

CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data							
Awarding Institution	UWE						
Teaching Institution	UWE						
Delivery Location	UWE						
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	N/A						
Faculty responsible for programme	Faculty of Health and	Applied	Sciences				
Department responsible for programme	Health and Social Sci	ences					
Modular Scheme Title							
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	Chartered Institute of accreditation	Environn	nental Health (CIEH)				
Highest Award Title	MSc Environmental F	lealth Pro	ofessional Practice				
Default Award Title							
Fall-back Award Title							
Interim Award Titles	PG Certificate Applied Environmental Health PG Diploma Applied Environmental Health						
UWE Progression Route							
Mode(s) of Delivery	FT, PT, Blended learr	ning					
Codes	UCAS:		JACS:				
	ISIS2:		HESA:				
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	 Health studies 2008 Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, food and consumer sciences 2009 						
	Earth sciences, environmental sciences and environmental studies 2014						
First OAD Assessed Dete	Construction, property and surveying 2008						
First CAP Approval Date	1 Feb 2017	Valid from	September 2017				
Version	1						
Review Date							

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice aims to provide an alternative to industry placement for students who wish to experience, evidence and be assessed in Environmental Health Practice to complete their CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP) as part of their route to qualification as an Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP).

Broad aims of the programme:

- Explore the impact of human activities on the living environment and health.
- Develop academic, professional, generic, practical and employability skills which will increase the employability of students.
- Engage with Public and Environmental Health practice in a variety of settings.
- Ensure that students acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills to produce new ideas, concepts and solutions within the arenas of public and environmental health.
- Assess students' application of learning to practice-based settings and scenarios.
- Contribute to student career development in public and environmental health.
- Offer a means by which learners can negotiate a flexible programme of study that best suits their needs and requirements.
- Provide the opportunity to have practice-based learning recognised for the award of credit.
- Provide a curriculum that is enhanced by a balance of experience from research, consultancy and professional practice.

Specific aims of the programme:

- The opportunity to experience the full range of activities required by CIEH Curriculum 2011 evidenced in the Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP).
- Enable students to develop an understanding of the subject of public and environmental health in practice and its contribution to the promotion and protection of public health from a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective.
- Explore the relationship between human activities and environmental systems and the consequent health outcomes, and appreciate the wider influences such as structural, societal and lifestyle factors on the promotion of sustainable environments and human health on a local, regional and global scale.
- Identify and judge risk, and assess human health outcomes selecting the most appropriate intervention option from a range of possible solutions.
- Acquire field, laboratory, investigative and analytical skills in order to undertake independent investigations and analyses of public and environmental health problems
- Require students to demonstrate the presentational skills necessary to communicate findings to audiences with a variety of backgrounds in a range of contexts.
- Enable students to work both independently and as an effective team member and to recognise the role and approaches to working with others, including other professionals and community groups, in tackling public and environmental health problems.
- Study an area of professional practice in depth through a research project.
- The opportunity to enhance their knowledge, skills, experience and set them on the road to competence as an EHP.

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

 The opportunity to develop intellectual, analytical and problem solving skills and encourage the development of independent judgement when determining the most appropriate course of action in environmental health situations.

Programme requirements for the purposes of the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR)

This qualification is accredited by the CIEH. Skills developed will enable successful graduates to work in the public or private sector as an Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP). Both academic and practical skills are developed including risk assessments, auditing, collecting evidence, undertaking surveys, evaluating the evidence base and delivering public health interventions. The CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP) is embedded in the programme. Students who successfully complete the programme and meet the PPP requirements will have met the CIEH professional requirement to complete the PPP.

