which the health of populations can be improved and protected, and the organisations and professional groups involved in this.

To consider how public health is positioned and operates across the socio-ecological landscape.

To explore key policies and legislation that underpin the role of public health practice

**Outline syllabus:** The outline syllabus typically includes:

Introduction to public health

History of public health and understanding of health and wellbeing of populations

Sociological and cultural approaches to health and wellbeing

Socio-ecological approach to health and wellbeing

Health inequalities and social justice

The public health system and workforce

Empowerment and the promotion of health

Introduction to asset based approaches to health improvement

Introduction to settings approaches to health improvement

Public health in a global context

Relevant legislation for public health practice

The power and control dynamics within the political and democratic landscape that public health interacts with

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** This module takes a multi-disciplinary approach, exploring the nature and complexity of public health. The module is taught through a combination of lectures and interactive seminars, with an emphasis on group collaboration and discussion to widen and deepen knowledge. Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, preparation for seminars, formative assessment, and assessment preparation and completion. The ethos of the module is to encourage and facilitate collaboration and co-creation through discussion and debate. Learners also have access to an online discussion forum through which they can share questions, comments and resources. The module is supported with digital learning materials, including recorded lectures, podcasts, and web-based resources.

This is the first summative assessment point for the public health practitioner degree apprenticeship. Through the 12 hours of the essential academic skills training for level four the learners will be provided with the skills such as how to search for literature, how to reference, academic writing skills and developing presentation. As the first summative assessment with a PowerPoint and individual piece of writing, the learners will be provided with adequate formative assessment to scaffold and support the learners through this process. It will include access to individual feedback, peer supported and group based formative activities and protected time for post marking feedback and feedforward individually and collectively, with learners signposted to university services and resources in Blackboard where necessary to improve their submissions going forward.

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** Describe the key characteristics of public health, including the domains of practice.

**MO2** Explain the concept of the determinants of health, and how these impact on the health and wellbeing of individuals, communities and populations.

**MO3** Define inequalities, and explain the complexities and issues of health inequalities, and the impact on different societies and populations, including the political and democratic systems.

**MO4** Identify the different organisations, workforces and professional groups that play a key role in the public's health.

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/77696D8C-D2BD-7E9D-31B3-22DF27059F67.html?lang=en) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/77696D8C-D2BD-7E9D-31B3-22DF27059F67.html?lang=en>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Assessment task 1: Defended Group Presentation 15 mins (made up of 10 minutes presentation and 5 minutes of questions) - 30% weighting

The purpose of the group presentation is to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of public health issues in relation to the wider determinants of health and health inequalities, and to enable students to develop and demonstrate (online) presentation skills. Each group member must participate in the presentation. The presentation will be 10 minutes, followed by 5 minutes of questions from your tutors and/or the rest of the class. The group will be given a mark for the group. At resit, resitting candidates will form a group. If there is only 1 candidate resitting, they are permitted to work in a 'group of 1'.

Assessment task 2: Written Assignment (maximum) 1500 words - 70% weighting

The second part of assessment is an expository essay based on your group presentation. You are required to describe a public health issue that your group were challenged with and discuss the published evidence underpinning the issue, exploring the themes of health inequality and wider determinants and demonstrating an understanding of how to address the health issue using different public health approaches. Students will get an individual mark for their essay.

The purpose of the assessment is to allow the learner to demonstrate the learning outcomes of the module and to assess students' knowledge and understanding of the study of health of populations, including the role of the wider determinants of health, the influence this has on health inequalities and the variety of approaches that can be taken to improve population health.

Opportunities for formative assessment will be provided in seminars scheduled during the module, where students will undertake activities that facilitate knowledge exchange and peer learning and support. Detailed assignment guidance is provided online alongside an assignment support session programmed into the teaching. Assessment task 1 supports learners to build relevant skills in preparation for the End Point Assessment.

**Assessment tasks:****Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Written assignment (1500 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: The presentation will be 10 minutes, followed by 5 minutes of questions from your tutors and/or the rest of the class. Each group member must participate in the presentation. At resit, resitting candidates will form a group. If there is only 1 candidate resitting, they are permitted to work in a 'group of 1'.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Written assignment (1500 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: The presentation will be 10 minutes, followed by 5 minutes of questions from your tutors and/or the rest of the class. Each group member must participate in the presentation. At resit, resitting candidates will form a group. If there is only 1 candidate resitting, they are permitted to work in a 'group of 1'.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Public Health {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24