Health Sciences MSc
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Fac. der Aard- en Levenswetenschappen - M Health Sciences - 2015-2016
The aim of this one-year Master programme Health Sciences is to educate students as specialist in the field of health care, organization of (international) public health, nutrition, infectious disease and disease prevention.

The programme intends to educate students as specialist in the field of health care, (international) public health, nutrition and disease prevention. The programme is primarily taught in English. It is possible for students to choose one of the following specialisations:

- Health Policy
- Prevention and Public Health
- Infectious Diseases and Public Health
- Nutrition & Health
- International Public Health

The year schedule can be found at the FALW-website.
Further information about the MSc programme Health Sciences.
A complete programme description can be found at the FALW-website.
The course programme components presented in the list below will no longer be part of the examination programme in academic year 2014-2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Description</th>
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The course programme components presented in the list below will no longer be part of the examination programme in academic year 2014-2014.

The course programme components presented in the list below will no longer be part of the examination programme in academic year 2012-2013.

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MSc Health Sciences, without specialisation

Opleidingsdelen:

- optional modules
- choose al least one of these modules

optional modules

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choose at least one of these modules

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MSc Health Sciences, spec. Health Policy

This specialisation is intended for students with a BSc degree in Health Sciences who want to specialise in the field of policy and organisation of health care. The programme gives a broad overview of different aspects of the policy and organisation of health care; health economics, international comparisons, economic evaluations, cost-effectiveness studies, systematic reviews and the practical implications of legal rules and legal developments.

For a specialisation degree 2 courses and 1 out of 3 optional courses plus one internship or research project (30 credits) are compulsory (together at least 48 credits). The other 2 courses of the programme can be filled in freely within the general requirements for an MSc General
Health Sciences. In research projects or internships students will focus on one or more of the aspects in the field of policy and organisation of health care.

Opleidingsdelen:

- Optional modules spec. Health Policy
- Compulsory modules spec. Health Policy

Optional modules spec. Health Policy

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Compulsory modules spec. Health Policy

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MSc Health Sciences, spec. Infectious Diseases and PH

This specialisation is intended for students with a BSc degree in Health Sciences who want to specialise in infectious diseases. The programme gives a broad overview of the biology of pathogenic organisms, the interaction between pathogens and their hosts and has a special focus on the epidemiology and control of infectious diseases.

Students who want to follow the specialisation Infectious Diseases and Public Health are advised to have included the course Infectieziekten (code 471024) in their Bachelor programme. Students that do not fulfill this requirement are advised to contact the master co-ordinator.

For a specialisation degree 3 courses (see below) plus an internship or
research project (30 credits) within this field are obligatory (together at least 48 credits). The rest of the programme can be filled in freely within the general requirements for a Msc Health Sciences programme. In research projects or internships students will focus on one or more of these aspects of infectious diseases.

Opleidingsdelen:

- Optional modules
- Compulsory modules
- choose at least one of these modules

Optional modules

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Compulsory modules

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MSc Health Sciences, spec. International Public Health
The programme of the master specialisation International Public Health (IPH) aims to enable graduates to obtain the knowledge and skills to analyse complex international health problems and to identify, assess and design interventions from an interdisciplinary perspective. The master programme prepares graduates for a career as a scientific researcher, policy maker, advisor or manager in the field of international public health at a university, research institute, ministry, industry, non-governmental or international organisation.

The Master specialisation International Public Health is a one-year programme and consists of 60 credits. The course language is English. For a specialisation degree 3 courses (total 18 credits) plus an internship (total 27 credits) within this field are compulsory.

Opleidingsdelen:
- Optional modules
- Compulsory modules

Optional modules

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Compulsory modules

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MSc Health Sciences, spec. Nutrition and Health

The specialization Nutrition and Health is intended for students with a BSc degree in Health and/or life Sciences who want to discover the role of diet in health and in disease. Admission conditions can be found in the AER of this academic year.