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

Learning Outcomes:	Module No: UZVRMT-15-M	Module No: UZVRMN-45-M	Module No: UZVSQL-30-M	Module No: UZVSQK-30-M	Module No: UZVSQM-30-M	Module No: UZVSQH-30-M
(A) Knowledge and understanding of:		,	,	,	·····	·····
The concepts of 'health' and 'disease' exploring the principles of, and strategies for, health protection, health promotion and health improvement. Debate and research surrounding the concept of health, its representations, measurement and the diverse determinants of health.	✓	✓				
Demonstrate familiarity with relevant policy.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The concepts of 'hazard' and 'risk'.	✓	✓	✓	1	✓	✓
Recognise the needs and requirements of society.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Describe and apply professional standards and responsibilities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The need for both a multidisciplinary and an interdisciplinary approach in knowledge and understanding of public health and the environment.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Methods of acquiring, interpreting and analysing information and data with a critical understanding of the appropriate contexts for their use in practice.	✓	✓				
Contemporary issues at the forefront of studies on health and environmental health fields and the sustainable and integrated approaches to intervention management.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The theoretical and professional rationales concerning public health and environmental health interventions.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The use of research and practice based inquiry to create, interpret and apply knowledge in the disciplines and in their own contexts.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge base relating to their Environmental Health Experiences and to extend this into the wider context and area of practice	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

t 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme						
Can develop and critically evaluate a range of practical theories, ideas and models, including to overcome dilemmas and find ways forward in problematic	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
situations Can research, analyse and evaluate information to identify interrelationships between wider systems in which Environmental Health work is located	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
(B) Intellectual Skills						
Recognise and use subject specific theories, concepts and principles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reason critically and engage in analytical and imaginative enquiry in identifying and solving conceptual and practical problems.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Formulate reasoned responses to the critical judgements of others.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
Recognise the moral and ethical issues of enquiry and investigation and appreciate the need for professional codes of conduct.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Create, identify and evaluate options to provide original solutions for problems that sometimes have incomplete data.	1	✓	1	✓	✓	✓
Challenge the status quo by demonstrating intellectual flexibility and lateral thinking.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Learn through critical reflection and evaluation of practice and experience.		✓	1	✓	✓	✓
Evaluate methodologies, develop critiques and, where appropriate, propose new hypotheses.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop innovative ways forward in complex and unpredictable situations			✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop novel approaches to systems			✓	✓	✓	✓
(C) Subject, Professional & Practical Skills		i		i	i	
Plan, conduct and report public and environmental health investigations using		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
both primary and secondary data. Collect, record and analyse data using appropriate laboratory and field equipment and techniques in a responsible and safe manner, paying due		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
attention to risk assessment. Apply a range of disciplines to satisfy the needs of society for sustainable and healthy environments and the promotion of human health	✓	✓				
Present and reference work in an appropriate manner.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reflect on academic and professional experience and embrace the concept of continuing profession development through professional development		✓	✓	✓	1	✓
planning. Apply subject knowledge, technical and professional skills to analyse and solve a range of contemporary and emergent public and environmental health problems.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Analyse public health and environmental information and data that may be drawn from a wide range of disciplines.			✓	✓	✓	✓
Effective problem solving and decision making using appropriate quantitative and qualitative skills including identifying, formulating and solving problems.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The ability to create, identify and evaluate options.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conduct substantial investigation to address significant areas of their own Environmental Health practice using methodologies which are consistent with		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
their purposes and contexts. Critically evaluate thinking, action and structural factors operating in the area of Public and Environmental Health Practice, including underlying assumptions, and identifying implications for wider systems beyond the area of practice.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(D) Transferable skills and other attributes		i	·	i	i	
Plan, organise and manage time within realistic professional parameters to meet appropriate deadlines.			✓	✓	✓	✓
Elicit appropriate knowledge and effectively communicate information, arguments, and analysis of both primary and secondary data at a professional level in work related context.			✓	✓	✓	✓

Demonstrate personal qualities and attitudes consistent with professional employment in Public and Environmental Health and related sectors following current practice within the field.			✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate the capacity to reflect upon actions taken, both within the academic and vocational field, to engage in the process of continuous learning.			✓	✓	✓	✓
Act independently in planning and implementing tasks.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate interpersonal skills of effective listening, negotiating and persuasion.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
Demonstrate self-awareness and sensitivity to diversity in people and different situations.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Search, retrieve and utilise information effectively.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate the ability to make decisions in complex and unpredictable situations.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Critically reflect upon practice and experience.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Evaluate alternative implications of different issues and courses of action and can reflect on own and others' functioning in order to improve practice.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Evaluate and manage dilemmas and value-conflicts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Evaluate and act on interrelationships between wider systems in which Environmental Health practice is located.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate a level of personal and contextual awareness and the ability to adjust approach according to need.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrates an independent learning ability.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support

Teaching and learning strategies to enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

Contact time during the programme encompasses a range of face-to-face activities as described below. In addition, a range of other learning activities will be embedded within the programme which, together with the contact time, will enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated.

