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The Department of International Health

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**“Education and
Research in European
Public Health”**



Mission of the Department

Mounting collaboration between European governments and organizations has major consequences for life of citizens within the Member States. It is expected that the role of the EU will increase in the years to come.

The consequences are apparent from the way in which health and healthcare are considered and discussed internationally, within Europe and nationally.

Growing European-level involvement can be observed in today's research agenda, fostering the concept of a European Research Agenda. The necessary link between research and education within an academic setting implies an increased European-level orientation within research and a transition of this orientation into education.

The Department of International Health at FHML has a European outlook which originates from the content of the key-activities of the European Union. The 'Europe' of the department is not limited to the Member States of the EU, the department's activities cover the WHO-EURO region.

Additionally it takes up the strategic decision of the faculty to build up co-operations with India and animate the cooperation regarding Public Health.

It will influence national, transnational, and European policy and institutes taking advantage of the geographical situation of Maastricht in a Euregional setting. Its education and research places local, regional, and national health developments into a wider European and global perspective.

Next to its educational and research activities the department is active in European projects which are related to the education and research in health.

The department is leading in and outside the faculty in conceptualizing the European perspective towards health.

Education

BSc in European Public Health

Since the academic year 2006/2007, the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences of Maastricht University offers a unique multidisciplinary and internationally focused bachelor programme, entitled Bachelor in European Public Health (B-EPH). This fully English taught programme is formally accredited by the Nederlands Vlaamse Accreditatie Organisatie (NVAO).

The EPH bachelor programme is the first in Europe to extend beyond national borders and looks at every aspect of European health and healthcare. The EPH graduate knows when, where and how to intervene on a European scale. The Bachelor's programme in EPH has a practical orientation and the tutorial groups make frequent use of real-life issues. EPH students explore modern-day European public health issues and the European agenda for public health, the organization of healthcare in Europe, European public health targets and the proposals for change these have prompted. The approach used is multi-disciplinary in nature. In addition, the programme uses a wide variety of teaching methods, including lectures and seminars given by national and international guest speakers, role playing, excursions, presentations by students, literature studies and project-based interactive tutorial groups.

MSc in European Public Health

Starting in the academic year 2009/10, the Maastricht University Medical Centre and the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences offer a new master's programme: the Master of Science in European Public Health. An English-taught, multidisciplinary and internationally focused degree.

The mission of this programme is to help students to obtain the skills and knowledge to compare health and healthcare in various settings, to search for and identify best practices, to foster the transfer of the best practices and to advise on, innovate and implement best practices in new situations.

The focus of the master in EPH will be geared towards:

- the situations, determinants, interventions and practices relevant to the health status of populations, of groups within them, and between member states;
- the diversity of practices and ways of organizing healthcare and systems for care provision in Europe;
- the demand by European institutions for modern, scientifically educated professionals with analytical tools and innovative research instruments to help them operate effectively in national, international and supranational policymaking and organizational development in the field of health.

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Research

Recent research projects

Cross border Health (care) issues:
www.euregio2.eu
www.euregio3.eu

Health Literacy European Survey:
www.health-literacy.eu

New methods in Public Health Surveillance
www.sidartha.eu

Public Health in South East Europe:
"The Public Health Research Network"

Ethics in European and International Health Policy

Developing Public Health Capacity in the EU