At the start of this programme you should have basic knowledge and insight at BSc level, and hold a professional, academic attitude. In addition, prior knowledge and skills at the level of the BSc courses “voeding en gezondheid” en “voedingsonderzoek in de praktijk” are required.

In this specialization you are trained to become a nutrition scientist. You acquire specialized knowledge on the relation between nutrition and health, are able to identify, and judge scientific evidence for nutrition and health related research, and assess the implications of nutrition research for future research and policy.

Students can choose their own focus within the programme. For example, students can concentrate on the promotion of good health through primary and secondary prevention of nutrition related illness in the population (prevention); on nutritional problems in the clinical setting (clinical nutrition); on nutrition and infectious diseases; and/or on nutritional problems in developing and developed countries. Students are free to support their focus by choosing one or two optional courses from other programmes. Students can choose an internship project that fits their interest. Also international internships are possible within this programme.

In this specialization we focus on nutrition and health, but at the end of this master’s programme the acquired skills can be applied also to other settings/fields within Health Sciences as well.

Alumni from this programme work in different institutes, e.g. GG&GD, TNO, RIVM, food industry, hospital, universities, university medical centers, KIT, RIVM, WHO.

This specialization consists of some compulsory and some optional courses as well as a research project (internship). Details can be found in the AER of the MSc Health Sciences of this academic year.

Opleidingsdelen:

- optional modules
- compulsory modules
- choose at least one of these modules

optional modules

Vakken:
compulsary modules

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choose al least one of these modules

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MSc Health Sciences, spec. Prevention and Public Health

The specialization Prevention and Public Health is suitable for those who want to specialize in health promotion and disease prevention. Admission conditions can be found in the AER 2014-2015.

At the start of this course, we expect students to master knowledge, insight, attitude and skills at a level which is comparable to the final qualifications stated by the Bachelor Health Sciences at the VU. Furthermore, prior knowledge and skills comparable to the objectives of the BSc courses ‘Preventie’ and ‘Gezondheidscommunicatie’ are required.

Within this specialization you are trained to become a health promotor who is able to work in a theory- & evidence-based way and is able to link research, practice and policy. The programme addresses knowledge, attitude and skills related to the development, evaluation and implementation of health promoting interventions aimed at lifestyle changes in several domains. Theories, methods and strategies at both the individual and the environmental level will be addressed. In addition, attention is given to prevention approaches at the individual and policy level and within different settings.

The courses within this specialization are structured according to the
six steps of Intervention Mapping to ensure coherence in the program. These steps are: 1) Needs assessment, 2) Preparing matrices of change objectives, 3) Selecting theory-informed intervention methods and practical applications, 4) Producing program components and materials, 5) Planning program adoption, implementation, and sustainability and 6) Planning for evaluation.

This specialization consists of some compulsory and some optional courses as well as a research project (internship). Details with respect to what to choose and the credits you can earn can be found in the AER of the MSc Health Sciences 2014-2015.

Opleidingsdelen:
- optional modules
- compulsory modules
- choose al least one of these modules

optional modules

Vakken:

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compulsory modules

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choose al least one of these modules

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Advanced Dietetics

Doel vak
After finishing this course students have reached the Advanced Level of practising dietetics. All relevant diagnostic measures can be performed, initiated and interpreted and the student can define a dietetic diagnosis and treatment goals in very complex patient care by performing the rules of clinical reasoning.
This course combines research (evidence based practice) and patient care and supplies therefore the knowledge, skills and competences needed to become a dietician at Advanced Level.

Inhoud vak
- Clinical reasoning
- Diagnostic measures (nutritional assessment, QOL, functional measurements etc)
- Dietetic diagnosis
- Treatment endpoints and evaluations
- Specific diseases with regard to GI tract, cancer, paediatrics, kidney, ICU, perioperative care

Onderwijsvorm
Tutorials, clinical reasoning, performing patient care with guidance, patient case assignments.

Toetsvorm
Patient care (50%) assessment patient care (final case assignment, 50%)

Literatuur
www.espen.org/espenbluebook.html

Vereiste voorkennis
Education: "HBO dietetiek"

Doelgroep
Dieticians who want to practice dietetics at advanced level. The course is part of the MSc Nutrition and Health.