On the MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice programme, teaching is a mix of scheduled, independent and practice-based learning. In addition, students will have access to technology enhanced learning for specific modules throughout the programme. UWE has a virtual learning environment through which content is delivered.

The programme seeks to create an environment that will stimulate students to take responsibility for aspects of their learning, while tutors take responsibility for facilitating that learning. Module learning outcomes have been designed to ensure that students meet the overall programme learning outcomes on completion. All students learning will be undertaken through modules which integrate the development of knowledge, understanding, intellectual and transferable skills. Students will be required to undertake additional reading to develop their knowledge and understanding, to prepare for study, workshops and practice-based interventions and to enable them to complete their portfolio reports and public health project.

Scheduled learning includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops, fieldwork, external visits, work based learning and blended learning.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, intervention preparation, portfolio and project preparation and completion etc.

Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support

Practice-based interventions: The Programme contains a significant proportion of practice-based learning. Interventions will be supported interventions, organised by the University. However, more independent arrangements can be considered for students who may find their own placements for the Public Health (Improvement and Protection) Project (PPP). This will still involve input from the University in the form of placement supervision and student support.

STUDENT SUPPORT

For Students

Students will be studying at UWE and when undertaking interventions, will benefit from teaching in small groups.

Students will be able to use the academic and support facilities offered by <u>UWE</u>. This will include library access and access to UWE online, intranet and student union. Both the Library and IT Services at UWE operate a 24/7 support service for all student-facing systems: http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/its/ and http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/library/. Student wellbeing is a priority at UWE with support services available:

UWE: http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/healthandwellbeing.aspx

Professional/ academic support and mentoring will be the responsibility of the programme team and students will be allocated individual tutors for support and guidance. In addition, student advisors are available to provide guidance in directing students to university resources and support services.

Description of the teaching resources provided for students

Delivery of the programme will utilise appropriate academic tutors from UWE and visiting professional practice specialists. In addition to this, a range of other learning resources and processes will be used, as indicated in the module specifications. There is a comprehensive induction programme which introduces the students to the programme, and the university facilities.

The majority of contact time will be facilitated practical activities designed to meet the CIEH PPP intervention areas. Where a practical activity will not meet the PPP intervention requirements, virtual activities will be used, e.g. Second Life to undertake a virtual investigation into a food poisoning.

Guidance to students on the programme is provided by the Programme Leader who is supported by the teaching team. Issues relating to groups of students will be addressed through the programme management committee that includes student representatives, the Programme Leader, Module Leaders and teaching team. For all students, access to academic staff is via email, telephone or drop-in.

Description of any Distinctive Features

The MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice is a unique programme, and the first of its type to be offered nationally. It has been developed in close collaboration with the CIEH and enables students to achieve the professional practice requirements of the CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP).

The programme not only contains the CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP), but also contains preparation for the CIEH professional interview. Upon graduation and successful completion of the PPP elements, students need only pass the CIEH professional interview in order to achieve full professional registration as an Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP).

Moreover, the programme provides students with relevant experience that will enhance them as graduates and benefit them on entry to the workplace. Graduates from this programme will therefore be uniquely placed to enter professional roles on successful completion of their studies.

Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support

Students are taught to assess the range of health determinants and to consider the most effective approach to dealing with impacts on public health. Strategies developed include their practicability in relation to effectiveness, cost benefit and equitability. The programme is delivered by tutors from a variety of disciplines and supported where appropriate by external practicing EHPs.

Part 5: Assessment

A: Approved to <u>University Regulations and Procedures</u> (See specific criteria below, agreed with CIEH at accreditation in 2016)

Assessment Strategy

Assessment strategy to enable the learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:

Assessment of PPP elements, which make up the majority of assessment in this programme, is guided by the CIEH. The CIEH expects that a pass mark of 50% will normally exist for each element of assessment within an accredited MSc programme. To pass the requirements for the CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP) a maximum of 1 fail in each of the Food Safety, Health and Safety, Environmental Protection and Housing and Health Modules (PPP fields) will be accepted. Therefore in each of the modules, students must pass three of the portfolio submissions with a minimum of 50%. There will be no compensated passes. There can be no fails in the Public Health Field. Students will be required to pass the UZVSQ?-45-M Public Health (Improvement and Protection) Project and the PH5 intervention.

