

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIostatISTICS

JC School of Public Health and Primary Care The Chinese University of Hong Kong

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIostatISTICS

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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Epidemiology and biostatistics have been gaining increasing worldwide prominence as cutting-edge disciplines of medical research. Today, both clinical and non-clinical health professionals need to provide evidence-based decisions for patient care, public health interventions and public health policies. The courses aim to provide comprehensive training in the design, conduct, and analysis of clinical and non-clinical health research and to interpret and use findings from such studies for patient care and policy making. Since there is emphasis on clinical epidemiology and interpretation of epidemiological research results, the courses are also particularly popular for those who wish to master critical appraisal skills for evidence-based medicine.

RECOGNITION

The Medical Council of Hong Kong recognises both the Master of Science and Postgraduate Diploma in Epidemiology and Biostatistics as quotable qualifications. Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits for non-specialists can also be obtained.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

- Those planning to conduct applied clinical and health research such as surveys, clinical trials, observational studies, and systematic reviews in order to address practical issues in health care
- Those needing to interpret and apply research findings for evidence-based patient care and health-related decision making
- Those seeking biostatistics proficiency for application to lab-based biomedical research or epidemiology research

HOW TO APPLY

Applications can be submitted via the Graduate School online application system at <http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk>

**International students are advised to apply as early as possible as visa applications can take a considerable length of time*

CAREER BENEFITS

Our programmes have been cited as being greatly instrumental to our students' career development. Many graduates have advanced to senior clinical, research, academic and administrative positions after completing our programmes. Some of our graduates have changed to research careers in academic and governmental organisations while others have continued onto doctoral studies. The majority of our past students have been:

- Clinicians (including clinical professors)
- Allied health workers
- Physiotherapists
- Public health professionals
- Health managers
- Professionals from the pharmaceutical field
- Nurses
- Laboratory technicians

STUDY PERIOD

- Master of Science in Epidemiology and Biostatistics: 1 year (Full-time)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Epidemiology and Biostatistics: 10 months (Part-time)

TUITION FEES

- Master of Science in Epidemiology and Biostatistics: HKD 187,200
- Postgraduate Diploma in Epidemiology and Biostatistics: HKD 93,600



ACADEMIC YEAR CALENDAR

Period	Academic Calendar
Term 1	September - December
Term 2	January - March
Term 3	April - June
Summer Term	July

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

There will be no entry examinations but applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Bachelor's honours degree (normally not lower than second-class lower division honours, or B grade)
- Fulfil the general qualification for admission and English Language Requirements as stipulated on the CUHK Graduate School website

ADMISSIONS TIMELINE & DEADLINE

Application for following academic year opens

- Priority Rounds (Full-time): May 1
- Final Rounds (Full-time): May 28
- Priority Rounds (Part-time): Mar 15
- Final Rounds (Part-time): May 31

Applications will be processed on a rolling basis; Early application is therefore highly advantageous.

According to CUHK Graduate School Regulation, HKD 300 application fee is mandatory for all programmes. All payments go directly to Graduate School and are non-refundable.

*Non-Hong Kong residents should apply for the full-time MSc programme instead of part-time programmes due to visa requirements.

*Adjustment and changes may apply without prior notice, please visit our programme website for updated information.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme	Required Credit Units
MSc	36
PgD	18

Course	Units
Introduction to Biostatistics	3
Linear Models	2
Categorical & Survival Data Analysis	3
Introduction to Epidemiology	3
Epidemiology II	2
Epidemiology III	3
Protocol Development I	1
Protocol Development II	1
Protocol Development III	1
Introduction to Epidemiology	3
Linear Models	2
Categorical & Survival Data Analysis	3
Introduction to Epidemiology	3
Epidemiology II	2
Epidemiology III	3
Protocol Development I	1
Protocol Development II	1
Protocol Development III	1
Selected Topics in Epidemiology of Epidemiological Studies	1.5
Appraisal of the Methods of Clinical Trials	2
Research Thesis	7
Elective courses	4

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Programme Director: Professor Jean KIM
 Programme Co-Director: Professor Maggie WANG
 Assistant Programme Director: Professor Joey YANG

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

1 year full-time / 2 years part-time

Required Credit Units: 36

Required Credit Units: 18

Introduction to Biostatistics

Linear Models

Categorical & Survival Data Analysis

Introduction to Epidemiology

Epidemiology II

Epidemiology III

Protocol Development I

Protocol Development II

Protocol Development III

Selected Topics in Epidemiology of Epidemiological Studies

Appraisal of the Methods of Clinical Trials

Research Thesis

Elective courses

To be taken in the first year of study for MSc (Part-time) students

• Teaching sessions take place over three terms in an academic year. Additional symposia, seminars and workshops are also offered as non-compulsory sessions to allow more exposure to advanced or related topics. The lesson is usually held in the JC School of Public Health building at the Prince of Wales Hospital and the main campus of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

I found the structure of the courses is reasonable and the objectives are quite clear and definite. More importantly, the postgraduate programme provided theoretical knowledge for my current job, which focuses on the statistical issues of clinical trials. In addition, the great deal of library sources acted as supplement for the lectures. And I have to mention that the professors and tutors helped us a lot in our study and thesis.

Ms Zhen-zhen LIANG
Statistical Programmer,
Statistical Programming,
PARAXEL International

Samples and populations; statistics and its interpretation – these were what I learnt 10 years ago, and I still find them immensely useful in reading medical literature. Equipped with this knowledge I was able to explore a whole new world of 'macro-medicine', especially in cancer epidemiology. My understanding of epidemiology and statistics were indispensable tools in past years, during my work as the Director of the Hong Kong Cancer Registry.

Dr William FOO
Specialist in
Clinical Oncology, Director,
Radiotherapy and Oncology Centre,
Hong Kong Baptist Hospital

This Master's program provided theoretical knowledge of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Through one year's study, I have learned both key concepts and the applications of those concepts which had been ignored in my previous study. Under the help of dedicated professors, tutors and coordinator, I can continue my academic career now. I strongly recommend this program to all interested students.

Ms Xiao-ran HAN
PhD Candidate,
JC School of Public Health
and Primary Care,
CUHK

SHARING OF LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Dr Kin-sun TSE
Associate Consultant,
Department of Radiology and Imaging,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital

This Postgraduate Diploma course in Epidemiology and Biostatistics has been a precious learning experience! Biostatistics has been a difficult topic in the medical curriculum. This course has equipped me with the key concepts and technical tools in epidemiology and biostatistics. Through different learning modes in this course, namely lectures, small group tutorials, computer workshops, assignments and protocol design, I have put the theories and principles into practice. In the era of evidence-based medicine, this course has laid the foundation for critical appraisals and decision making in daily clinical practice, as well as study design and statistical analysis in research. It also provides the basis for public health-related studies and career development. I have no hesitation in recommending this course to all medical and para-medical colleagues, and those who are interested in this field!

Dr James CHOW
Associate Consultant,
Department of Clinical Oncology,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital

This course provides comprehensive coverage from basic to advanced topics in epidemiology and biostatistics. The course components were flexible and tailored for individual needs, all study materials were well thought out and organised. As a clinician, I found the whole programme exceedingly relevant to my practice. Not only did it greatly improve my critical appraisal skills, it also equipped me with broad but in-depth knowledge in the design and conduct of biomedical research. I was pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm of the teaching faculty - all professors and instructors were passionate and highly attentive to students' needs. I highly recommend this course to any healthcare professionals who are interested in further academic pursuit in this field.