Overige informatie
This course is planned over a period of six months, 8 hours a week during the Msc internship.

Advanced Health Economics

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<tr>
<td>Coördinator</td>
<td>B.H. Salampessij MSc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examinator</td>
<td>dr. A.H.E. Koolman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Docent(en)</td>
<td>dr. F.R.M. Portrait, dr. A.H.E. Koolman, B.H. Salampessij MSc</td>
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**Doel vak**
The objective of this course is twofold: (1) to increase skills of health economic analysis to enable the study of health policy from an economic perspective and (2) to develop knowledge of health economics required to understand (Dutch) health policy.

This course mainly focuses on health economics needed to optimize healthcare system performance. This course deals with the following issues:
- What are the goals of a health system?
- How may these goals be measured?
- Under what conditions may markets contribute to these goals?
- Why are healthcare costs growing so fast?
- What is practice variation and how may it be controlled?
- How may healthcare costs be controlled?

After successful completion of this course:
- Students will have knowledge about the economic theory applied to healthcare;
- Students will be able to identify health system goals;
- Students will be able to understand the basics of the methods used to measure these goals;
- Students will understand the requirements for healthcare markets to provide public healthcare goals;
- Students will understand the healthcare cost growth van variation and will understand the options to contain healthcare costs;
- Students will be able to perform a statistical longitudinal analysis of healthcare costs.

**Inhoud vak**
The theoretical part of this course is largely based on the last edition (Volume 2) of the Handbook of Health Economics. This part will be discussed both in lectures and (computer assisted) workgroups. The latter will be used mostly to practice specific analytic skills required for the written exam.

For the empirical part, students will create groups to perform a longitudinal analysis of healthcare cost development in OECD countries.
This analysis will involve the quantitative skills of the preceding course "Care and Prevention Research" and will lead to a policy oriented paper and a presentation.

**Onderwijsvorm**
Lectures, workshops and computerpracticals totaling 50 hours.

**Toetsvorm**
The final grade will be based on a written scientific policy report (1/3) and written examination (2/3). The final grade is the weighted average of the two marks.

**Literatuur**
Handbook of Health Economics, Edited by Mark V. Pauly, Thomas G. Mcguire and Pedro P. Barros (PDF-provided by the VU)

**Vereiste voorkennis**
(Introduction in) health economics

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**
Courses of the bachelor curriculum: (Introduction in) health economics

**Doelgroep**
Students participating in the master Health Sciences. The course is compulsory for students who enrolled in the specialization Policy and Organization of Healthcare

