



Statement of Inherent Requirements

Faculty	Health
Discipline	Public Health
Courses	Undergraduate Course Postgraduate Courses Master of Public Health [HLM101] Master of Public Health (Extended) [HLM102]

Ethical Behaviour

Inherent Requirement

- Behave ethically and professionally in academic and professional environments, complying with relevant standards and codes of ethics applicable to the profession.

Rationale

- Compliance with relevant professional standards and/or codes of conduct and commonly accepted standards of professional behaviour, facilitates safe, competent interactions and relationships for students and the people they engage with in all contexts. This supports the physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of all.

We encourage all Public Health students to become members of the Public Health Association of Australia and to support the ethical and professional standards that this body upholds. Health Science students cross multiple disciplinary fields and should be aware of the codes of conduct of all disciplines within which they work.

Examples

- Apply ethical behaviour in the management of confidential and sensitive personal information.
- Reflect on ethical dilemmas and issues and take responsibility for ensuring awareness of ethical behaviour.
- Operate within own role and responsibilities in the clinical setting.

Legal Compliance

Inherent Requirement

- Comply with Australian Law, professional regulations and/or scope of practice relevant to the profession.

Rationale

- Knowledge, understanding and compliance with Australian Law and professional regulations will facilitate effective, professional, responsible and accountable Public Health professionals, and is necessary to work effectively and meet professional registration requirements.

Related Professional Requirements: Privacy Act 1988, Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (ACT) and Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australia (CAPIA).

Examples

Comply with the competencies outlined by Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australia (CAPIA), and policies of government and community organisations (e.g. Work Health and Safety Act and uniform requirements) where applicable. Obtain informed consent prior to surveys and interventions at both population and individual settings. Prepare and provide documentation according to legal requirements and accepted procedures and standards.

Communication Skills

1. Expressive Communication Skills

Inherent Requirement

- Ability to communicate effectively verbally and/or in writing, in English, to a standard that allows clear scholarly and professional-level messages and text with language use and style appropriate to the audience.

Rationale

- Communication skills are an essential requirement to develop and maintain trusting relationships, and to perform effectively in an academic and complex professional environment, as well as solve problems and communicate knowledge and understanding of relevant subject matter effectively.

Examples

- Construct coherent written communication to an academic and professional standard as appropriate to the circumstances.
- Advocate for the needs of others and facilitate change and empowerment of health in others.
- Constructing public health notes, reports and information sheets in a timely manner that meets legal and professional standards

2. Receptive Language Skills

Inherent Requirement

- Ability to assess concepts and meaning in English, using knowledge of language, background knowledge, critical thinking skills and self-reflection.

Rationale

- Communication skills are an essential requirement to develop and maintain trusting relationships, and to perform effectively in an academic and complex professional environment, as well as to solve problems and communicate knowledge and understanding of relevant subject matter effectively.

Examples

- Health advocacy and health promotion are key competencies in public health and require highly developed language skills.
- These skills are not restricted to English language and a diverse health workforce is highly valued.

3. Interpersonal Communication Skills

Inherent Requirement

- Respectful communication with others, including the ability to understand, display empathy and respect, build rapport and gain trust to ensure meaningful and effective interactions with people they engage with.

Rationale

- Communication skills are an essential requirement to develop and maintain trusting relationships, and to perform effectively in an academic and complex professional environment, as well as to solve problems and communicate knowledge and understanding of relevant subject matter effectively.

Examples

- Communicate respectfully with people of different gender, sexuality and age, and from diverse cultural, religious, socio-economic and educational backgrounds.
- Establishing rapport with the public during public health initiatives and responding appropriately to requests from the relevant stakeholders and other health professionals in all settings.
- Cultural competence, sensitivity and willingness to work with individuals in a complex and diverse Australian educational setting.

Behavioural Stability

Inherent Requirement

- Behaviour that is adaptable to effectively manage changing situations sufficiently to maintain academic and professional relationships to acceptable community standards.

Rationale

- Behavioural stability is essential in managing personal emotional responses and behaviour in academic and complex professional environments, including situations of potential human distress. It is required to work constructively in culturally and socially diverse settings and to deal with challenging issues, timelines and ambiguously defined problems.

Examples

- Reflecting on practice and responding appropriately to constructive feedback.
- Coping with own emotions and behaviour effectively when dealing with individuals and the public in the relevant settings.
- Managing own work schedule to maximise safety, efficiency and effectiveness.

Motor Skills

Inherent requirement

- Sufficient tactile function, strength and mobility to function within Public Health practice.

Rationale

- Note that roles in Public Health are diverse and physical disability does not present an inherent barrier.

Sensory Skills

Inherent requirement

- Sufficient sensorimotor skills including visual, auditory and tactile acuity to function within the Public Health practice.

Rationale

- Note that roles in Public Health are diverse and physical disability does not present an inherent barrier.

Cognitive Skills

Inherent Requirement

- Acquire knowledge, process information, analyse, think critically and synthesise information to apply knowledge of the discipline and sufficiently meet learning outcomes and academic standards relevant to the course, utilising cognitive, numeracy and literacy skills, including focus, memory, and attention to detail.

Rationale

- Cognitive skills are essential in acquisition and application of knowledge in both the academic and professional environment.

Examples

- Ability to conceptualise and use appropriate knowledge in response to academic assessment items.

ICT Capacity

Inherent Requirement

- Acquire, and employ information and communications technology (ICT) skills in an appropriate and effective manner, utilising a range of systems in both the academic and professional setting.

Rationale

- Competent ICT skills are essential to successfully access, apply and communicate information in diverse models of service delivery.

Examples

- Creating tools for data collection.
- Developing information and communications resources for public
- Researching electronic journals and submitting assignments online.

Sustainable Performance

Inherent requirements

- Consistently completes tasks in a timely manner and within a designated period, where required, while maintaining consistency and quality of performance.

Rationale

- Tasks must be completed consistently and with respect to industry or workplace defined timeframes.

Examples

- Represents the needs and input of the community of interest to produce sustainable public health outputs.