To ensure equivalency between UWE student PPP submissions and PPP submissions to the CIEH, relevant work* submitted as part of this programme will be assessed with reference to the latest version of the CIEH 'Portfolio of Professional Practice Candidate Guide', incorporating the PPP matrices. At the time of writing this was Version 1.2: 22nd April 2013. The latest version is available here:

http://www.cieh.org/professional_development/ppp.html

The use of the CIEH Practice Guidance will be in addition to UWE marking criteria at the appropriate level.

*Relevant work means any assessment of PPP intervention fields.

A note on the PPP Public Health (Improvement and Protection) interventions

There are five Public Health interventions, in brief:

- PH1 Investigation into a public health problem requiring surveillance and assessment of wellbeing
- PH2 Assessment of the effectiveness of an intervention, programme or service
- PH3 Make a personal contribution to a strategy or policy
- PH4 Involvement in collaborative working which addresses a discrete problem that affects a community
- **PH5** Investigation of the exposure of a population to a communicable disease outbreak or an environmental hazard

Interventions PH1 to PH4 will be assessed by a project submission in the Public Health (Improvement and Protection) Project module (UZVSQJ-30-M).

Part 5: Assessment

PPP Public Health intervention PH5 will not be included as part of the project and will therefore be included in one of the other PPP intervention weeks. The PH5 intervention will be delivered in one of the following modules, with the selected module varying year-on-year in line with CIEH expectations:

- UZVSQL-30-M Housing
- UZVSQM-30-M Food Safety
- UZVSQK-30-M Health and Safety
- UZVSQH-30-M Environmental Protection

Where the PH5 intervention is included in one of the above modules, it will be assessed by the controlled interview element. See module specifications for details of the assessment.

Assessment Map

The programme encompasses the following **assessment methods**; controlled interviews, professional portfolio, and a substantial project. Assessment by these methods is a professional requirement of the CIEH. These are detailed in the following assessment map:

Assessment Map for MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice

			Type of Assessment*								
		Unseen Written Exam	Open Book Written Exam	In-class Written Test	Practical Exam	Practical Skills Assessment	Oral assessment and/or presentation	Written Assignment	Report / Project	Dissertation	Portfolio
Compulsory	Module No: UZVSQL-30-M						A (30)				B (70)
Modules Level 1	Module No: UZVSQK-30-M						A (30)				B (70)
	Module No: UZVSQM-30-M						A (30)				B (70)
	Module No: UZVSQH-30-M						A (30)				B (70)
	Module No: UZVRMT-15-M						A (100)				
	Module No: UZVRMN-45-M							A (25)	A (75)		

^{*}Assessment should be shown in terms of either Written Exams, Practical exams, or Coursework as indicated by the colour coding above.

Part 6: Programme Structure

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student**, including:

level and credit requirements

interim award requirements

module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

ENTRY		Compulsory modules	Optional modules	Interim awards
		UZVSQL-30-M Housing (PPP)	None	PG Certificate Applied Environmental Health
		UZVSQH-30-M Environmental Protection (PPP)		PG Diploma Applied Environmental Health
		UZVSQM-30-M Food Safety (PPP)		120 Credits
	YEAR 1	UZVSQK-30-M Health and Safety (PPP)		Neither of the above are CIEH accredited.
		UZVRMT-15-M Integrating Environmental Health Practice		
		UZVRMN-45-M Public Health (Improvement and Protection) Project (PPP)		

GRADUATION (MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice)

Part time:

The following structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **part time student**.

ENTRY		Compulsory modules	Optional modules	Interim awards
	1.1	UZVSQL-30-M Housing (PPP)	None	PG Certificate Applied Environmental Health
	YEAR 1.1	UZVSQH-30-M Environmental Protection (PPP)		60 Credits
	1.2	UZVSQM-30-M Food Safety (PPP)	None	PG Diploma Applied Environmental Health
	YEAR 1.2	UZVSQK-30-M Health and Safety (PPP)		120 Credits
	1.3	UZVRMT-15-M Integrating Environmental Health Practice	None	
	YEAR 1.3	UZVRMN-45-M Public Health (Improvement and Protection) Project (PPP)		

GRADUATION (MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice)

Part 7: Entry Requirements

The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions:

CIEH accredited BSc Hons or PgDip/MSc in Environmental Health. Students will also have to successfully pass an interview.