**Advanced Health Law**

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<td>dr. mr. V.E.T. Dörenberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examinator</td>
<td>dr. mr. V.E.T. Dörenberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Docent(en)</td>
<td>dr. mr. B.J.M. Frederiks</td>
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**Doel vak**
De algemene leerdoelen zijn:
- de student heeft kennis van de inhoud en positie van het gezondheidsrecht en is op de hoogte van geldende rechtsbeginselen en uitgangspunten binnen dit vakgebied;
- de student heeft inzicht in welke invloed de praktijk heeft op wetgeving, welke knelpunten zich in de praktijk op het gebied van een aantal specifieke onderwerpen (kunnen) voordoen en welke gevolgen dit heeft voor bestaande en toekomstige wetgeving;
- de student heeft inzicht in (juridische) methoden van onderzoek;
- de student heeft inzicht in onderzoeksmethoden bij evaluatie van wet- en regelgeving;
- de student kan gezondheidsrechtelijke knelpunten in de praktijk herkennen en daarop een juridisch onderzoeksvoorstel formuleren.
Inhoud vak
In jaar 2 en 3 van de opleiding hebben studenten kennis kunnen maken met het vakgebied gezondheidsrecht. Het gezondheidsrecht bestrijkt alle juridische regels die van belang zijn voor de gezondheidszorg en de volksgezondheid. De afgelopen jaren heeft het gezondheidsrecht niet stilgestaan. Diverse wetten zijn geëvalueerd, huidige wetten zijn aangepast en nieuwe wetsvoorstellen zijn ingediend bij de Tweede Kamer. Actueel zijn bijvoorbeeld de ferme stelselherzieningen rondom de langdurige zorg en de zorg voor jeugdigen, maar ook de verschillende wetsvoorstellen tot wijziging van de mogelijkheden voor het toepassen van onvrijwillige c.q. verplichte zorg in met name de care sector. In dit verdiepende mastervak wordt verondersteld dat je inzicht hebt in de inhoud en positie van het gezondheidsrecht en op de hoogte bent van de geldende rechtsbeginselen en uitgangspunten van het gezondheidsrecht.
Aan de hand van drie hoofdthema’s wordt vervolgens de verhouding tussen het gezondheidsrecht en de praktijk nader bekeken. Bij de keuze van de hoofdthema’s zijn de ontwikkelingen op het vakgebied mede bepalend geweest. De keuze is daarom gevallen op de thema’s (methoden van) juridisch-empirisch onderzoek, organisatie en financiering van zorg en (toezicht op) kwaliteit van zorg. De verbindende factor binnen de thema’s is ‘onderzoek’. Dit houdt in dat de drie thema’s zoveel als mogelijk worden behandeld aan de hand van recent afgeronde gezondheidsrechtelijke onderzoeksprojecten. Vragen die daarbij centraal staan, zijn: Hoe effectief is wetgeving in de gezondheidszorg? Gooit wetgeving voldoende richting om de inhoud van de wet te vertalen naar beleid of moet de huidige wetgeving worden vervangen door nieuwe wetgeving? Welke factoren spelen een rol bij de totstandkoming c.q. wijziging van een wet? En wat betekenen eventuele wetswijzigingen voor de rechtspositie van patiënten/cliënten?

Onderwijsvorm
Werkcolleges, excursie, schrijven van onderzoeksvoorstel, groepspresentatie tijdens slotconferentie.

Contacturen: gemiddeld 10 uur per week.

Toetsvorm
Tentamen (50%), verslag (40%), presentatie (10%).

Alle cijfers moeten 5,5 of hoger zijn.

Literatuur
De verplichte en aanbevolen literatuur wordt per college/onderwijsonderdeel op blackboard geplaatst.

Doelgroep
Master studenten Health Sciences

Overige informatie
Het betreft een keuzevak in de master Health Sciences.
Taal: Nederlands
Max. 60 studenten worden toegelaten tot het vak.
Advanced Statistics

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<td>Coördinator</td>
<td>dr. M.R. de Boer</td>
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**Doel vak**
After this course, the students will understand the basic principles of multilevel analysis and longitudinal data analysis. Furthermore, they will be able to perform these techniques with standard software packages: level 3

**Inhoud vak**
In the lectures several aspects of advanced methodology will be introduced and discussed. In the computer-practical, these advanced methods will be applied with several software packages, such as SPSS, MLwiN and STATA. In the last part of the course, the students will get a complicated dataset and they have to answer a complicated research question. The results of their analyses must be written in a 'short' paper and must be presented in an oral presentation. The following advanced methodological topics will be discussed:

- Multilevel analysis
- Longitudinal data analysis

**Onderwijsvorm**
Lectures (7 times 3 hours)
Computer practical (6 times 3 hours)
Research assignment (3 times 3 hours)
Oral presentation (1 time 3 hours)
Writing of a scientific paper

**Toetsvorm**
Written exam (50%)
Oral presentation (25%)
Paper (25%)
All three parts must have been graded at least 6

**Literatuur**
- Sheets of the lectures

**Vereiste voorkennis**
Students must have knowledge of ‘standard’ linear, logistic and Cox-regression analysis.
Doel vak
Overall aim
The objective of this course is to learn methods for designing and conducting research and critically appraise the methodological quality of research in the field of health care and prevention.

