

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME REGULATIONS
(for PGT programmes that will run under the new modular scheme)

This document applies to students who commence the programme(s) in:		MSc in Applied Health Research 2017/18			
Awarding institution		Teaching institution			
University of York		University of York			
Department(s)					
Health Sciences					
Award(s) and programme title(s)			Level of qualification		
MSc in Applied Health Research			Level 7 (Masters)		
Award(s) available <i>only</i> as interim awards					
PG Certificate in Applied Health Research PG Diploma in Applied Health Research					
Admissions criteria					
Students are generally required to have achieved a 2:1 or equivalent in their first degree. An IELTS score of 7.0 or above is required for students for whom English is not a first language.					
Length and status of the programme(s) and mode(s) of study					
Programme	Length (years) and status (full-time/part-time)	Start dates/months (if applicable – for programmes that have multiple intakes or start dates that differ from the usual academic year)	Mode		
			Face-to-face, campus-based	Distance learning	Other
MSc in Applied Health Research	1 year full time 2 years part time		Yes		
Language of study		English			
Programme accreditation by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies (if applicable)					
Educational aims of the programme(s)					
<p>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</p> <p>The MSc in Applied Health Research builds on the Department of Health Sciences’ national and international reputation and experience in Health Services Research. This multi-disciplinary taught programme, offered full-time over 1 year or part-time over 2 years, is intended for science and social science graduates and healthcare professionals who wish to develop their health-related research and evaluation skills, and to individuals from a health-related background interested in a career in health services research.</p>					

The programme covers a range of methodologies including health research methods, statistics, epidemiology, systematic reviews, qualitative research, health economics and randomised controlled trials. After completing the programme, graduates will be well-equipped and prepared for careers within the ever expanding multi-disciplinary and multi-professional field of Health and will be well equipped to apply the skills and knowledge that they have acquired across any disease area, for example, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes.

The aims of the programme are to provide students with:

- a knowledge and understanding of the differing methodologies used in health research
- the skills to critically compare differing research methodologies
- the skills required to plan and undertake data-analysis
- the skills to critically appraise and interpret data
- broad generic skills in writing reports, referencing, sourcing information

Additionally for the Diploma (if applicable):

To equip students with:

- an in-depth understanding of mixed-methodologies (e.g. quantitative and qualitative)
- the knowledge and skills to apply appropriate methodologies (e.g. randomised controlled trial, case-control/cohort study, systematic review, qualitative interviews, focus groups,) to conduct research in a health related field
- an understanding of the importance of economics in health and healthcare

Additionally for the Masters:

To provide students with the experience of using their knowledge and skills to engage in independent research through the completion of a substantial project in a health related field.

Intended learning outcomes for the programme – and how the programme enables students to achieve and demonstrate the intended learning outcomes	
<i>This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:</i>	<i>The following teaching, learning and assessment methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</i>
A: Knowledge and understanding	
<p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <p>By the end of the programme students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate a comparative knowledge of the different types of methods (e.g. quantitative, qualitative) and study designs used in health services research and their strengths and limitations 2. Formulate and refine research questions 3. Understand how to collect data 4. Identify the most appropriate statistical tests given a particular research question and study design 5. Understand and evaluate statistical methods used in health research 6. Critically appraise and interpret research evidence <p><i>Additionally for the Diploma:</i></p> <p>By the end of the programme students will be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Demonstrate an understanding of epidemiological concepts 8. Understand and evaluate the economic aspects of health research 9. Demonstrate an understanding of the range of qualitative methods and the emerging approaches in their use 10. Understand the position of systematic reviews for policy and practice in health <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <p>By the end of the programme students will have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Detailed knowledge about the use of appropriate research method(s) for an independent study project 12. Knowledge of how to conduct an independent research project and how to structure and present research findings 	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures (1-12) • Small group work (2,4,5,7-10) • Independent study/directed reading (1-10) • Use of the VLE (1-10) • Supervised independent project work (2,4,5,11,12) <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed examination (1-8) • Computer based open-book examination (1,3-5) • Open book examination (4,5,6,10) • Essay (1-9) • Proposal/protocol (1-6,9) • Poster (1,4) • Dissertation (1-12)

