



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

MMed *Public Health Medicine* (10250373)

Department Public Health Medicine

Minimum duration of study 4 years

Total credits 480

NQF level 09

Programme information

A dissertation (GGS 891 Dissertation – 180 credits) on an approved research project must be passed in addition to the major subject and prerequisites. The stipulations of the General Regulations regarding the preparation and submission, the technical editing and the résumé of the dissertation apply.

Admission requirements

1. MBChB (or equivalent) degree **or** relevant medical degree with modules equivalent to at least the first two years of the MBChB degree
2. Currently registered as a physician with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and must have been so for at least one year
3. Employment in a full-time training position for a period of four years according to the requirements of the Department of Public Health Medicine
4. Completion of the theoretical and practical applicable training as stipulated by the Department of Public Health Medicine
5. Passed the prescribed written, oral and/or practical university examinations or equivalent primary Colleges of Medicine of South Africa examinations

Additional requirements

Each student must prove to the University that he or she

- i. has successfully filled the required full-time training post for a period of four years according to the requirements of the Department of Public Health Medicine.
- ii. has completed the theoretical and practical applicable training as stipulated; and
- iii. has passed the prescribed written, oral and/or practical university examinations or equivalent primary Colleges of Medicine of South Africa examinations.

Other programme-specific information

Please note: All MMed students must register for, and attend (TNM 800) Applied research methodology, satisfactorily.

“Major subject” refers to the recognised field of study in Medicine in which the student specialises. The study of the major subject extends over four years, as prescribed by the Department of Public Health Medicine.

Examinations and pass requirements

- i. The sequence of the examinations in the prerequisite subjects will be determined by the head of the department of Public Health Medicine.
- ii. The final exit examination for the major subject will be conducted by the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. Only candidates who have met all the requirements for the MMed(Public Health Medicine) degree except for the major subject, i.e. passed all prerequisite subjects, completed all applicable training as prescribed in Reg. P.3(c) and completed the required research component for the degree in accordance with the Faculty Yearbook regulations, i.e. TNM 800 and the dissertation (GG5 890) will be allowed to write the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa exit examination.
- iii. A minimum final mark of 50% is required to pass in a subject.
- iv. A student is not admitted to the examination in a prerequisite subject (second examinations excluded) more than twice, nor is he or she admitted to the examination in the major subject more than twice.

Second examinations

Second examinations in the prerequisite subjects will only be held after at least six months have elapsed since the conclusion of the examination in which the student had failed.

Exemption

- i. The Faculty Board may grant partial exemption from the training and work mentioned earlier on the grounds of comparable training and experience completed in another post or at another recognised institution – with the proviso that exemption from a maximum period of 18 months may be granted in the case of a four-year programme such as the MMed (Public Health Medicine) degree programme.
- ii. Exemption from a maximum of two years’ Public Health Medicine training may be granted in the Department of Public Health Medicine in respect of the MMed(Public Health Medicine) degree, to a candidate already in possession of a Fellowship of the College of Public Health Medicine or a Fellowship of the College of Occupational Health Medicine of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. Such a candidate must have completed a period of at least 24 months of registrar training in Public Health Medicine or in Occupational Health Medicine that is recorded as such by the HPCSA.

Practical/clinical/internship information

Registrars in Public Health Medicine are expected to undergo rotational attachment to a number of designated health service organisations during their period of training.

Research information

A dissertation on an approved research project must be passed in addition to the major subject and prerequisites. The stipulations of the General Regulations regarding the preparation and submission, the technical editing and the résumé of the dissertation apply.



Pass with distinction

The degree is conferred at the end of the prescribed training period, i.e. four years. The degree is conferred with distinction on a student who has obtained a final mark of at least 75% in his or her major subject.



Curriculum: Year 1

Core modules

Administrative theory and health related social sciences 800 (ASW 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module involves the theory of leadership and organisational models in health, health systems and their planning, management and evaluation. Knowledge and application of relevant national and key international health policies and legislation. Knowledge and skills in health economics and financing, psychology, medical sociology and sociological models of health, health promotion and social marketing. Knowledge and application of qualitative research methodologies. Knowledge and skills in occupational hygiene, occupational medicine and management of an occupational health service.

Epidemiology theory, biostatistics and demography 800 (EBD 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of basic and applied Epidemiology, e.g. quantitative research methodologies, infectious diseases epidemiology, clinical epidemiology and epidemiology for occupational health. The principles of biostatistics and the use of STATA software for management and analysis of datasets. The principles of demography and interpretation and utilisation of demographic data. Health information systems.

Public health medicine 800 (GGS 800)

Module credits	150.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	Subject to passing EBD 800, ONO 800 and ASW 800 and to the fulfilment of the College of Public Health Medicine requirements for entry to the College examinations
Contact time	3 discussion classes per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

The final exit examination GGS 800 will be conducted by the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. The content of GGS 800 is therefore as determined by the current regulations and curriculum of the College of Public Health Medicine, a constituent member of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa.

Dissertation: Public health medicine 891 (GGS 891)

Module credits 180.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Communicable and non-communicable health-related conditions 800 (ONO 800)

Module credits 50.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of disease prevention and control and addresses a broad scope of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Surveillance systems and their applications.

