

Studying at Sydney School of Public Health



The Sydney School of Public Health was originally established in 1930 as the Commonwealth School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and was incorporated into the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney in 1987.

Today, as one of eight schools within Sydney Medical School, it is a vibrant network of individuals, research groups and centres that offer a wide range of educational and research opportunities for a wide range of students.

620 coursework students

120 research (PhD & MPhil) candidates

Over 200 new students commence each year

- › Promoting health, preventing disease, prolonging life
- › Working with whole populations rather than individuals
- › The community as the patient



Postgraduate coursework programs

Open to both medical and non-medical graduates

- Public health
- International public health
- Clinical epidemiology
- Health policy
- STI/HIV
- Infection and immunity
- Health communication
- Biostatistics
- Bioethics



PhD and MPhil degrees available in many disciplines

- › Cancer
- › Infection and immunological conditions
- › Chronic and preventable diseases
- › Obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease
- › Neurosciences and mental health
- › Reproductive, maternal and child health

DEGREE NAME	DURATION	DEGREE CODE	CRICOS CODE
Doctor of Philosophy	3 to 4 years full time 3 to 8 years part time	KB000	006455J
Master of Philosophy *	1 to 2 years full time 2 to 4 years part time	KC083	057895G
Master of Surgery (Research)	2 to 3 years full time 3 to 4 years part time	KC000	012841D

- › Over 600 postgraduate students from 45 countries (Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas, the Pacific)
- › Health professionals (doctors, nurses and pharmacists)
- › Beginner health practitioners – those wanting a career change (teachers, journalists, scientists)



Program highlights

- › emphasises disease prevention, health promotion and Indigenous health
- › more than 30 electives – students can tailor the program to suit their individual needs
- › specialist pathways available in communicable diseases, chronic disease, injury, public health research and health economics/health policy
- › flexible learning options – classes offered face-to-face, online, block mode or a blend

Master of Public Health

- › 1 year full-time
- › Commence March or July (semester 1 or 2)
- › Entry Requirements:
4-year bachelor degree or 3-year degree with experience
- › 2011 Domestic fee
A\$21,840
- › **CSPs available**
2011 fee A\$ 7,771

Program highlights

- › specifically focussed on developing countries
- › large number of electives – students can tailor the program to suit individual needs
- › teaching staff have experience working in developing countries in Africa, Asia and more
- › attracts students from all over the world – a global classroom
- › students organise social activities including a Cultural Night and Harbour Cruise

Master of International Public Health

- › 1 year full-time
- › Commence March or July (semester 1 or 2)
- › Entry Requirements:
4-year bachelor degree or
3-year degree with
experience
- › 2011 Domestic fee
A\$21,840
- › **CSPs available**
2011 fee A\$ 7,771

What is the difference between an MPH and MIPH?

Public health

- › Public Health courses are designed for those who plan to work in developed countries, such as Australia and countries in Europe and North America
- › the aim is to develop a broad knowledge of public health issues. Students can choose some electives from international public health.

International public health

- › focussed on public health in developing countries, including many countries in Asia, the Pacific, Africa and Latin America.
- › all core and elective classes are concerned with the issues impacting health in lower income countries - diseases in modernisation, travel and tropical medicine, health and humanitarian emergencies, nutrition in international settings.

Designed for clinicians - doctors, nurses, and other health professionals who want their decision making to be based on the best available evidence.

Course Content

- › developing a clinical research proposal
- › knowledge and skills in advanced statistical methods
- › the best evidence on diagnostic tests and systematic reviews
- › undertaking a systematic review
- › knowledge and skills in multiple regression, statistical computing, categorical data analysis and survival analysis
- › advanced knowledge and skills in epidemiology

- › Multilateral, bilateral organisations (AusAID, the United Nations, the World Health Organisation)
- › international aid organisations
- › government departments
- › hospitals and clinics
- › pharmaceutical companies
- › medical device companies
- › associations
- › colleges
- › consumer and trade media
- › health insurance funds
- › not-for-profits
- › non-government organizations
- › community-based organisations
- › public relations consultancies



- › Beyond the classroom students can participate in cultural and social events throughout the year, giving them the opportunity to network and make new friends for example Cultural Night, Harbour Cruise



Dr Becky Freeman

PhD 2011

"My PhD thesis focused on whether the internet - particularly social networking and user-generated websites like Facebook and YouTube - is being used to undermine tobacco control efforts.

