



# Ravenshaw University – AIPH

## Master of Public Health Programme

Following a decade long history of working in hard core clinical and epidemiological research in the field of neonatal mortality and its prevention in the state of Orissa, few committed and hard working medical and public health experts from Orissa and the U.S. launched Asian Institute of Public Health (AIPH) in Bhubaneswar, Orissa, as a unique institution for Public Health Education in the year 2008.

AIPH has entered into a partnership with Ravenshaw University, the oldest institution of higher learning in Orissa, to offer the Master in Public Health (MPH) degree. Honourable minister of higher education Mr. Debi Prasad Mishra and honourable minister of health and family welfare, Mr. Prasanna Acharya were part of the MOU exchange ceremony at the state secretariat on March 26, 2010. AIPH also has a special understanding with the College of Public Health at University of Nebraska Medical Centre, Omaha, USA to run collaborative educational and research programmes in Public Health. As part of this agreement, few faculty from AIPH also hold adjunct professors' appointment at UNMC and students from UNMC visit AIPH to do their Capstone research as well as service learning projects in AIPH operated field areas in Orissa. Also, AIPH conducts a Certificate in Public Health course of UNMC at AIPH using a high end virtual learning platform facilitated by designated AIPH faculty authorized by UNMC. This certificate is currently a mandatory part of the MPH course offered by AIPH. For details, please go to page 3 of this document.

As a post graduate student in Master of Public Health (MPH), a successful professional is expected to have the following skills and competencies at the end of the course:

- 1) Assessing health needs of individual and the community, and determining community capacities to meet these needs, especially in the resource poor settings of developing countries.
- 2) Planning and implementing effective community-based health intervention and education programmes based on evidence based and community oriented concepts.
- 3) Evaluating the effectiveness of public health programmes by applying appropriate quantitative and qualitative research techniques.
- 4) Acting as resource persons in disseminating public health principles.

The curriculum consists of the following core courses

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| 1. Foundations in Public Health           | 7. Health behaviour *                                   |
| 2. Health Planning & Management           | 8. Global applications in Public Health*                |
| 3. Biostatistics*                         | 9. Maternal and Child Health                            |
| 4. Epidemiology (Theory & application) *  | 10. Public Health, Environment & Society *              |
| 5. Applied epidemiology in practice       | 11. Health Services Administration*                     |
| a) Survey methods in Community Health     | 12. Health Economics                                    |
| b) Interpretation of epidemiological data | 13. Public Health Nutrition                             |
| 6. Disease related epidemiology           | 14. Health policy analysis                              |
| a) Infectious disease epidemiology        | 15. Applied Occupational Health                         |
| b) Chronic disease epidemiology           | 16. Introduction to Qualitative data collection methods |
|   | 17. Community Oriented Primary Care                     |

(\* These courses are delivered by UNMC faculty as part of the UNMC certificate program mentioned above)

The program is divided into four semesters. In the third semester, students take elective courses worth a minimum of six credits besides the courses mentioned above. The fourth semester is mainly devoted to research work, where a student conducts original research work on a chosen topic under the guidance of an AIPH/US mentor. The course yields a total credit of sixty hours, each credit hour comprising of 15 hours of active interaction between the teacher and the student.



The program is highly student centric and interactive. Students delve deep into public health problems in India and the world, which require them to do in depth search for up to date literature as well as constant interaction among the peers and the teachers across India and U.S. They also get a lot of practical exposure to the field projects that AIPH runs across more than 250 villages in Orissa and two public health laboratories that AIPH runs in two major hospitals of the state. The process of evaluation lays substantial weight on in-class participation, presentations/seminars, regular assignments and field work besides theory examinations.

This is a unique course in the sense that not only it gives the students an exposure to the public health issues, their challenges and effective solutions of both the Indian and the international relevance, but also facilitates them to avail an additional Certificate of Public Health from the College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Centre (UNMC), Omaha, USA at the end of the first year of the program. On completion of the MPH course which has sixty credits in total, a student can transfer the eighteen credits obtained from Certificate course of UNMC towards another masters or doctoral/post doctoral studies in US, especially in UNMC, if he/she wishes so in future.

The course is aimed at nurturing highly skilled public health professionals for the 21<sup>st</sup> century India, with the prowess to deliver solutions to global issues. Alongside theoretical grounding, professional development and all round grooming are emphasized in order to empower the students to face challenges in real life, on graduation.

