



Programme Specification

Public and Environmental Health [UCW]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Public and Environmental Health [UCW]

Highest award: BSc (Hons) Public and Environmental Health

Interim award: BSc Public and Environmental Health

Interim award: DipHE Public and Environmental Health

Interim award: CertHE Public and Environmental Health

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Affiliated institutions: University Centre Weston

Teaching institutions: University Centre Weston

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Health and Social Wellbeing, College of Health, Science & Society

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Part-time

Entry requirements:

For implementation from: 01 September 2020

Programme code: L51B00

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The programme will provide the underpinning knowledge, skills and behaviours to enable students to embark upon a multi-faceted career in public and environmental health. The programme is aligned to the required standards of The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Professional Standards Framework, and will enable graduates to progress to the CIEH Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner Programme.

A CIEH accredited degree is often required by employers, especially in the public sector. As a result of these factors, the programme will prepare graduates for employment in Public or Environmental Health in either the public or private sectors.

The content of the programme is designed around the five main areas of Public and Environmental Health, which are: food safety; health and safety; environmental protection; housing; and public health. All of this requires a knowledge of relevant domestic and international legislation and a strong scientific knowledge. The programme will prepare graduates for work as a specialist in one or more of these areas, or as a more general professional who can work across them all.

As students progress through the programme the level of cognitive demand will increase, alongside their ability to function in the professional field. This latter aspect is addressed by exposure to scenarios, field visits, and problem-solving activities. Gaining experience in the workplace is strongly advocated and placements can be arranged. These aspects will allow students to relate developing cognitive knowledge to real life situations to bring about resolutions to environmental issues which affect people's health.

The programme will capitalise on University Centre Weston's (UCW) resources and the local environment to provide students with sound knowledge and experience, and to amalgamate academic and 'real world' aspects. Resources and their uses include laboratories for scientific work and also food quality assessments, their local built environment for housing inspections and various UCW facilities for health and safety inspections.

Students will also benefit from professional networks and regular guest contributions from speakers who are experts in their fields, from close involvement with local authorities and private sector employers, and from close interaction with CIEH and Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH). By ensuring that there are regular and frequent contributions from professional environmental health practitioners, and interaction with relevant organisations, the programme will remain current and of optimal relevance. This will also ensure that academic work is continually placed in the appropriate professional contexts.

Features of the programme: The programme is professionally accredited by the CIEH and the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH). This will mean that the programme has the professional recognition often required by Public and Environmental Health employers, particularly those in the public sector.

Students may elect to become members of the CIEH at any time at an appropriate grade. The cost of membership is available online at: <https://www.cieh.org/membership/>. Upon completion of the accredited programme students will be entitled to embark upon the Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner Programme with CIEH, and so work towards Chartered status.

Students may also elect to become members of IOSH at any time at an appropriate grade. The cost of membership is available online at: <https://iosh.com/get-involved/membership>.

The programme may incorporate a number of field trips which may include visits to food and/or drinks manufacturers, field tests for air and water pollution levels, health and safety-oriented visits to various facilities, surveys of housing, noise level monitoring surveys, and kitchen inspections.

The delivery of the programme will involve several local private and public sector employers. The programme team have very good relationships with local employers who visit UCW to run workshops or take guest lectures and may provide field trip

opportunities. Students are encouraged to access work-based learning opportunities with employers as much as possible.

Educational Aims: The programme will equip students with the knowledge and attributes necessary to establish careers in Public and Environmental Health in the public or private sectors.

To enable students to fulfill the academic and professional requirements of the CIEH, and to position students for further academic and professional development.

To enable students to contribute to the Public and Environmental Health professions in their need to develop a workforce for the future which continues to preserve the health of the public and reduce demands on front line health services.

To take a multi-disciplinary approach to Public and Environmental Health which preserves public safety, and which assesses risk to the public of accidents and ill health and then adopts courses of action which mitigate risk.

To appreciate the wider social determinants of health and act to reduce health inequalities.

To maintain academic and professional ethical standards which are congruent with those expected by employers, academic institutions, and the public and environmental health professions.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1. Show critical analysis in all areas of Public and Environmental Health and in how these different areas relate to each other.

- PO2. Meet the expectations of the CIEH Professional Standards Framework in obtaining and analysing data, and in combination with the legislative framework and regulatory standards which underpin Public and Environmental Health, achieve compliance or instigate prosecution.
- PO3. In line with the CIEH Professional Standards Framework, accurately assess the risk created by problems related to Public and Environmental Health, and develop and evaluate solutions to these problems through a process of 'inspection, identification, investigation, planning and action'.
- PO4. Achieve a high standard of personal behaviours and reflective professionalism which adheres to the professional expectations of CIEH, including the ability to communicate advice and guidance to partner organisations to achieve appropriate interventions.
- PO5. Demonstrate competency in a range of transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, number work, and use of IT.
- PO6. Show critical evaluation in assessing the various scientific, sociological, political and economic factors indicated in the CIEH Professional Standards Framework which affect the health of individuals and communities.
- PO7. Competently apply theoretical knowledge in the professional Public and Environmental Health workplace.
- PO8. Comprehend and implement academic and professional ethical standards which are congruent with those expected by employers, academic institutions, and the public and environmental health professions.

