

## Master of Science in International Health

### Course Specification

Course Overview	
Degree	Master of Science in International Health (MSc International Health)
ECTS Credit Points	60 ECTS credit points
Language of Instruction	English
Intake per Course	Max. 10 students
Program Start	October 1st
Duration and Attendance	<p>1 year full-time program (2 semesters) University-based</p> <p><u>Core Course from October – December:</u> Mon – Fri from 9:00 – 18:00 with occasional evening/weekend events</p> <p><u>Advanced Modules from January – March:</u> 6 Modules with each approx. 1 week full-time, face-to-face attendance (plus preparation time for pre- and post-course assignments)</p> <p><u>MSc Thesis and Defence from April – September:</u> At least 14 weeks of full-time commitment</p>
Awarding Institution	Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU Munich)
Department	Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine (DIDTM) at the University Hospital, LMU Munich as member of the CIH <sup>LMU</sup> Center for International Health
Study Location	<p>Core Course: Munich from October to December</p> <p>6 Advanced Modules: Munich-based or across the globe</p> <p>Master Thesis: Munich or combined with field research in low and middle income countries</p> <p>Candidates should note that accommodation is not provided. It is in the responsibility of each participant to arrange appropriate accommodation for the duration of the program. The International Student Guide from the LMU Munich provides some information on possible housing options in Munich: <a href="http://www.en.uni-muenchen.de/students/int_student_guide/before_you_arrive/housing/index.html">http://www.en.uni-muenchen.de/students/int_student_guide/before_you_arrive/housing/index.html</a></p>
International Study	Advanced Modules can be selected from 9 modules offered by the DIDTM at the University Hospital of the LMU Munich (taking place in Munich and in low- and middle-income countries) and, in consultation with the CIH <sup>LMU</sup> Program Coordination Office, from a variety of

	modules world-wide, accredited and offered by the tropEd network, provided that sufficient ECTS credit points are achieved.
<b>Additional Support for International Students</b>	<p><u><a href="#">LMU International Student Guide</a></u></p> <p>The University's International Student Guide provides practical tips and information about studying at LMU Munich and lists a number of student support services (such as Counseling, Career Services, Special Needs Support etc.) that are open to university students:</p> <p><a href="http://www.en.uni-muenchen.de/students/int_student_guide/index.html">http://www.en.uni-muenchen.de/students/int_student_guide/index.html</a></p>
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p>€ 6000 per semester</p> <p>+ approx. € 130 Administration Fee per semester (payable to LMU Munich)</p> <p>Please refer to our information sheet for a more detailed overview of course fees and additional costs.</p>
<b>Admission Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed, first university degree of min. 240 ECTS credit points in a health-related science (usually equivalent to a 4-year university degree program with 8 semesters). Applicants who have a qualifying first degree of six semesters and 180 ECTS credit points may be admitted to the program if they meet additional requirements</li> <li>At least 2 years of work experience in the health-sector and satisfactory reference/s from (former) employers proving the candidate's work experience of at least 2 years</li> <li>English Language Proficiency: Level C1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) evidenced by TOEFL 95 - 120; IELTS with at least 6.5 overall (with nothing lower than 5.5 in any of the four elements); native speaker (evidenced by passport); or entire academic education in English (evidenced via diploma supplement, transcript or confirmation letter by the respective institution)</li> </ul> <p>Upon fulfilment of all requirements, applicants will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Final acceptance is then subject to the payment of the tuition fee for semester 1 in full.</p>
<b>Application Period</b>	December 1st until March 31st
<b>Application</b>	Please visit the MSc IH website: <a href="https://www.international-health.uni-muenchen.de/education/master_programs/msc_int_health/index.html">https://www.international-health.uni-muenchen.de/education/master_programs/msc_int_health/index.html</a>
<b>Combined Courses</b>	The MSc IH may be combined with the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and International Health (DTMIH). Please contact the MSc IH Program Coordination Office if you are interested in this option.
<b>Contact</b>	<p>MSc IH Program Coordination Office</p> <p><a href="mailto:msc-ih@lrz.uni-muenchen.de">msc-ih@lrz.uni-muenchen.de</a></p> <p>+49 (0)89 4400 59815</p>

