

Programme Title: Dental Public Health



## Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	Master of Science (MSc) Dental Public Health
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	One year FT
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	A4U3
QAA Benchmark Group	Not applicable
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	
Date Programme Specification Approved	
Responsible School / Institute	Institute of Dentistry

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

### Programme Outline

This full time programme includes 8 taught modules and a research project module. It covers aspects of theory and practice relevant to the discipline of Dental Public Health. As well as introducing key concepts in public health, the modules build knowledge and skills in primary research, evidence-based dentistry, healthcare planning, the epidemiology of oral diseases, social aspects of health and ill health, and oral health promotion.

The programme is delivered using lectures, seminars, practical sessions, placements in public health bodies and through fieldwork during the research project. Students will also spend a time working independently.

### Aims of the Programme

This programme aims to:

1. Provide a thorough grounding in the principles and practice of dental public health
2. Develop students' ability to design, conduct and report research
3. Encourage students to develop their critical faculties, work independently and improve their problem solving skills
4. Enable students to play an active part in the practice of dental public health

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### What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

Academic Content:	
A 1	Explain the principles of dental public health
A 2	Describe and discuss the epidemiology of oral diseases in the UK and globally
A 3	Explain the common research paradigms and different methods involved in conducting research
A 4	Discuss the ethical considerations in conducting research
A 5	Explain how to use statistical tests in designing and analysing research
A 6	Discuss social and behavioural aspects of health and illness
A 7	Describe an evidence-based approach to decision-making
A 8	Explain different approaches to oral health promotion
A 9	Describe, and evaluate the challenges of, healthcare planning

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	Develop and implement a primary research project including asking a clear research question, conducting a literature review, writing a protocol, gaining ethical approval, conducting fieldwork and analysing the quantitative and / or qualitative data
B 2	Effectively identify and critically evaluate research
B 3	Analyse quantitative data using simple statistical tests
B 4	Create clear and effective presentations for lay and professional audiences
B 5	Develop a systematic approach to planning and evaluating healthcare services
B 6	Develop oral health promotion strategies

Attributes:	
C 1	Develop effective spoken and written English and in particular be able to write in an academic style appropriate to the field
C 2	Explain and argue clearly and concisely
C 3	Use communication technologies effectively
C 4	Grasp the research principles and practices of the field of study
C 5	Apply analytical skills whilst investigating unfamiliar problems
C 6	Work individually and collaboratively with others
C 7	Develop a strong sense of intellectual integrity
C 8	Acquire substantial bodies of knowledge

### How Will You Learn?

The programme uses a combination of self-directed learning (e.g. by reading recommended texts, completing online work), interactive lectures and seminars, coursework, presentations and research fieldwork. Students will be expected to read key texts and texts relevant to their coursework and research projects.

### How Will You Be Assessed?

Students will be assessed using various strategies to allow assessment of knowledge and skills, as well as to encourage learning and new skill development. The assessments are: written examinations, oral presentations, practical assessments, coursework, a research project dissertation and project viva.

### How is the Programme Structured?

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

All of the modules are mandatory.

The Principles of Dental Public Health, Qualitative Research Methods and Oral Epidemiology modules will run in semester 1 only.

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The Fundamentals of Research Methods module will begin in semester 1 and continue into semester 2.

The Social and Behavioural Sciences, Oral Health Promotion and Evidence-Based Dentistry modules will run in semester 2

The Principles of Healthcare Planning module will run in semester 3.

Students will undertake a research project in the research areas covered by the department. Projects and supervisors are determined in the first semester with protocol development completed by the end of the semester and fieldwork beginning in the latter half of semester 2, continuing into semester 3.

### Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Principles of Dental Public Health	DIN7097	15	7	Core	1	Semester 1
Fundamentals of Research Methods	DIN7011	15	7	Core	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Oral epidemiology	DIN7201	15	7	Core	1	Semester 1
Qualitative research methods	DIN7096	15	7	Core	1	Semester 1
Evidence-based dentistry and critical appraisal	DIN7056	15	7	Core	1	Semester 2
Social and behavioural sciences	DIN7204	15	7	Core	1	Semester 2
Oral health promotion theory and practice	DIN7203	15	7	Core	1	Semester 2
Principles of healthcare planning	DIN7202	15	7	Core	1	Semester 3
Research project	DIN7057	60	7	Core	1	Semesters 1-3

### What Are the Entry Requirements?

We acknowledge professional practice gained from a wide variety of relevant backgrounds. We also require a minimum of two year's post qualification full-time experience, in addition to having a recognised degree.

Proficiency in written and spoken English is essential and non-native English speakers are required to have a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 or an IBTOEFL score of 92.

## How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

Feedback is sought from students by a variety of means. Internal mechanisms include:  
Informal staff/student discussions  
Student-Staff Liaison Committees (SSLCs)  
Student Module Evaluation

Nationally Queen Mary participates in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey, the results of which help us to improve the course in subsequent years.

## Academic Support

Students undergo an induction week at the start of the programme.

Module leads and module teachers are available to offer academic support and research project supervisors provide support during the research project.

## Programme-specific Rules and Facts

## Specific Support for Disabled Students

## Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

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## Programme Specification Approval

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**Person completing Programme Specification**

**Person responsible for management of programme**

**Date Programme Specification produced/amended  
by School Learning and Teaching Committee**

**Date Programme Specification approved by  
Taught Programmes Board**