Part 8: Reference Points and Benchmarks

Referencing the QAA ESD guidance, the educational aims of the programme meet several of the expectations.

In relation to **knowledge and understanding** the programme will enable students to:

- Explore the impact of human activities on the living environment and health.
- Appreciate the relationship between structural, societal and lifestyle factors on the promotion of sustainable environments and human health on a local, regional, national and global scale.

In relation to **skills** students on the programme will, for example:

Engage with Public and Environmental Health practice in a variety of settings.

In relation to attributes students on the programme will, for example:

- Identify and judge risk, and assess human health outcomes selecting the most appropriate intervention option from a range of possible solutions.
- Acquire field, laboratory, investigative and analytical skills in order to undertake independent investigations and analyses of public and environmental health problems.
- The opportunity to experience the full range of activities required by CIEH Curriculum 2011 evidenced in the Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP).

The design of the programme adheres to QAA quality code and subject bench marking has been updated with an increased focus on sustainability within core modules to reflect the changes to Earth sciences, environmental sciences and environmental studies bench marking statements of 2014.

Other external reference points are academic, subject and professional body engagements which include CIEH, government bodies and agencies, local government and employer links. Specifically:

- Substantial professional body engagement through the planning process for this programme. The programme complies with the CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice requirements of CIEH curriculum 2011.
- Consultation on standards for specialist public health and for public health practice standards.
- Staff external activities and academic and professional practice input to environmental and public health at national, regional and local level.

Also considered during the development stage:

- <u>UWE Assessment Cycle Policy</u>: Compliance with the UWE <u>Assessment Cycle Policy</u>.
 This is implicit in the development and delivery of the MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice programme.
- <u>UWE Technology Enhanced Learning Plan</u>: e-Learning and the Technology Enhanced Learning Plan are familiar to staff. Developments have taken place with to develop simulated activities through Second Life and this is a feature in some of the contributing modules. This is convergent with UWE Technology Enhanced Learning

Part 8: Reference Points and Benchmarks

Plan, moreover the Library+ commitment to access of e-Learning resources also reflects a commitment to innovative accessible and user-friendly resources.

 <u>UWE Employability Strategy</u>: the UWE Employability Strategy was used as a reference point in the planning of this programme. The employability of MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice graduates is central to the purpose of the programme.

Alignment with UWE 2020 Strategy The university's core purpose is focused on advancing knowledge, inspiring people, transforming futures. Its ambition for 2020 will be based around being known internationally as the leading university in the UK for:

- Professionally accredited and practice-orientated programmes, which generate excellent employment opportunities and outcomes for students from all backgrounds
- Working with our local and regional economy, businesses and communities, to advance knowledge, addressing the critical local and global issues and enhancing the health, wealth and prosperity of the Bristol city region and the West of England
- Being digitally advanced, agile and responsive in the way we work, embracing and leading change and the development of new opportunities
- Being inclusive and global in outlook and approach. The MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice programme aligns to this strategic ambition through:
- Outstanding learning ensuring that students experience outstanding learning, teaching and support services, fully utilising advances in technology.
- Ready and able graduates Our Environmental Health Professional Practice graduates will be ready and able to realise their ambitions, make a positive contribution to society and their chosen field of employment or further study and play their full part in society and the global knowledge economy. The MSc Environmental Health Professional Practice meets the accreditation requirements of the CIEH, the professional body for Environmental Health Practitioners. Students satisfactorily completing the programme will also have completed the CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice, essential to becoming a professionally registered Environmental Health Practitioner. Employment opportunities for EHPs are diverse and global.

All of the above were considered during the development stage of this programme. Practice-based learning takes place throughout the programme, as defined by the CIEH Portfolio of Professional Practice (PPP).

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications, available on the University's website.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

First CAP Approva	I Date	Special CAP event 29 th & 30 th June 2016 – approval noted at Faculty CAP 1 February 2017							
Revision CAP Approval Date			Version	1	MIA 10563				
Next Periodic Curriculum Review due date									
Date of last Periodic Curriculum Review									