Final attainment levels
The student:
• Has knowledge and can apply knowledge related to the pros, cons of and sources of biases in various study designs including observational study designs and study designs for evaluation of effectiveness of preventive and therapeutic interventions.
• Is able to search for and identify relevant scientific studies
• Is able to critically appraise scientific publications in the field of health care and prevention using standardised risk of bias tools.
• Has knowledge about the basic concepts in the field of measurement in health.

Inhoud vak
This Master course Care & Prevention Research focuses on methods and techniques of scientific studies related to both health care and prevention.
Topics to be covered:
• Advanced methodology of observational and experimental studies
• Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
• Searching the literature; optimal use of Pubmed and other useful databases
• Measurement in health sciences and public health

Onderwijsvorm
The course comprises of twelve lectures, as well as computer practicals and seminar groups. Students will work in groups on assignments. The lectures will contain examples applied to the field of health care and prevention. The assignments are aimed at a better understanding and an introduction to the application of the content of the lectures.

Toetsvorm
False/true questions (80%) and an assignment on qualitative studies (20%). In addition some exercises will have to be completed successfully.

**Literatuur**

Book:

Online reader on Blackboard

**Vereiste voorkennis**

Students should have basic knowledge of statistics and epidemiology and the principles and methods of observational studies, experimental studies, and qualitative studies.

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**

Students should have basic knowledge of epidemiology and the principles and methods of observational studies, experimental studies, and qualitative studies.

**Doelgroep**

Students with a BSc degree in Health Sciences at the VU. Students with a comparable BSc degree (such as Health Sciences at another university, Human Movement Sciences etc.). This is to the discretion of the course management. Please, contact the course coordinator Helma IJzelenberg (h.ijzelenberg@vu.nl) before the start of the course.

**Intekenprocedure**

For this course it is not possible to register for workgroups via VUnet. See Blackboard for more information.

**Overige informatie**

The master course ‘Care and Prevention Research’ is a compulsory course in the specialisations ‘Policy and Organization of Health Care’, ‘Prevention and Public Health’, ‘Infectious Diseases and Public Health’ and ‘Nutrition and Health’. The course is open to all students within the Master of Health Sciences.

**Communication Campaigns and Research**

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<td>M. van den Nieuwoer MSc</td>
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<td>dr. J. Veldhuis, drs. A.M. Baars</td>
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**Doel vak**
In this course students will gain an understanding of:
- Communication theory and theories of persuasion that relate to
mass and new media health campaigns
- How to analyze campaign content in terms of message factors and communication strategies
- How to develop and deliver mass media and new media communication campaign messages
- How to evaluate the effects of a media health campaign (by using quantitative methods)
- How to advise institutions about (the implementation of) mass and new media communication campaigns

Inhoud vak
This course, fits in the program of the specialization Prevention and Public Health. Within this specialization you are trained to become a health promoter who is able to work in a theory- & evidence-based way and is able to link research, practice and policy.

The courses within this specialization are structured according to the six steps of Intervention Mapping. These steps are: 1) Needs assessment, 2) Preparing matrices of change objectives, 3) Selecting theory-informed intervention methods and practical applications, 4) Producing program components and materials, 5) Planning program adoption, implementation, and sustainability and 6) Planning for evaluation

The course Communication Campaigns and Research will pay special attention to step 3, 4 and 6 of Intervention Mapping with a focus on communication theories, strategies and applications.

In this course, students will learn about the creation of theory-based health communication campaigns, how to analyze the effect of such a campaign, advise institutions on campaign strategies and prepare for campaign evaluation. In course readings and lectures, students read and apply relevant communication theory (e.g. about message factors and theories of persuasion). They will learn about both the intended and unintended effects of campaigns and how to understand and measure these effects. Furthermore, we will pay particular attention to the use of mass and new media for health campaigns and how to target particular risk groups (relating to step 3 and step 4 of Intervention Mapping).