B: (i) Skills – discipline related	
<p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <p>By the end of the programme students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design a high quality research study in a health related field using the most appropriate methodology (e.g clinical trial, case-control/ cohort study, qualitative) 2. Search for literature related to health and health care and identify the appropriate databases and sources of information 3. Plan and undertake data analysis using appropriate packages (e.g SPSS) 4. Critically appraise and interpret research findings 5. Prepare statistical reports 6. Compile research reports <p><i>Additionally for the Diploma:</i></p> <p>By the end of the programme students will be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Calculate commonly used indices of health and disease 8. Calculate various measures of association 9. Write a research protocol/proposal for a randomised controlled trial and a qualitative study 10. Prepare a study protocol for a health related study 11. Apply economic evaluation techniques in health related research 12. Analyse qualitative data <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <p>By the end of the programme students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Undertake independent research in a health related area 	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures (1-12) • Small group work (1-4,7,8,11,12) • Independent study/directed reading (1-4,7,8,10-12) • Use of the VLE (1-12) • Supervised independent project work (1,3,4,7,8,11-13) <hr/> <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed examination (1,2,4,7,8,11,12) • Computer based open-book examination (3,5,7,8) • Open book examination (1,4,7,8,10) • Essay (1,2,4,6,7,8,11,12) • Proposal/protocol (1,2,4,9,10,11) • Poster (3,4) • Dissertation (1-13)
B: (ii) Skills - transferable	
<p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <p>By the end of the programme students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate effectively with colleagues from other disciplines and professions (orally, electronically, or in writing) 2. Organise and manage workload effectively and develop time management skills 3. Obtain electronic and written information from various sources 	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures (1-9) • Small group work (1-8) • Independent study/directed reading (1-7) • Use of the VLE (1-9)

<p>4. Demonstrate independent, critical and original thought</p> <p>5. Organise and present complex arguments</p> <p>6. Develop and synthesise ideas</p> <p>7. Analyse and present data effectively and accurately</p> <p>8. Understand the research processes</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i> By the end of the programme students will be able to:</p> <p>9. Plan and conduct an independent piece of research</p>	<p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed examination (2,4,5,6,7) • Computer based open-book examination (2,4,6,7) • Open book examination (2,4,5,6,7) • Essay (2-8) • Proposal/protocol (2-8) • Poster (5) • Dissertation (1-9)
C: Experience and other attributes	
<p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i> By the end of the programme students will have the opportunity to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be part of a large multi-disciplinary Department where cutting edge Health research is being undertaken 2. Be part of a large postgraduate community and take part in postgraduate events (e.g. presentations/seminars) 3. Work as part of a team on group projects from cross-disciplines and therefore gain confidence in communicating with others 4. Undertake self-directed reading and study and work independently 5. Identify pathways for academic and career development <p><i>Additionally for the Diploma:</i> As above</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i> By the end of the programme students will have the opportunity to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Make independent decisions related to a research project 	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studying at York (1-6) • Departmental seminars (1,2) • Students presentations (2,6) • Module specific activities (3-4) <hr/> <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <p>Not directly assessed</p>

Relevant Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement(s) and other relevant external reference points (e.g. National Occupational Standards, or the requirements of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies)

The programmes learning outcomes are informed by the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

The programme has been informed the QAA Benchmark Statements for Business and Management. Although the programme is aimed at health professionals, the theory, research and skills development underpinning the programme are generic in nature. The programme is aligned with the QAA's statements in terms of: subject knowledge, understanding and skills; the integration between theory and practice; the benchmarks themselves.

University award regulations

To be eligible for an award of the University of York a student must undertake an approved programme of study, obtain a specified number of credits (at a specified level(s)), and meet any other requirements of the award as specified in the award requirements and programme regulations, and other University regulations (e.g. payment of fees). Credit will be awarded upon passing a module's assessment(s) but some credit may be awarded where failure has been compensated by achievement in other modules. The University's award and assessment regulations specify the University's marking scheme, and rules governing progression (including rules for compensation), reassessment and award requirements. The award and assessment regulations apply to all programmes: any exceptions that relate to this programme are approved by University Teaching Committee and are recorded at the end of this document.

