Graduate Diploma in Public Health (PU60)

Year offered: 2011
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 020306E
Course duration (full-time): 2 semesters
Course duration (part-time): 4 semesters
Course duration (external): 2 semesters (full-time) or 4 semesters (part-time)
Domestic Fees (indicative): 2011: Full fee tuition $7,875 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2011: $11,125 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February and July
International Entry: February and July
Total credit points: 96
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48

Course coordinator: Enquiries to sph.studentcentre@qut.edu.au or phone 07 3138 3368
Campus: Kelvin Grove and External

Study areas
Specialised stream units are available in the areas of:
- Emergency and Disaster Management *
- Epidemiology and Research Methods #
- Health Promotion
- Health Services Management
- Occupational and Environmental Health Sciences
- Public Health Nutrition

* The units in this study area are currently only offered in second semester
# Some units in this study area are only available in internal mode

There is also the option of not completing a major and choosing units from more than one stream.

Course Structure
Full-time students in the program undertake a coursework component for two semesters (or four semesters part-time - two units per semester). The coursework comprises four core units (Part A) and four advanced elective units (Part B). Elective units will normally be selected according to choice of a stream of study.

Course Articulation
This course fully articulates into the Master of Public Health.

Students who complete the four core units (Part A) may apply to take early exit from the course with a Graduate Certificate in Public Health.

International Student Entry
International students may only enrol in full-time studies. International students may not enrol in the Emergency and Disaster Management Study Area, as it is available part-time only. They may enrol in this major in HL88 Master of Health Science.

Limits on grades of 3
A new policy concerning grades of 3 came into effect from 1 January 2009 (QUT MOPP C/5.2). With effect from this date grades of 3 are no longer considered a conceded or low pass but are classified as a fail grade. Any grades of 3 awarded prior to 1 January 2009 retain the conceded pass status and will be counted for graduation purposes up to the maximum number of grades of 3 permitted for your course. Grades of 3 incurred in units that commence after 1 January 2009 will not count towards your degree. Further information is available on the Student Services website

Further information
For more information about this course, please contact the School of Public Health on +617 3138 5878 or email sph.studentcentre@qut.edu.au

Course structure

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<tr>
<th>Part A - Core Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUN105</td>
<td>Health Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUN640</td>
<td>Health Care Delivery and Reform</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUN106</td>
<td>Population Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>HLN710</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Epidemiology and Research Design</td>
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Electives are chosen according to a Study Area; however a cross specialisation may be undertaken.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part B - Advanced elective units</th>
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<tr>
<td>PUN210</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Health Management</td>
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<td>PUN211</td>
<td>Health Care Finance and Economics</td>
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<td>PUN212</td>
<td>Understanding Health Information</td>
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<td>PUN213</td>
<td>Introduction to Quality Management in Health</td>
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<td>PUN688</td>
<td>International Health Policy and Management</td>
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<td>PUN632</td>
<td>Leadership in Health Management</td>
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Students must complete any 4 of the following units.
Potential Careers:
Community Health Officer, Health Promotion Officer, Policy Officer, Project Manager, Public Health Officer.

UNIT SYNOPSISES

HLN405 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH
This unit addresses a range of qualitative methodologies and methods which represent alternative approaches to the application of the quantitative paradigm in health science research. The predominance of the natural sciences in nursing/health research has come into question in recent times and thus the unit introduces students to the origins of such challenges, to the knowledge bases of the alternative approaches to investigating the microsocial world of health/illness and to the relevant research methods. The unit comprises a series of lectures, seminar presentations and relevant readings.

Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

HLN706 ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS
The content of this unit builds on the basic statistics background assumed of students. A unifying theme is the concept of sources of variation in collected data, how proper design of study and measurement instruments minimises some sources of variation (error), how analytical techniques account for other sources, and finally the issue of introduced error that cannot be accounted for, but must be addressed in discussion of results. Analytical strategies for modelling health data are compared, and practical experience focuses on the analysis and interpretation of various data sets.

Prerequisites: PUN105  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 4 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

HLN710 FUNDAMENTALS OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND RESEARCH DESIGN
This unit introduces you to the fundamentals of epidemiology and quantitative research design. It addresses the collection and interpretation of epidemiological data, introduces measures of disease occurrence and association, and contemporary issues of major importance in health. It provides you with essential skills for logical, scientific assessment of the health and medical literature. There will be a strong emphasis on applying concepts through critical reading of the literature and the development of a comprehensive research proposal as the main practical
exercise of the unit.
**Antirequisites:** HLN705, PUN743  **Credit points:** 12
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

**LWN164 HEALTH CARE LAW AND ETHICS**
The relationship between law and ethics in healthcare is important, but at times contested. This unit explores that relationship to lay the foundations of an understanding of law and ethics as they relate to healthcare.

**Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 26hrs in total
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  **Teaching period:** 2011 6TP2

**NSN424 EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE**
On successful completion of this unit students will be able to critically appraise systematic reviews of evidence and design projects for the implementation of evidence into practice. Content includes: Evidence-based terminology, principles and processes; incorporating evidence into practice; comparing and contrasting current practice with the most current evidence; modifying policies and procedures to be consistent with the evidence; use of audit results to identify areas of practice that are consistent with the evidence and those needing revision; formulating strategies for promoting the uptake of evidence-based practice.

**Credit points:** 12  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN001 CONTEMPORARY RISK MANAGEMENT**
This unit provides an introduction to the risk management process as outlined in AS/NZS 4360 risk management. The unit concentrates on the context of risk management and introduces the student to the concepts that will be explored further in other units. The structure of the organisation, its environment and the potential loss exposures are examined in some detail.

**Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PUN008 RISK ASSESSMENT**
This unit provides the skills necessary to identify and assess risks. Qualitative, semi-quantitative and quantitative methods of risk analysis are investigated in the context of the major perils likely to be considered by an organisation. Various risk analysis techniques including HAZOP, FMEA, hazard indices, fault trees, event trees, reliability analysis, statistical analysis, and probability are discussed.

**Prerequisites:** PUN001  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PUN103 ADVANCED EPIDEMIOLOGY**
This unit's aim is the mastery of key principles and concepts of research design. There has been an increasing demand for evidence based health research, and an increasing trend towards research that considers complex biological, environmental and societal inter-relationships. Recent developments in epidemiology have contributed novel research designs and statistical methods to complement these needs. Throughout this unit, students are exposed to these more sophisticated designs and analytical methods. Such knowledge is mandatory for critical evaluation of the current research literature, for design of efficient research studies, and to inform appropriate interpretation of research results at a 'best practice' level.

**Prerequisites:** PUB326 or HLN710  **Credit points:** 12
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN105 HEALTH STATISTICS**
Beyond a common core of statistical concepts, each discipline area emphasises its own set of descriptive and inferential statistical methods and even terminology. The content of this unit emphasises both core and health specific statistical methods in the health sciences. Students are provided with substantial practical experience in the application and interpretation of the most common statistical methods to health data, and are also made aware of data management principles in preparation for analysis. There is a strong emphasis on applying concepts through critical reading and discussion of the literature and worked examples from a range of topic areas.

**Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PUN106 POPULATION HEALTH**
This unit addresses some of the significant issues of population health including the complex relationship between health and social, economic, political and lifestyle factors and social disadvantage and health. It examines contemporary concepts of health and illness also draws on international examples. Potential health issues facing Australia and the world, such as the aging of the population, the impact of genetic technology on health and the health of specific sub-populations are also examined.

**Prerequisites:** PUBP10, PUN251  **Credit points:** 12
**Contact hours:** 3  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PUN210 FUNDAMENTALS OF HEALTH MANAGEMENT**
This unit will provides students as future health managers with an understanding of the principles of management in health, including financial management in health; human resource management principles in health including workforce design, recruitment, conflict management, individual and team performance management, and occupational health and safety; information management as it applies to health management; and listening, interpersonal communication, advocacy, and negotiation and mediation.
skills.
Credit points: 12  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PUN211 HEALTH CARE FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

The unit develops analytical skills and understanding of micro- and macro- economics as they apply to health and of accounting and financial management decision-making principles and processes. It offers an overview of the financial structure of the Australian Health Care system and the context in which it operates. It also offers an understanding of the basic concepts and tools of economic analysis and introduces concepts that are essential in understanding financial resource management, health and health care.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External
Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUN212 UNDERSTANDING HEALTH INFORMATION

This unit provides an introduction to the field of health information and its uses and applications in the health industry. It provides a context for the study of contemporary health information and data management practice. The use of information as a strategic, organisational and management resource is discussed, and a broad appreciation of health information and data management procedures and philosophy is provided. Demands on the users of health information occasioned by advances in information technology are highlighted.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External
Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUN213 INTRODUCTION TO QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN HEALTH

The aim of the unit is to assist students to develop the necessary knowledge and skills to develop a quality management program, perform quality improvement activities, and expand outcomes into process improvements and organisational change. Methods of health care performance measurement are explored, and a clinical quality framework model is introduced. Issues relating to administrative and clinical data quality, safety and privacy in an increasingly electronic health care environment are also considered.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External
Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUN301 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LAW AND MANAGEMENT

This unit introduces students to the history of occupational health and safety and the impact on occupational health and safety practice of the law, and industrial relations. The theory and practice of occupational health and safety management is discussed.

Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PUN363 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LAW

The purpose of this unit is to develop students who have a detailed understanding of the legislation and legislative frameworks and principles that form the foundation for environmental health practice. In particular, this unit will detail various legislative tools for the management of public health issues in different settings. The prosecution process and gathering of evidence will be discussed along with a detailed discussion on the environmental health practitioners role under the Public Health Act 2005, Environmental Protection Act 1994 and other related legislation. Major topics covered include: an introduction to law and government, public health law, planning and environmental law, local laws, investigation processes and procedures.

Assumed knowledge: PUN620 is assumed knowledge.
Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUN451 INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH DISASTER MANAGEMENT

This unit develops your knowledge of the principles of major incident response and your ability to manage such incidents. It covers the principles of major incident and disaster management; prevention, planning and preparation to the process of risk identification and management; operational frameworks for management of major incidents and disasters; and recovery arrangements.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External
Teaching period: 2011 5TP6

PUN452 HEALTH DISASTER PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

This unit develops an understanding of the importance of health services preparation and planning and the knowledge and skills required to lead health services preparation and planning.

Assumed knowledge: PUN451 is assumed knowledge.
Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PUN453 HEALTH DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

This unit develops students' capability in identifying and evaluating issues that need to be addressed during response to, and recovery from, a major incident, and managing those issues.
**Assumed knowledge:** Concurrent enrolment in PUN451 and PUN452 is strongly recommended.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN454 HEALTH LEADERSHIP IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT**
This unit develops students’ capacity to manage a health service so that it is prepared and capable of managing a major incident. It is intended for those who are likely to be responsible for designing response arrangements, instructing others in those arrangements and for managing the health service strategically throughout a major incident.

**Assumed knowledge:** PUN451, PUN452 and PUN453 are assumed knowledge.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN465 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**
This unit aims to give students a detailed understanding of the causes, controls measures and management strategies for environmental pollution and an understanding of environmental impacts on human health. A variety of topics on environmental management are covered including environmental management principles, environmental policy and legislation, integrated planning, waste management, contaminated land, air pollution, water pollution, and noise pollution.

**Prerequisites:** PUN620 and PUN363  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN466 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**
This unit aims to provide a comprehensive overview of communicable diseases and to discuss current surveillance, control and prevention methods/strategies implemented by public health agencies. Topics in this unit include the following: communicable disease principles; physiology and epidemiology; outbreak investigation and management; immunisation; vector control; disease surveillance; and infection control.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN467 PUBLIC HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT**
The aim of this unit is to provide future public health professionals with the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively assess and manage risks associated with a variety of public health hazards. Topics covered in this unit include the following: the Australian standard risk management framework; environmental health risk assessment framework (issues identification, hazard identification, dose-response assessment, exposure assessment, risk characterisation); risk management strategies and approaches; fundamentals of environmental toxicology and its application in health risk assessment; health impact assessment; effective risk communication and community consultation approaches for public health risks; and case studies.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN500 SAFETY MANAGEMENT**
In this unit, students learn about the nature of materials with regards to material failure, fire and explosions. Students are introduced to the concept of the hierarchy of controls and learn about the various safety systems used to control physical, chemical and biological hazards. Students are also introduced to specific legislative requirements that regulate the use of such substances, the configuration of appropriate safety systems, and the storage, handling and transport of hazardous materials. Students develop skills in accident investigation.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN551 ADVANCED PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION**
This unit aims to broaden your understanding of and to critically analyse the application of community and public health nutrition within Australia and internationally across three frameworks. These frameworks are Program Planning incorporating assessment, implementation and evaluation; the Food Chain covering food production, supply and consumption; and the Life Cycle encompassing maternal and infant nutrition, child and adolescents, adults and ageing populations.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN552 POPULATION NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ASSESSMENT**
This unit focuses on the methods and special features of assessing and monitoring nutrition and physical activity in individuals, groups and whole populations.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PUN553 CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT**
This unit aims to broaden your understanding of the determinants and issues relating to many major chronic diseases and to critically examine and review the application of a number of currently recommended frameworks, strategies and approaches for their prevention and their management both internationally and nationally.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2
PUN554 FOOD POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY
This unit aims to broaden your understanding of and to critically analyse the development and application of food policy at local, regional, state and global levels. Within the current context of environmental, economic and social vulnerability it will provide students with tools to use policy to impact on food safety, food security and nutritional health that are sustainable both within the short and long term.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUN688 INTERNATIONAL HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
This unit provides students with an understanding of the impact of globalisation on health policy and management, including policy formation and the role of political influences. Students will have an opportunity to explore and understand specific examples of national and international policy in both developed countries and countries in transition, particularly the in Asia-Pacific region.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PUN620 CONCEPTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
The aim of this unit is to produce students who have an in-depth understanding of the large range of contemporary environmental health hazards (including historical, current and predicted hazards) and the strategies to assess and manage these hazards in a sustainable manner. This unit consists of the following 4 modules: (1) Introduction to Environmental Health (provides an introduction to environmental health and environmental health management); (2) Ecosystems, Sustainability and Health; (3) Environmental Health Issues (e.g. air pollution, water and sanitation, waste and contaminated land, communicable diseases and food safety, physical agents); and (4) Environmental Health Settings (including Indigenous environmental health, the built environment, and global and emerging environmental health issues).

Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUP032 INTERVENTION DESIGN AND THEORIES OF CHANGE
This unit examines theories of change as they impact on health promotion and health education practice and the development and implementation of public health interventions. The unit addresses the strengths and weaknesses of change theory into practice and explores the nature of individual, group and organisational change strategies in public health and health promotion.

Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUP034 ADVANCED STUDIES AND PRACTICE IN HEALTH PROMOTION
This advanced unit identifies the repertoire of practice skills that health promotion students need to address health problems. It integrates needs identification, systematic planning and evaluation models into practice. Internal students put this knowledge into practice through participation in a group based health promotion project. The process of developing and implementing a health promotion program develops an understanding of issues such as ethics, writing goals and objectives, resources and time management. External students conduct a needs assessment and use the data to write a health promotion program proposal.

Prerequisites: PUP032 and PUP038  Antirequisites: PUN610 and PUP023  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PUN640 HEALTH CARE DELIVERY AND REFORM
This unit introduces conceptual frameworks fundamental to the organisation of health systems with particular emphasis on Australian and international health systems. Issues covered include the operation, funding and evaluation of health systems, health reform and the drivers for change.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUP037 HEALTH PROGRAM EVALUATION
The aim of the unit is to provide students with skills and knowledge of health program evaluation, its place in public health and health sector contexts, the influences of evidence and contexts, both organisational and political in program evaluation and the application of program evaluation techniques. This unit complements health studies and deepens students’ understanding of program evaluation in practice.

Assumed knowledge: Knowledge of the principles of health promotion planning is assumed.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period:
2011 SEM-2

PUP038 CONTEMPORARY HEALTH PROMOTION
The unit provides students with a critical understanding of the foundations of health promotion nationally and internationally, and its influence and evidence in improving population health outcomes through new conceptual and practice perspectives. This unit complements public health and other studies and provides a foundation for health professionals of the fundamental underpinnings of the discipline nationally and internationally.

Credit points: 12  
Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  
Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PUP116 ERGONOMICS
This unit explores the relationship between the worker, the work environment and the work space. Occupational ill health and injury arise from a lack of fit between the capabilities of workers and the design of the working environment, the work processes and the physical and mental demands of the task. Insight into ergonomics can assist practitioners to enhance the workers safety and comfort, improve work efficiency and performance, and optimise work performance. Topics include basic anatomy and physiology of body systems, occupational biomechanics and psychology.

Credit points: 12  
Contact hours: 3 per week  
Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  
Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PUP250 OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE
Occupational and environmental monitoring is described as the recognition, evaluation and control of hazards in the workplace. Workplaces contain numerous substances that are potentially hazardous to the health of the workforce, other occupants and the public. Occupational and environmental monitoring spans a number of disciplines including toxicology, engineering and statistics. Students need to develop strong investigative and analytical abilities and professional judgment. Students also develop skills in evaluating the extent of workplace hazards. A preventative approach to dealing with occupational health problems is emphasised based on an understanding of the control hierarchy and the use of exposure standards.

Credit points: 12  
Contact hours: 3 per week  
Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  
Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PUP415 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
This unit explores chemical hazards in the working environment, epidemiological principles and practice, and identification of special risk groups in the workforce. Topics include the following: the pathological bases of disease in humans; chronic occupational diseases; occupational skin conditions; respiratory diseases; biological hazards in the work environment (bacteria, parasites, viruses, rickettsia and fungi); chemical and physical stresses and their physiological responses; physiological monitoring principles and practice; special risk groups; and epidemiological principles and practice.

Credit points: 12  
Contact hours: 3  
Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  
Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2