



**Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University  
Faculty of Medicine**



**Georgian-Norwegian Collaborative  
Master Program**

**Public Health**

# Georgian-Norwegian Collaborative Master Program „Public Health”

## Description

*„Public Health is the Science and Art of preventing disease “<sup>1</sup>*  
*„Public Health promotes and protects the health of people  
and the communities where they live, learn...”<sup>2</sup>*

**Master Program Title:** Public Health

The innovative Georgian-Norwegian Collaborative Master Program is designed in the framework of SIU founded CPEA-2015/10057 Project „Georgian-Norwegian Collaborative in Public Health (GeNoC-PH)” and partnership between Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University/TSU (Georgia), The Arctic University of Norway/UiT (Norway) and National Center for Diseases Control and Public Health/NCDC (Georgia).

**Academic Degree Offered:** Master of Public Health (MPH)

**Director of the Master’s Program:** Nino Chikhladze, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

**International academic adviser:** Toralf Haswold, Professor Emeritus, the Arctic University of Norway/University of Tromso, Norway

**Duration of the Study:** Two years (four semesters)

**Number of credits:** 120 ECTS are required to complete the Master program.

**Language of instruction:** English

**The aim of the Program:** Master Program aims to provide student-centered and competence-based teaching harmonized with International standards of Public Health Master Level Education, therefore intends to train and inspire new generation of public health professionals in global network atmosphere, provide broad knowledge, skills and expertise that is needed to undertake leadership roles in addressing important issues of Public Health at national and global level.

### Admission Requirements:

- Bachelor’s degree diploma in Health Sciences or in a relevant field (Social Sciences or Natural Sciences in case of documented minimum 5ECTS within the areas specific to master program: *Public Health, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Environmental Health, Health Management, Health Economics, Health Promotion*), one cycle-undergraduate medical education diploma.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/Health-systems/public-health-services>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.apha.org/what-is-public-health>

- The common entrance exam for master degree (for Georgian applicants only);
- University exam in English Language on level B2 or Certificate confirming the knowledge of English Language on level B2.

### **Start of the Program**

The Program admits new students one time per year for the autumn/fall quarter, in September. For exact dates please see the academic schedule on TSU web-site. (<https://www.tsu.ge/>).

### **The Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the study and after successful completion of the master program, students:

#### **A. Knowledge and Understanding**

-will have a profound and comprehensive knowledge of concepts and methods in public health; will be able to express in-depth understanding of population health and its social, economic and environmental determinants.

#### **B. Applying knowledge in practice**

-will be able to identify complex public health problems and to find the ways of problem solving in new or unfamiliar environment within multidisciplinary context and to apply epidemiological and statistical concepts, ethical principles, research methods to carry out independent research and/or health needs assessment, or health economic principles in the design of financing mechanism;

#### **C. Making Judgment**

-will be able to formulate Judgment in public health dimension on the basis of incomplete or limited information and innovative synthesis of the information; critically evaluate the quality of scientific publications in public health; perform risk assessment and health economic assessment of a given procedure, intervention, strategy or policy; write a public health policy proposal;

#### **D. Communication**

-will be able to present conclusion on public health policy and practice issues and effectively communicate public health messages with specialist and non-specialist audience;

#### **E. Learning Skills**

-will be able to continue learning independently, express understanding of the importance of LLL principles in public health;

#### **F. Values**

-will be able to respect ethical principles and human rights in health care and public health policy and practice.

### **Approach to Teaching and Learning:**

Throughout Master of Public Health Program different methods will be employed:

- ✓ Interactive lectures/seminars using PP presentations, demonstration method using Video/Audio materials

- ✓ Computing practical, group work with peers
- ✓ Homework assignments, Quiz
- ✓ Presentations
- ✓ Debates/Discussions, Brainshtorming
- ✓ Observation
- ✓ Case/Problem/Role play-based learning
- ✓ The critical analysis method
- ✓ Participation in scientific research
- ✓ e-learning Platform Moodle

Student-centered and skills-based teaching and learning encourage students to be active during whole study and to take responsibility for their own learning.

### Organization and Structure

Program covers the core principle of public health. Program cover academic training and research components. Totally Master Program consists of 120 ECTS (\*1 ECTS -25h.) which are distributed as follow: totally 80 ECTS are allocated to 8 core courses (3 mandatory courses per semester in I and II semester; 2 mandatory courses in III semester). 10 ECTS is allocated to elective course, students should register for not than one elective course in III semester. The IV semester is dedicated to the research component-Master Thesis (30 ECTS).

<b>I semester 30 ECTS</b>	<b>Evidence-Based Public Health 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>	<b>Epidemiology and Biostatistics I 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>	<b>Health Promotion 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>
<b>II semester 30 ECTS</b>	<b>Health Management, Economics and Policy 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>	<b>Epidemiology and Biostatistics II 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>	<b>Environmental Health 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>
<b>III semester 30 ECTS</b>	<b>Bioethics 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>	<b>Research Methods and Scientific Writing 10 ECTS Mandatory</b>	<b>International Health Global Health Maternal and Child Health Policy and Programs 10 ECTS Electives</b>
<b>IV semester 30 ECTS</b>	<b>Master Thesis 30 ECTS Mandatory</b>		

Each semester comprises 15 weeks. Normally most of courses will be held once or twice per week, but in case of visiting International lecturer or student mobility some core courses (for ex. „Environmental Health”, „Bioethics”) and elective courses can be organized in more intensive way. The schedule will be agreed with students in advance.

**Career opportunity:** Master of Public Health degree qualifies for leading positions in Health Care and Public Health facilities, Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations concerned with public Health issues, as well in International Organization.

**Learning Continuation Opportunity**

The Master Program graduates will be able to continue studies and to apply for admission to Doctoral Programs in Higher Educational Institutions in Georgia or abroad.

**Additional Information:** The duration of SIU funded CPEA-2015/10057 Project „Georgian-Norwegian Collaborative in Public Health (GeNoC-PH)” is four years (01.03.2016-31.12.2019). The overall goal of the project is to increase public health competence in Georgia by developing a new, international, high-quality Master Program in Public Health (MPH). The project further aims to educate students on master level to utilize the large amount of data generated from newly developed national health registries in Georgia.

TSU is a part of the **Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation programme** and other students' exchange and mobility schemes.

**Contact Person: Associate Professor Nino Chikhladze, Program Director**  
**E-mail: [nino.chikhladze@tsu.ge](mailto:nino.chikhladze@tsu.ge)**