Graduate Diploma in Environmental Health (PU67)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 061302C
Course duration (full-time): 2 semesters
Course duration (part-time): 4 semesters
Course duration (external): 4 semesters part-time (from 2007)
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $7,250 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: $10,750 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February
International Entry: February
Course coordinator: Dr Thomas Tenkate
Campus: Kelvin Grove

Overview
This course provides the knowledge and skills required for graduates to be employed as environmental health practitioners and in particular they will be eligible to practice as environmental health officers. This award provides an entry pathway into environmental health professional practice for students with undergraduate degrees in public health, nutrition, nursing and science.

Entry requirements
Applicant must hold an undergraduate degree in a relevant area such as science, environmental science, nursing, health science or public health. Normally applicants must have completed a minimum of 48 credit points of basic science in units such as chemistry, physics, microbiology, anatomy and physiology, or life science.

Professional recognition
This course was the first postgraduate course to be accredited with Environmental Health Australia and graduates are eligible to practise as Environmental Health Officers.

Course Structure
Students follow a prescribed enrolment program and are required to complete seven units in environmental health and PUN106 Population Health.

Students enrolling in external mode will be required to attend intensive practical sessions at Kelvin Grove campus for selected units in the course.

Course Articulation
This course articulates into the Master of Health Science.

International Student Entry
International students may enrol only in full-time programs in internal mode.

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

PU67 - Graduate Diploma in Environmental Health - Full-time

Year 1 Semester 1
PUN106 Population Health
PUN363 Environmental Health Law
PUN364 Food Safety
PUN620 Concepts of Environmental Health

Year 1 Semester 2
PUN465 Environmental Protection
PUN466 Communicable diseases
PUN467 Public Health Risk Assessment
PUN617 Environmental Health Management

PU67 - Graduate Diploma in Environmental Health - Part-time

Year 1, Semester 1
PUN106 Population Health
PUN620 Concepts of Environmental Health

Year 1, Semester 2
PUN466 Communicable diseases
PUN467 Public Health Risk Assessment

Year 2, Semester 1
PUN363 Environmental Health Law
PUN364 Food Safety

Year 2, Semester 2
PUN465 Environmental Protection
PUN617 Environmental Health Management

Health Unit prerequisites/corequisites
For information on prereqs & coreqs visit: www.hlth.qut.edu.au/study/forcurrentstudents/
Potential Careers:
Environmental Health Officer, Government Officer, Policy Officer, Public Health Officer.

UNIT SYNOPSISES

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.

Antirequisites: PUP010
Credit points: 12
Contact hours: 3
Campus: External
Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1

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: 2010 SEM-1

PUN364 FOOD SAFETY
The aim of this unit is to develop the food safety knowledge of future health professionals (such as environmental health practitioners, public health practitioners, nutritionists and dieticians) to enable them to identify and implement processes to ensure a safe food supply and prevent food borne illness in the community. A variety of food safety topics are covered including food science principles, food safety principles, food-borne illness, outbreak investigation and management, food safety law, auditing, premises design, HACCP, food safety programs, and food handler training/health promotion.
Credit points: 12
Campus: Kelvin Grove
Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1

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
Teaching period: 2010 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
Teaching period: 2010 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
Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

PUN617 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT
The aim of this unit is to integrate the aspects of environmental health theory and practice covered in other Units within the environmental health graduate program by focusing on current management and policy issues, strategies, tools and approaches. Topics covered include: environmental health policy development; environmental health management in local and state government; new
technologies; program evaluation including economic evaluation and environmental health indicators; emergency management; event management; Indigenous environmental health policy; environmental health research; dangerous goods safety management; project management and environmental health practice issues.

**Assumed knowledge:** PUN620 is assumed knowledge.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 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  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1