Departmental policies on assessment and feedback

Detailed information on assessment (including grade descriptors, marking procedures, word counts etc.) is available in the written statement of assessment which applies to this programme and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the Department's website:

<http://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/>

Information on formative and summative feedback to students on their work is available in the written statement on feedback to students which applies to this programmes and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the Department's website:

<http://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/>

Diagrammatic representation of the programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules

Masters

All modules are 10 credits unless otherwise stated

Compulsory modules (130 credits)

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation
Introduction to Health Statistics		Dissertation (60 credits)	
Epidemiology	Systematic Reviews		
Randomised Controlled Trials	Introduction to Regression Analysis		
Qualitative Health Research	Health Economics		

Optional Modules (50 credits)

- Health & Social Behaviour (20 credits)
- Measurement in Health & Disease (10 credits)
- Further Regression Analysis (10 credits)
- Health Policy: Principles, Practice & the Evidence Base (10 credits)
- Health Research in Practice (10 credits)
- *Public Health Foundations & Practice (20 credits) or *Infection and Disease (20 credits)

*(PLEASE NOTE STUDENTS CAN ONLY TAKE ONE OF THESE TWO OPTIONS)

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Public Health Foundations & Practice (20 credits)*		Health & Social Behaviour (20 credits)
Infection & Disease (20 credits)*		Further Regression Analysis
	Health Research in Practice	Measurement in Health & Disease
		Health Policy: Principles, Practice & the Evidence Base

Postgraduate Diploma (if applicable) 120 credits

To obtain a Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Health Research students will need to complete 80 credits of compulsory modules and 40 credits from the optional modules as outlined below.

Compulsory modules (70 credits)

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Introduction to Health Statistics		
Epidemiology	Systematic Reviews	
Randomised Controlled Trials	Introduction to Regression Analysis	
Qualitative Health Research	Health Economics	

Optional Modules (50 credits)

- Health & Social Behaviour (20 credits)
- Measurement in Health & Disease (10 credits)
- Further Regression Analysis (10 credits)
- Health Policy: Principles, Practice & the Evidence Base (10 credits)
- Health Research in Practice (10 credits)
- *Public Health Foundations & Practice (20 credits) or *Infection and Disease (20 credits)

*(PLEASE NOTE STUDENTS CAN ONLY TAKE ONE OF THESE TWO OPTIONS)

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Public Health Foundations & Practice (20 credits)*		Health & Social Behaviour (20 credits)
Infection & Disease (20 credits)*		Further Regression Analysis
	Health Research in Practice	Measurement in Health & Disease
		Health Policy: Principles, Practice & the Evidence Base

Postgraduate Certificate

To exit with a Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Health Research students will need to secure 60 credits from any of the taught compulsory modules.

Part-time students

It is anticipated that part-time students will typically complete 60 taught credits in year 1, 30 credits of which will be compulsory modules (*usually Introduction to Health Statistics, Epidemiology and Introduction to Regression Analysis*) along with 30 credits of optional modules, with the same breakdown in year 2 (*usually Randomised Controlled Trials, Health Economics, Systematic Reviews, Qualitative Health Research and 20 optional credits*) and modules are timetabled to facilitate this

(<https://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/student-intranet/timetables/timetables/>).

However, we acknowledge that some students may wish to split their 120 credits of taught modules differently over the two years, for example, depending on their dissertation topic, or if they wish to take a more statistical route and we will work with all students to plan their individual programme pathway taking into account teaching and assessment burden.

With respect to the dissertation, usually part-time students identify a topic in Year 1 when they are assigned a dissertation supervisor.

Diagrammatic representation of the timing of module assessments and reassessments, and the timing of departmental examination/progression boards

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation	Date of final award board
	Introduction to Health Statistics Week 1 Epidemiology Week 1 Randomised Controlled Trials Week1 Qualitative Health Research Week 1 Health Research in Practice Week 11 Introduction to Regression Analysis Week 12	Health Economics Week 1 Systematic Reviews Week 1 Public Health Foundations & Practice Week 1 Infection & Disease Week 1 Further Regression Analysis Week 10 Health & Social Behaviour Week 7 & Week 10 Health Policy: Principles, Practice & the Evidence Base Week 10 Measurement in Health & Disease Week 10	Internal progression board July 2018 Dissertation SuT Week 21	<i>Final exam board</i> October 2018
Footnote: Re-sit and re-submission for modules in August				