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802)

Module credits 0.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Health Sciences Dean's Office

Period of presentation Year

Module content

*Attendance module only.



Curriculum: Year 2

Core modules

Administrative theory and health related social sciences 800 (ASW 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module involves the theory of leadership and organisational models in health, health systems and their planning, management and evaluation. Knowledge and application of relevant national and key international health policies and legislation. Knowledge and skills in health economics and financing, psychology, medical sociology and sociological models of health, health promotion and social marketing. Knowledge and application of qualitative research methodologies. Knowledge and skills in occupational hygiene, occupational medicine and management of an occupational health service.

Epidemiology theory, biostatistics and demography 800 (EBD 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of basic and applied Epidemiology, e.g. quantitative research methodologies, infectious diseases epidemiology, clinical epidemiology and epidemiology for occupational health. The principles of biostatistics and the use of STATA software for management and analysis of datasets. The principles of demography and interpretation and utilisation of demographic data. Health information systems.

Public health medicine 800 (GGS 800)

Module credits	150.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	Subject to passing EBD 800, ONO 800 and ASW 800 and to the fulfilment of the College of Public Health Medicine requirements for entry to the College examinations
Contact time	3 discussion classes per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

The final exit examination GGS 800 will be conducted by the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. The content of GGS 800 is therefore as determined by the current regulations and curriculum of the College of Public Health Medicine, a constituent member of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa.

Dissertation: Public health medicine 891 (GGS 891)

Module credits 180.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Communicable and non-communicable health-related conditions 800 (ONO 800)

Module credits 50.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of disease prevention and control and addresses a broad scope of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Surveillance systems and their applications.

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802)

Module credits 0.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Health Sciences Dean's Office

Period of presentation Year

Module content

*Attendance module only.



Curriculum: Year 3

Core modules

Administrative theory and health related social sciences 800 (ASW 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module involves the theory of leadership and organisational models in health, health systems and their planning, management and evaluation. Knowledge and application of relevant national and key international health policies and legislation. Knowledge and skills in health economics and financing, psychology, medical sociology and sociological models of health, health promotion and social marketing. Knowledge and application of qualitative research methodologies. Knowledge and skills in occupational hygiene, occupational medicine and management of an occupational health service.

Epidemiology theory, biostatistics and demography 800 (EBD 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of basic and applied Epidemiology, e.g. quantitative research methodologies, infectious diseases epidemiology, clinical epidemiology and epidemiology for occupational health. The principles of biostatistics and the use of STATA software for management and analysis of datasets. The principles of demography and interpretation and utilisation of demographic data. Health information systems.

Public health medicine 800 (GGS 800)

Module credits	150.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	Subject to passing EBD 800, ONO 800 and ASW 800 and to the fulfilment of the College of Public Health Medicine requirements for entry to the College examinations
Contact time	3 discussion classes per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

The final exit examination GGS 800 will be conducted by the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. The content of GGS 800 is therefore as determined by the current regulations and curriculum of the College of Public Health Medicine, a constituent member of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa.

Dissertation: Public health medicine 891 (GGS 891)

Module credits 180.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Communicable and non-communicable health-related conditions 800 (ONO 800)

Module credits 50.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of disease prevention and control and addresses a broad scope of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Surveillance systems and their applications.

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802)

Module credits 0.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Health Sciences Dean's Office

Period of presentation Year

Module content

*Attendance module only.



Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

Administrative theory and health related social sciences 800 (ASW 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module involves the theory of leadership and organisational models in health, health systems and their planning, management and evaluation. Knowledge and application of relevant national and key international health policies and legislation. Knowledge and skills in health economics and financing, psychology, medical sociology and sociological models of health, health promotion and social marketing. Knowledge and application of qualitative research methodologies. Knowledge and skills in occupational hygiene, occupational medicine and management of an occupational health service.

Epidemiology theory, biostatistics and demography 800 (EBD 800)

Module credits	50.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Health Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of basic and applied Epidemiology, e.g. quantitative research methodologies, infectious diseases epidemiology, clinical epidemiology and epidemiology for occupational health. The principles of biostatistics and the use of STATA software for management and analysis of datasets. The principles of demography and interpretation and utilisation of demographic data. Health information systems.

Public health medicine 800 (GGS 800)

Module credits	150.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	Subject to passing EBD 800, ONO 800 and ASW 800 and to the fulfilment of the College of Public Health Medicine requirements for entry to the College examinations
Contact time	3 discussion classes per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

The final exit examination GGS 800 will be conducted by the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. The content of GGS 800 is therefore as determined by the current regulations and curriculum of the College of Public Health Medicine, a constituent member of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa.

Dissertation: Public health medicine 891 (GGS 891)

Module credits 180.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Communicable and non-communicable health-related conditions 800 (ONO 800)

Module credits 50.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Public Health Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module covers the principles of disease prevention and control and addresses a broad scope of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Surveillance systems and their applications.

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802)

Module credits 0.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Health Sciences Dean's Office

Period of presentation Year

Module content

*Attendance module only.



General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.