As the internet is a largely unregulated and globally accessible platform it has the potential to allow tobacco companies to skirt the advertising and marketing restrictions that exist in traditional media, and promote their products directly to young people.

It is very exciting to investigate this new form of media as at present there is little knowledge about whether online marketing is weakening public health campaigns. My goal is that my research will provide evidence to strengthen legislative controls on tobacco advertising and marketing."



Lalith Senarathna PhD Candidate 2011

“I decided to do a PhD as it would help me to develop research skills, and the main reason I selected University of Sydney was the number of expert academic staff.

My area of research focuses on improving primary health care services in developing countries through different educational strategies.

I hope to develop a mechanism to promote clinical guidelines in low resource hospital settings.”



Dr Cindy Chiu

MPH – Professional Practice 2011

“I was originally from a laboratory science background and had a PhD in molecular neuroscience. I discovered I actually had an immense passion for public health, and therefore wanted a career change into this field.

The MPH has given me exactly what I needed as a stepping stone – a solid foundation in epidemiology and biostatistics as well as a good understanding of different public health issues. Upon completion of my degree, I was able to secure my dream job as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

What I found most amazing about the program, is that you can literally come from any discipline and use this course as a springboard to enter a career in public health. The number of doors that were opened for me after this program was unbelievable. I highly recommend the Master of Public Health program to anyone interested in a career in public health.”



Nicole Mealing

Master of Biostatistics 2011

“During my Masters with the School of Public Health I was employed by NSW Health as a Biostatistician. Prior to this I was working as a Statistician for the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

I am now working as a Statistician at the University of Bern, Switzerland in the Division of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

My role involves the management and analysis of observational data and clinical trials, mainly in the field of neurology/movement disorders, as well as contributing to the planning of studies, writing of research papers and the conduct and analysis of systematic reviews and meta-analyses.



Dr Andrew Habig

Master of Public Health 2010

“The University of Sydney MPH course provides a rigorous grounding in the core public health subjects, with a broad range of electives provided to suit different interests.

The flexible nature of this program allowed me to achieve a reasonable balance between my study and work responsibilities. The quality of the education was very high, and delivered with great enthusiasm.

Although I have enjoyed clinical medicine, I often felt that I was helping to fix problems that were potentially preventable. I have always been interested in the big picture, and felt I could best contribute by moving upstream to help limit the occurrence of disease at the population level.”





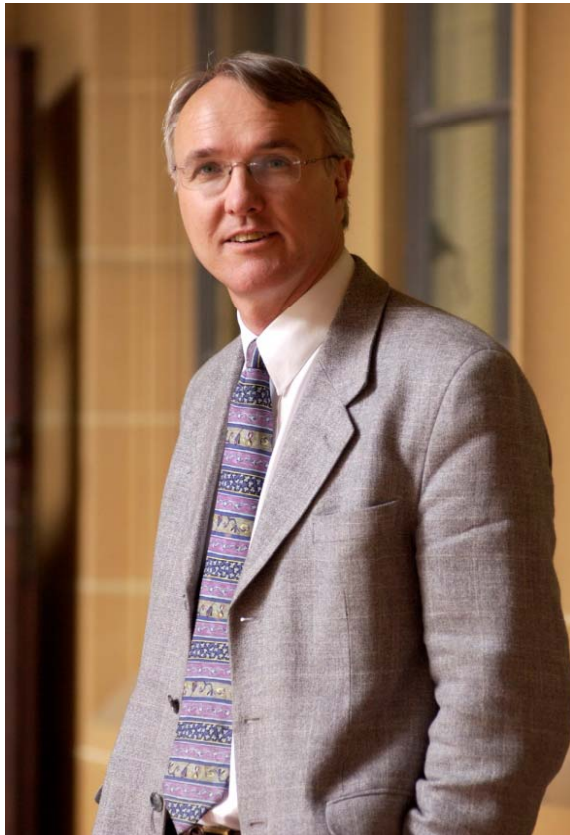
Professor Glenn Salkeld

- NHMRC Public Health Fellowship in Health Economics
- First to receive a NHMRC grant to quantify consumer preferences for bowel cancer screening
- Key publications on the benefits and harms of cancer screening in the BMJ, Health Economics
- In collaboration with WHO, developed and delivered education program on the selection and reimbursement of pharmaceuticals in low & middle income countries
- Appointment as Professor of Public Health and Head of School