Overview of modules

Core module table

Module title	Module code	Credit level ¹	Credit value ²	Prerequisites	Assessment rules ³	Timing (term and week) and format of main assessment ⁴	Independent Study Module? ⁵
Epidemiology	HEA00013M	7	10	None	None	Week 1, SpT, 2 hour closed exam	No
Health Economics	HEA00019M	7	10	None	None	Week 1, SuT, 2 hour closed exam	No
Introduction to Health Statistics	HEA00091M	7	10	None	None	Week 1, SpT Open Book Exam	No
Introduction to Regression Analysis	HEA00001M	7	10	None	None	Week 12, SpT, 2,000 word report (90%) & Biweekly quizzes (10%)	No
Qualitative Health Research	HEA00033M	7	10	None	None	Week 1, SpT 2,500 word assignment	No
Randomised Controlled Trials	HEA00034M	7	10	None	None	Week 1, SpT, 2,500 word assignment	No
Systematic Reviews	HEA00036M	7	10	HEA00091M <i>or</i> HEA00034M	None	Week 1, SuT, 2,500 word assignment	No
Dissertation	HEA00077M	7	60	None	None	Week 21 SuT 16,000 words	Yes

¹ The **credit level** is an indication of the module's relative intellectual demand, complexity and depth of learning and of learner autonomy. Most modules in postgraduate programmes will be at Level 7/Masters. Some modules are permitted to be at Level 6/Honours but must be marked on a pass/fail basis. See University Teaching Committee guidance for the limits on Level 6/Honours credit.

² The **credit value** gives the notional workload for the module, where 1 credit corresponds to a notional workload of 10 hours (including contact hours, private study and assessment)

³ **Special assessment rules** (requiring University Teaching Committee approval)

P/F – the module is marked on a pass/fail basis (NB pass/fail modules cannot be compensated)

NC – the module cannot be compensated

NR – there is no reassessment opportunity for this module. It must be passed at the first attempt

⁴ AuT – Autumn Term, SpT – Spring Term, SuT – Summer Term, SuVac – Summer vacation

⁵ **Independent Study Modules** (ISMs) are assessed by a dissertation or substantial project report. They cannot be compensated (NC) and are subject to reassessment rules which differ from 'taught modules'. Masters programmes should include an ISM(s) of between 60 and 100 credits. This is usually one module but may be more.

Option modules

Module title	Module code	Credit level	Credit value	Prerequisites	Assessment rules	Timing and format of main assessment	Independent Study Module?
Further Regression Analysis	HEA00002M or HEA00094M	7	10	HEA00001M	None	Week 10, SuT, 2.5 hour computer-based exam	No
Health & Social Behaviour	HEA00063M	7	20	None	None	Week 7 SuT Poster presentation (25%) Week 10 SuT 2,500 word assignment (75%)	No
Health Policy: Principles, Practice & the Evidence Base	HEA00021M	7	10	None	None	Week 10, SuT, 2,500 word assignment	No
Health Research in Practice	HEA00092M	7	10	None	None	Week 11, SpT 2,500 word assignment	No
Infection & Disease	HEA00066M	7	20	None	None	Week 1, SuT 2,500 word assignment	No
Measurement in Health & Disease	HEA00028M	7	10	None	None	Week 10, SuT, 2-hour open book exam	No
Public Health Foundations & Practice	HEA00065M	7	20	None	None	Week 1, SuT 2,500 word assignment	No

Transfers out of or into the programme	
Exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by University Teaching Committee	
Exception	Date approved
Quality and Standards	
<p>The University has a framework in place to ensure that the standards of its programmes are maintained, and the quality of the learning experience is enhanced.</p> <p>Quality assurance and enhancement processes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The academic oversight of programmes within departments by a Board of Studies, which includes student representation • The oversight of programmes by external examiners, who ensure that standards at the University of York are comparable with those elsewhere in the sector • Annual monitoring and periodic review of programmes • The acquisition of feedback from students by departments. <p>More information can be obtained from the Academic Support Office: http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/</p> <p>Departmental Statements on Audit and Review Procedures are available at: http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/teach/deptstatements/index.htm</p>	
Date on which this programme information was updated:	21/8/2017
Departmental web page:	https://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/gradschool/applied-health-research/
Please note	
<p>The information above provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a typical students might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the leaning opportunities that are provided.</p> <p>Detailed information on learning outcomes, content, delivery and assessment of modules can be found in module descriptions.</p> <p>The University reserves the right to modify this overview in unforeseen circumstances, or where processes of academic development, based on feedback from staff, students, external examiners or professional bodies, requires a change to be made. Students will be notified of any substantive changes at the first available opportunity.</p>	