

What is Global Health?



Global health is a field of study, research and practice that places a priority on achieving equity in health for all people.

Global health involves multiple disciplines within and beyond the health sciences, is a synthesis of population-based prevention with individual level clinical care, promotes interdisciplinary collaboration, and emphasizes transnational health issues and determinants.

At Duke, we focus our global health efforts on reducing health disparities—situations in which some populations are more vulnerable to poor health than others. These health disparities are highly prevalent in low- and middle-income countries, but also exist within developed nations and our own communities. In researching and responding to these health disparities, we focus on the biomedical aspects of disease, the local and global determinants and public policies that influence these diseases, and the organization of preventive and curative services that seek to alleviate them.



For more information about the Master of Science in Global Health please contact us:

Telephone: 919-681-7760

Fax: 919-681-7748

Email: gh-msc@duke.edu

Location & Mailing Address

Duke Global Health Institute
235 Trent Hall, Trent Drive
Box 90519 Duke University
Durham , NC 27708

Master of Science in Global Health





Lodovic Samoro (right) participated in a major research effort going door-to-door in rural Tanzanian villages to collect and compare data on attitudes about HIV/AIDS testing. Samoro is a trained interviewer, working with a collaborative research group from Duke University, Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center (KCMC), and KIWAKKUKI, a grassroots AIDS treatment organization in Moshi, Tanzania.

About the MSc-GH

The Duke Global Health Institute (DGHI) is planning to offer a Master of Science in Global Health (MSc-GH) beginning in the fall of 2009, pending final approval by the Duke University Board of Trustees.

The MSc-GH is designed to appeal to an array of students, researchers, policy makers, managers, analysts, and clinical practitioners who desire a more complete understanding of the diverse causes of and solutions to health problems from an interdisciplinary global perspective. The following are the primary audiences:

- individuals at any stage of career who wish to pursue a freestanding MSc-GH
- Duke medical students who wish to pursue the MSc-GH during the third year of Medical School
- participants in Duke's new GH residency program

Upon completion of the MSc-GH, graduates will be prepared to engage in clinical, epidemiological, social-behavioral, and policy-oriented research, as well as contribute to the design, implementation, and management of health programs.

The MSc-GH will be conferred by the Graduate School and administered by DGHI and will involve many other Duke institutes, departments, and schools. A guiding principle of the degree program is the recognition that a multi-disciplinary and multi-sector approach to health is essential, as health is influenced by a multitude of factors.

Coursework

The 32-credit curriculum includes five core courses, one elective from each of four thematic blocks, a field experience to apply learned research methods, and a research-based scholarly thesis. It is designed as a four-semester program (fall, spring, summer, fall), though it can be completed in three semesters (fall, spring, summer) for students who wish

to intensify and accelerate their studies. Some students may wish to allow two years to complete the program, so as to engage in a longer research experience.

The five core courses are:

1. GH Challenges (3 credits)
2. GH Systems and Health Policy (3 credits)
3. Research Methods in GH Science I (4 credits)
4. Research Methods in GH Science II (3 credits)
5. Bioethics (1 credit)

The thematic blocks are:

- Disease Causation and Prevention (3 credits)
- Global Environmental Health (3 credits)
- GH Policy and Management (3 credits)
- Population Sciences (3 credits)

Each student will be assigned a faculty advisor to ensure that the student's chosen electives and course sequencing are both rigorous and feasible.

MSc-GH students may choose to undertake their field experience at one of the international institutions with which DGHI collaborates. Currently, DGHI is collaborating with institutions in China, Haiti, India, Kenya, Singapore, Tanzania, and Uganda and is pursuing collaborative partnerships in Costa Rica, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and other countries.

For more information, contact gh-msc@duke.edu.

Apply online via the Duke Graduate School:

<http://www.gradschool.duke.edu>

(Priority deadline, December 15, 2008.)

The Statement of Purpose and Educational Objectives within the Graduate School application should include an overview of applicant's international experience, research interests and potential mentors (if known), and reasons for pursuing a global health degree at Duke.