## Course Details



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<p><b>Aim and Rationale</b></p>	<p>The MSc IH program aims at improving health and health care for populations in low- and middle-income countries.</p> <p>To achieve this, professional staff in the field of health is required. A profound understanding of medical health problems is important. However, sustainable improvement of public health in a globalized world is only attainable through intersectoral approaches which requires knowledge of stakeholders and policies on all levels. In addition, health interventions have to be evidence based and in turn should produce evidence. An understanding of research methods is therefore crucial for international health professionals.</p> <p>In this respect, the MSc program offers a well-balanced curriculum enriched through discussion and critical appraisal of health problems, incorporating contemporary research.</p>
<p><b>Networking Opportunities</b></p>	<p>Within an international group including participants from different programs, the MSc provides an opportunity to create personal bonds through extra-curricular activities and establish working relationships across the globe.</p> <p>Keynote lectures provide an opportunity to meet other health-care professionals from within and outside the LMU Munich.</p>
<p><b>Management and Communication Training</b></p>	<p>A special feature and part of the MSc program's curriculum is a <b>Retreat Week</b> in the second week of October.</p> <p>Working in the field of international health, not only medical related skills are required, but also knowledge on intercultural communication and on handling conflicts (in multinational teams), techniques for successfully planning and managing projects, organizing scientific events as well as giving lectures and holding presentations.</p> <p>Parts of these Management and Communication skills are taught during the Retreat Week which is also one of the multiple networking opportunities offered during the program.</p>
<p><b>Curriculum Overview</b></p>	<p><b><u>Semester 1</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Health Fundamentals (15 ECTS)</li> <li>• Research Methods (6 ECTS)</li> <li>• Research Design (3 ECTS)</li> <li>• Advanced Modules (18 ECTS, 6 modules with 3 ECTS each, 2 modules in Semester 1)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Semester 2</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced Modules (18 ECTS, 6 modules with 3 ECTS each, 4 modules in Semester 2)</li> <li>• Master Thesis (15 ECTS)</li> <li>• Oral Defence (3 ECTS)</li> </ul>

## Module Overview



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<p><b>International Health Fundamentals</b> (15 ECTS)</p>	<p>Within this module, central issues on international health and medical research will be addressed:</p> <p><u>Medical School</u></p> <p>The aim of this course is to convey fundamental knowledge on core areas of international, medical health.</p> <p><u>Health Problems and Responses</u></p> <p>This course includes the discussion of specific subjects, of major infectious and non-communicable diseases as well as of clinical cases and microscopy practice, which aims at recognizing the most relevant pathogens that are detectable by microscopy.</p> <p><u>Policy and Politics</u></p> <p>Within different sessions, students learn amongst others to critically appraise public health systems in different countries, understand underpinnings of policy work, obtain knowledge on different approaches to financing health systems and discuss principles and limitations of humanitarian aid.</p> <p>Assessment will be through written examination (multiple choice) at the end of this module. Content of the microscopy sessions will be examined through questions on random samples.</p>
<p><b>Research Methods</b> (6 ECTS)</p>	<p>Students need to be able to critically analyze and appraise qualitative and quantitative data, mixed method approaches as well as scientific publications relevant for the improvement of health and health care in low- and middle-income societies. Therefore, courses within this module cover the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantitative Methods and Epidemiology</li> <li>• Qualitative Methods and Research Skills</li> </ul> <p>Examination will be through multiple-choice questions and calculation assignments.</p>
<p><b>Research Design</b> (3 ECTS)</p>	<p>During this module, students will be introduced to designing and structuring their own research plan for an individual research project.</p> <p>Assessment will be through student presentations of their MSc research project and plan.</p>
<p><b>Advanced Modules</b> (18 ECTS)</p>	<p>Students will need to choose 6 elective, so-called Advanced Modules (each with a min. of 3 ECTS) according to their own interest and have to successfully complete 2 modules during Semester 1 and 4 in Semester 2. Advanced Modules can be selected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 9 modules offered by the DIDTM, University Hospital of the LMU Munich. Further information regarding currently available modules can be found at the following link: <a href="https://www.international-health.uni-muenchen.de/education/short_term_courses/advanced_modules_int_health/index.html">https://www.international-health.uni-muenchen.de/education/short_term_courses/advanced_modules_int_health/index.html</a></li> <li>• In consultation with the CIH<sup>LMU</sup> Program Coordination Office, from a variety of modules world-wide, accredited and offered by the tropEd network: <a href="http://www.troped.org/">http://www.troped.org/</a></li> </ul> <p>Students should note that the range of elective modules can change over time.</p>

<b>Master Thesis (15 ECTS)</b>	<p>Independent work on a research question, critical discussion of literature, methods and results as well as the use of appropriate methods are competencies that students will need to demonstrate within their MSc thesis. They should prove that they are able to choose a relevant project and embed it within contemporary, international scientific research in the area of international health.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to apply with own project ideas, possibly already with a concrete or already running project. However, research projects or links to researchers for establishment of a research project can be provided. A supervisor with corresponding expertise in the field will accompany each project.</p> <p>The research project has to cover approx. 14 weeks (3.5 months) of full-time engagement, but the workload is usually spread over the duration of the MSc program to allow sufficient time for research activities and writing up of the thesis.</p> <p>Students are also encouraged to submit and publish their individual MSc research outcome in a scientific journal.</p> <p>Word count: 10.000 – max. 20.000</p>
<b>Oral Defence (3 ECTS)</b>	<p>Following the submission of the written Master's thesis and upon successful completion of all curricular credits, each Master student has to defend their thesis in an oral examination of 50 – 70 minutes.</p> <p>Students will need to demonstrate that they are able to present their research results in a clear manner, discuss and answer critical questions as well as demonstrate sound knowledge within their research area.</p>
<b>Requirements for Graduation</b>	<p>Successful completion of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All modules and examinations</li> <li>• Master thesis and oral defence</li> <li>• Potentially publishable manuscript</li> </ul>