The course will culminate in a group assignment in which students will combine theory, research and practice. Students will reflect on a real-life health campaign in terms of the communication strategies and message factors used to achieve the campaigns’ aims and reach specific target groups. Theory-based hypotheses will be articulated and tested using a real-world dataset. There will be attention for planned development and evaluation of communication strategies. The assignment will include some ‘hands-on practice with analyses as well.

Onderwijsvorm
This course is rewarded with 6 ECTs and runs from January 05 until 30, 2015.

Communication Campaigns and Research is a full-time course, this means that 42 hours a week are necessary to pursue the goals of this course. Regular attendance during the weeks is mandatory.

Teaching activities include: lectures, work group meetings, consultation hours, feedback on assignments, answers to questions via the Discussion forum on BB.
Toetsvorm
An individual examination that counts for 50% of the final grade of this course. An assignment conducted in small groups, that counts for 50% of the final grade of this course. To pass this course you have to have at least a 5.5 for both the individual exam and the assignment.

Literatuur
The following book is required for students who follow the specialization Prevention and Public Health. Planning Health Promotion Programs: An Intervention Mapping Approach, 3rd Edition, by L. Kay Bartholomew, Guy S. Parcel, Gerjo Kok, Nell H. Gottlieb, Maria E. Fernandez. February 2011, Hardcover (E-book also available). Chapters which are applicable to this course will be announced through BB.

Other literature will be provided through BB or as a reader. Some examples of literature which are relevant for this course are:


Vereiste voorkennis
At the start of this course, we expect you to master knowledge, insight, attitude and skills at a level which is comparable to the final qualifications stated by the Bachelor Health Sciences at the VU.

Aanbevolen voorkennis
Basic experience with SPSS.

The following course of the Master health sciences is strongly recommended: ‘Health Promotion and Disease Prevention’.

Doelgroep
MSc Health Sciences

Intekenprocedure
Registration for this course via VU-net.

Containment Strategies of Infectious Diseases in Global Context
Doel vak
The endpoint of this course is that the student
• Has acquired in-depth theoretical and practical knowledge in relation
to health intervention strategies for infectious diseases.
• Has acquired insights in various infectious diseases and
characteristics in relation to containment strategies.
• Has acquired insight into the role of international institutions, such
as the WHO, governmental advisory bodies, relevant professionals,
executing institutions, NGOs and communities in designing and carrying
out health interventions.
• Understands which barriers are important when implementing containment
strategies of infectious diseases, with a focus on vaccination
programs.
• Has acquired insight in theoretical concepts and methods to interpret
results, evaluations and the effectiveness of programs.
• Has learned and practiced interdisciplinary methods and techniques to
plan health interventions at community level in an interactive way.

Inhoud vak
This course covers developments in intervention strategies used to
address health needs in a global context. Containment strategies of
infectious diseases, in particular vaccination programmes, alert systems
and intervention strategies, provide specific areas of attention. The
containment strategies to be discussed include programmes for known
infections (including vaccination strategies and
in case of absence of a vaccine, diagnosis and treatment strategies)
and emerging infections (including isolation, prevention and
communication strategies).
The student learns how to analyze bottlenecks and opportunities of the
various strategies, how to interpret the results and to evaluate the
implementation of programmes.
In addition, the student will take part in a group assignment on how to
design containment strategies at community level in an interactive way,
for e.g. tuberculosis, polio, rabies, malaria, HIV/AIDS, Ebola, etc. A
presentation and writing of an essay will be part of the group
assignment.

Onderwijsvorm
Lectures, group assignment, presentation, essay, self-study.
Basic background knowledge will be provided by VU lecturers,
whereas relevant guest lecturers will present practical field examples.
Group assignment attendance is compulsory.
Contact hours: lectures 34 hrs, group work 8 hrs.
Self-study approx. 80 hrs.

Toetsvorm
Individual exam (60%) and group assignment presentation and essay (40%).
Both parts must at least be sufficient (6 or higher)

Literatuur

Slide sets of lectures as made available on BlackBoard

Lecturers may make further readings available on BlackBoard.