Assessment strategy: The types of assessments used throughout the programme will enable students to develop, utilise and demonstrate a range of academic skills and transferable skills. The range of assessment types will ensure that students are required to complete work in several different formats, and this requires intellectual dexterity. It also ensures that all students receive equitable treatment, as no student will be unduly advantaged or disadvantaged due to excessive repetition of format.

Several assignments will require students to take part in field-based activities or laboratory-based experiments and complete reports on data collected. This approach will enable students to take part in primary data collection and as much as possible participate in simulated activities of Public and Environmental Health professionals.

The type of assessments include: essays; laboratory experiments and reports; field work surveys and reports; research; examinations; presentations; personal reflections; portfolios; inspections and reports; and health promotion campaigns. As part of the programme design process, module leaders have identified the most appropriate assessment approach which best suits the nature of the module and aligns to the learning outcomes of the module.

The assessments will ensure that the professional 'behaviours and functional competencies' outlined in the CIEH Professional Standards Framework are fulfilled. The inclusion of these aspects in the programme is a requirement of CIEH.

Student support: Student support is provided by the Higher Education Academic Registry Team (HEART) and includes support with mental health and wellbeing; students with a specific learning difference and financial issues. The Higher Education Library Plus (HE.LP) team provides students with support with academic writing, referencing and plagiarism, designed to equip students with the necessary skills to reach their full potential. Where particular needs are identified, students may be allocated a learning mentor. In addition to these support services, students will also have a programme tutor.

Students will receive invitations to local CIEH activities such as workshops, continuing professional development (CPD) events and meetings. The programme team will maintain a close relationship with the CIEH and students will (if members) receive regular communications from CIEH advising of updated professional information, training opportunities and career prospects.

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYB6-30-1	Environmental Health Law 2025-26	30
UZVYB5-30-1	Environmental Impact 2025-26	30
UZVYB7-30-1	Introduction to Professional Practice 2025-26	30
UZVYB8-30-1	Principles of Public Health 2025-26	30

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYB6-30-1	Environmental Health Law 2025-26	30
UZVYB5-30-1	Environmental Impact 2025-26	30
UZVYB7-30-1	Introduction to Professional Practice 2025-26	30

Year 2

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYBA-30-2	Environmental Protection 2026-27	30
UZVYBB-30-2	Food Control 2026-27	30

UZVYBC-30-2	Health, Safety and Risk 2026-27	30
UZVYBD-30-2	Housing and the Built Environment 2026-27	30

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYBA-30-2	Environmental Protection 2026-27	30
UZVYBB-30-2	Food Control 2026-27	30
UZVYB8-30-1	Principles of Public Health 2026-27	30

Year 3

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYBE-40-3	Environmental Health Project 2027-28	40
UZVYBF-20-3	Professional Practice 2027-28	20
UZVYBH-30-3	Public Health in Action 2027-28	30
UZVYBJ-30-3	Risk Management Systems 2027-28	30

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYBC-30-2	Health, Safety and Risk 2027-28	30

UZVYBD-30-2	Housing and the Built Environment 2027-28	30
UZVYBH-30-3	Public Health in Action 2027-28	30

Year 4

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)

Part time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYBE-40-3	Environmental Health Project 2028-29	40
UZVYBF-20-3	Professional Practice 2028-29	20
UZVYBJ-30-3	Risk Management Systems 2028-29	30

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

The programme equips students with the knowledge and professional attributes necessary to advance their careers in public and environmental health either as generalist or specialist practitioners. The programme is accredited by The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.

Subjects included are applied sciences, human sciences, law, business, mathematics, interpersonal skills, technical skills and ethics. Students are taught to deploy these to achieve optimal public and environmental health outcomes. Students will also develop a range of transferable skills and will develop reflective and self-analytical attributes.

Students are taught to take a risk-based approach to public and environmental health, to gather information, and prescribe actions which mitigate risk. This includes use of legislation to achieve compliance or prosecution.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme complies with the CIEH Professional Standards Framework. This requires that specified professional competencies and knowledge areas are included in the programme and all of these have been accommodated (see the attached mapping document).

This programme has been designed to embed the principles, knowledge, application and skills outlined in the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, and the Subject Benchmark Statements for Health Studies (2024), Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences (2024), Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Environmental Studies (2022), Land, Construction, Real Estate and Surveying (2024).

Part E: Regulations

A: Approved to University Regulations and Procedures