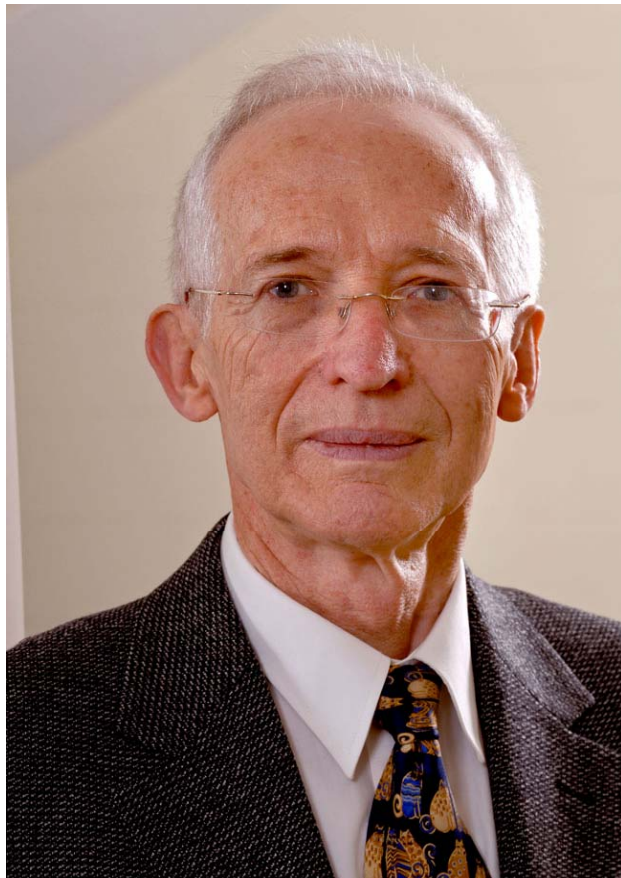
Professor Alexandra Barratt

- Co-Director, Centre for Medical Psychology & Evidence-based Decision (CeMPED) - supporting excellent research across the interface of Psychology, Medicine & Public Health.
 - Double Eureka prize winner (2006 & 2007) for radio series on health care broadcast ABC Radio National's "The Health Report". The series were Cancer Screening (first broadcast in 2005) & Facing the Evidence (first broadcast in 2006).
 - Led the group which published the first model of outcomes of mammography screening (BMJ 2005) for Australian women.
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Professor Robert G. Cumming

- Australia's only professor of both epidemiology & ageing
 - Senior investigator on multiple large cohort studies, including Blue Mountains Eye Study, Concord Health and Ageing in Men Project (CHAMP) & NSW 45 and Up Study (n=250,000)
 - Co-author of Cochrane Review on falls prevention in older people
 - Expert on ageing in sub-Saharan Africa
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Professor Bruce Armstrong

- Epidemiologist, public health physician & health administrator
 - World renowned for work on sun exposure as a cause of melanoma and other skin cancers
 - 6th World Congress on Melanoma award for a lifetime of achievement in basic research into melanoma 2005
 - Inaugural New South Wales Premier's award for Outstanding Cancer Researcher of the Year in 2006
 - Present research is on vitamin D in cancer prevention and measuring quality of cancer services
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Professor Les Irwig

- Lead investigator of the Screening and Test Evaluation Program, which is now in its second round of NHMRC Program Grant funding
 - STEP publications have been in leading journals and been influential in guiding practice and future research
 - Author of books on health decision-making for consumers and on the use of tests for practitioners and public health researchers:
SMART HEALTH CHOICES (2nd edition)
Irwig L, Irwig J, Trevena L, Sweet M.
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Professor Simon Chapman

- NSW Premier's Cancer Researcher of the Year, 2008
 - Editor of the British Medical Journal's "Tobacco Control" for 17 years
 - Head of the Australian Health News Research Collaboration -- maintains database of all TV news on health issues -- now over 30,000 clips
 - Most recent book: *Let Sleeping Dogs Lie? What men should know before being tested for prostate cancer*
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