During the two year program, students will also have the option of separately enrolling themselves for extra credits to obtain PG diploma in Public Health Informatics and other AIPH Certificates and Executive Development Programs.

Work-study and scholarship programs will be made available to students in the second year of the programme based on their performance in the previous semesters and also on their interest. The students are also encouraged to engage in AIPH-sponsored public health projects for their thesis research.

## **University of Nebraska Medical Centre Certificate in Public Health**

As part of an institutional Memorandum of Understanding between UNMC and AIPH, UNMC College of Public Health offers six core courses in public health leading to a UNMC Public Health Certificate. This rigorous program delivered over two semesters yields 18 credits. The courses are a core component of the UNMC MPH degree program, accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health, USA. These courses are delivered through a mixed contact and non-contact mode using video streaming technology in a virtual class room environment. Full time AIPH professors holding adjunct faculty appointment at the College of Public Health-UNMC provide preceptorship to local students. Upon successful completion of these courses, a UNMC Certificate in Public Health is awarded. In addition, the 18 credit hours may be transferred to the UNMC College of Public Health MPH and several doctoral programs depending on specific departmental requirements at UNMC.

The Ravenshaw University-AIPH joint MPH Program accepts these six courses in its curriculum as partial fulfilment of requirement (45 credits of course work and 15 credits of thesis research) towards the MPH degree taught locally over a two year period.

The certificate program from UNMC is delivered via a lecture capture technology co-hosted by Blackboard Learn and Echo 360, the two pioneers of this technology. From time to time, other real time communication platforms such as Adobe connect pro and Skype are also used as and when needed.

As a registered student, a student gets access to all the student services of UNMC, through the Blackboard Learn including library access. The program is highly student centric and interactive. Students delve deep into public health problems in India and the world, which require them to do up to date literature review as well as constant interaction among the peers and the teachers across India and the U.S. The process of evaluation lays substantial weight on in-class participation, presentations/seminars, regular assignments and field work besides theory examinations, but in a more non-formal and flexible environment to emphasize learning that is oriented towards skill development rather than examination performance. Incidentally, students who participate actively in class perform better in overall evaluation.



## **MPH - Eligibility:**

The eligibility for the program is a minimum of four years of university education after class 12. The MPH is suitable for those who are either working or aspiring to work in the field of public health, medical care & allied healthcare, especially for those who have aspirations to pursue world class education but cannot afford long study leaves due to work. Candidates with the following qualifications are encouraged to apply:

1. MBBS, BDS, BPT, BOT, BSc Nursing, B Pharm, B-tech, BVSc, BSc-Agri etc.
2. Post graduate (degree/diploma) in life sciences, social work, home science, nutrition, psychology, sociology, economics, biostatistics, health/hospital management, bio-informatics, clinical research, public health informatics, microbiology, laboratory technology, law etc.

## **Tuition Fees:**

Tuition fee for MPH is Rs 2.5 lakhs for the entire program (\$5500 US for international students). At the time of admission, the student will pay Rs 1.6 lakhs and the rest through equal instalments at the beginning of the each semester. International students will have to pay 50% of the total fee at the time of admission and the rest at the beginning of the third semester.

## **Financial Aid:**

Scholarship in the form of research grants/stipends/assistantships should be given to the meritorious students in the second year of MPH Studies and thereby giving opportunities for subsidising the total cost of tuition fees. Also scholarship will be made available to meritorious and deserving candidates to pursue higher education in UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTRE (UNMC), after completion of MPH studies.

## **Accommodation:**

Limited number of modest hostel accommodation is available to students willing to stay in the AIPH premises at a monthly rental of Rs 5000 which will include the following services:

- Shared boarding facility furnished with all basic facilities
- Traditional Odiya food
- WI-fi facility and Access to computer lab 24X7

Students may opt to stay outside in hotel or rented accommodations, in which case, AIPH staff will assist them in finding suitable places to stay.

## **How to apply**

There is no application fee for the application process. For more information, or to enrol in the MPH program, please contact [mph@aiph.ac.in](mailto:mph@aiph.ac.in) Or call at the following numbers:

Tel: +91-674-6574656, Fax: +91-674-2340556

For other details, please go to the AIPH website : [www.aiph.ac.in](http://www.aiph.ac.in)