



**THE SAHLGRENSKA ACADEMY**

G 2015/132

**Programme syllabus for the  
Master's Programme in Global Health, 120 credits**

Confirmed by the Sahlgrenska Academy Board  
23/09/2015

### **1. Name and scope**

Programme syllabus for the Master's Programme in Global Health, 120 credits. (Masterprogram i global hälsa, 120 högskolepoäng.) Programme code: V2GLH.

### **2. Confirmation**

The programme syllabus for the Master's Programme in Global Health, 120 credits, was confirmed by the Sahlgrenska Academy Board, the University of Gothenburg, on 23/09/2015. The programme syllabus applies from 01/09/2016 onwards.

The Institute of Medicine is responsible for the programme. The following departments are also involved: the School of Global Studies and the Department of Social Work from the Faculty of Social Sciences, the Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion from the Faculty of Arts, the Department of Economics from the School of Business, Economics and Law, and the School of Health and Education from the University of Skövde.

### **3. The aims of the programme**

The local profile of the programme is its interdisciplinary approach to global health and global development issues, which is achieved through both teaching staff and students having backgrounds in different disciplines.

The aims of the programme are:

- that students should acquire deeper knowledge and an analytical ability of relevance to the subject of global health. The intention is that knowledge, approaches to knowledge, theories and methods from the different disciplines responsible for the programme should be integrated into the courses to give students an understanding of the complexity of the subject;

- that there should be a particular emphasis on critical analysis, problem-solving ability and the ability to integrate knowledge from the different subject areas when formulating health policy and health interventions;

- to illuminate, analyse and problematise the uneven spread of health and to equip students to be able to carry out interventions in practice;

- to integrate aspects of sustainable development, human rights and orders of power related to age, gender, ethnicity and socioeconomic groups when analysing the determining factors of health and when formulating interventions to promote good health;

- to equip students with knowledge and abilities that make them suitable for a professional career within public sector, private sector and idea-driven organisations, at international, national and local levels;

- to lead to a Master's degree and to prepare students for continued studies at third-cycle level.

### **4. Degrees to which the programme leads**

On completion of the 120 credit programme, a degree certificate will be issued at the request of the student with the designation 'Medicine masterexamen i huvudområdet global hälsa' (Degree of Master of Medical Science with a major in Global Health).

### **5. The main area of the programme**

The main area of the programme is global health.

## **6. Objectives**

In addition to the general objectives stated in the Swedish Higher Education Act (SFS 1992:1434) and the learning objectives of the Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 1993:100), Appendix 2, Degree Ordinance, the education has the following local learning objectives:

### *Knowledge and understanding*

For a Master's degree, students shall:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding within the interdisciplinary field of global health, as well as a deeper insight into current research and development work;
- demonstrate deeper methodological knowledge within quantitative and qualitative methods that are relevant to the subject of global health;
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the impact of health economic aspects on global health developments;
- describe distribution, discrimination, health and social poverty issues with both local and global perspectives;
- define the concepts of sustainable development and human rights and their historical development within a global context.

### *Skills and abilities*

For a Master's degree, students shall:

- be able to critically and systematically integrate knowledge from different disciplines and be able to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, questions and situations relating to health;
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate questions within the main area in order to be able to plan and use adequate methods to carry out advanced tasks within given time frames, and be able to evaluate this work;
- identify, formulate, discuss and account for issues relating to fairness and health from local to global level;
- compile and differentiate between information about sustainable development from a global perspective;
- demonstrate the skill required to participate in research and development work or to work independently in other advanced activities.

### *Judgement and approach*

For a Master's degree, students shall:

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments within the subject of global health, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, and demonstrate an awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work;
- reflect on the interaction between social, political and economic equality and inequality in relation to physical and mental health, i.e. the relationship between people's opportunities for fair and good living conditions and health outcomes;
- reflect on the link between ecological, economic and socially sustainable development and global health developments;
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need for further knowledge and to take responsibility for their knowledge development.

## **7. Content and structure**

The programme is aimed at students with a Bachelor's degree or equivalent, worth 180 credits, who wish to specialise within the field of global health. The programme is based on integrating several

scientific perspectives in order to give students an understanding that the areas of knowledge of various disciplines are needed in order to understand and be able to carry out actions within the field of global health. The programme is founded on a problematised approach towards the subject, and provides theoretical and practical skills in order to be able to work in a politico-economic reality in which the aim is to eradicate absolute poverty and to achieve a higher degree of equal health.

The programme is carried out on a full-time basis, and includes the following courses. Courses worth 90 credits are given within the main area of global health, and these are marked with an asterisk.

|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| Semester 1 | Global health challenges in an interdisciplinary context, 15 HEC*                             | Quantitative methods, 10 HEC<br>Qualitative methods, 5 HEC |
| Semester 2 | Governing health and illness in a global perspective, 15 HEC*                                 | Global health economics, 15 HEC*                           |
| Semester 3 | Disease prevention and health promotion in vulnerable groups; strategies and methods, 15 HEC* | Social epidemiology and biostatistics, 15 HEC              |
| Semester 4 | Degree project in global health, 30 HEC*  |  |

The programme consists of compulsory courses worth 120 credits. The order in which the courses are given within the relevant semester is subject to change.

### **8. Entrance requirements**

In order to be accepted for the Master's Programme in Global Health, students must meet the basic entrance requirements, hold a Bachelor's degree worth 180 credits in a social sciences/health sciences/economics/arts main area or equivalent and English B/English 6 at upper secondary level or equivalent IELTS 6.5 where no section may be less than 5.5, or TOEFL 575 points, TWE 4.5 points.

### **9. Guaranteed places**

Students who have been accepted for the Master's programme, follow the programme at the prescribed pace, apply for the programme's courses and meet the entrance requirements are guaranteed a place on all compulsory courses within the programme.

### **10. Transitional provisions**

The programme syllabus applies for all students on the programme from autumn semester 2016 onwards.

### **11. Other information**

The teaching language for courses within the programme will be English.

#### *Costs*

In connection with study visits and similar activities, costs may arise for travel, accommodation, etc. Free alternatives to participation in compulsory activities will be offered.

Work placements and equivalent work-based education may involve additional costs for travel and accommodation.

### *Evaluation of the programme*

Students will be offered the opportunity to evaluate each individual course included in the programme, both orally and in writing. These evaluations will form the basis for the ongoing development of the programme. The evaluations will be compiled in written form and will be fed back to students together with the course leaders' comments. There will also be written and oral evaluation of the entire programme.