**Vereiste voorkennis**
Basic knowledge about the pathogenesis of infectious diseases, microbiology and immunology

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**
Minor course AB_1046 "Infectious Diseases and Vaccine Development"

**Doelgroep**
Compulsory course within the Master differentiation International Public Health; optional course for students in other differentiations of the Masters Health Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, and Management, Policy Analysis and Entrepreneurship in Health and Life Sciences. Students from other backgrounds, please contact our secretariat for further information at secretariaat.athena@vu.nl

**Intekenprocedure**
Enrollment through BlackBoard.

**Overige informatie**
VU lecturers:
Prof. dr. Han van den Bosch
Prof. dr. Paul Klatser
Dr. Dirk Essink
Dr Bernard Ganter

Guest lecturers:
Dr. Jim van Steenbergen (RIVM/LUMC)
Dr. Helma Ruijs (RIVM)
Dr Frank Cobelens (KNCV)
Dr. Constance Schultsz (AIGHD/AMC)
Prof. dr. Maarten Postma (RUG)
Dr. Kitty Maassen (RIVM)
Dr. Koert Ritmeijer (MSF)
Prof. dr. Robert Sauerwein (UMC Nijmegen)
Prof. dr. Cees Hamelink (VU)
Prof. dr. Guus Rimmelzwaan (EMC Rotterdam)
Dr. Hans Zaaijer (Sanguin)
Prof. dr. Christina Vandenbroucke (VUMC)

Disability and Development

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<tr>
<td>Coördinator</td>
<td>dr. R.M.H. Peters</td>
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<td>Lesmethode(n)</td>
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Doel vak

• To develop an understanding of disability and the issues faced by people with disabilities
• To develop knowledge and skills for disability research, policy development and management related to disability, rehabilitation and development
• To acquire insight into the epidemiology of disability, with separate attention for important determinants like gender, poverty and HIV/AIDS
• To learn how to use relevant models of disability and the conceptual framework of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)
• To understand the importance of human rights in relation to disability and to learn to use the UN Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for advocacy and other rights-based interventions
• To acquire skills and knowledge in measurement and research methods relevant to disability
• To understand the importance of inter-sectoral collaboration
• To gain insight in participatory approaches

Inhoud vak

The Disability and Development (D&D) course focuses on a broad range of issues related to disability and rehabilitation in the context of development. This means that the focus is on people with disabilities in low and middle-income countries. Disability affects an estimated 1 billion people worldwide, the majority of whom live in low and middle-income countries. The large majority are poor and have no access to rehabilitation services; neither are facilities in place to allow them to be included in the mainstream of society.

To date, very few services and programmes are available to address these needs. The realisation that the Millennium Development Goals cannot be met without addressing the needs of people with disability has brought a new impetus to the field of disability and development. Another major recent development was the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in December 2006. It is expected that there will be a substantial increase in demand for training of a large variety of professionals (e.g. researchers, managers, architects, lawyers, health professionals) with formal training and qualifications in the field of disability-inclusive development.

This rapidly increasing interest in disability, as a development and human rights issue, means that this emerging field of study will rapidly gain in importance and should become part of any serious higher education programme in social and development studies and in international public health. The course will cover essential knowledge and skills in this subject.

The 4-week course programme will include the following subjects:
• Disability models and stereotypes,
• Frequencies and distribution of disability,
• Experience of having a disability,
• ICF conceptual framework,
• Disability rights, including the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,
• Culture and disability.
• Determinants of disability, including stigma and discrimination, poverty, gender and HIV/AIDS.
• Disability-relevant research methods, including examples of disability research
• An introduction to community-based rehabilitation and disability inclusive development.

Onderwijsvorm
Problem-based learning supported by lectures and an article writing assignment.

• Lectures: 36 hours
• Tutorial groups: 18 hours
• Other events: 12 hours
• Self-study: remaining hours

Toetsvorm
Participation in tutorial groups: 10%
Take-home examination, submitted electronically: 60%
Scientific article/essay: 30%

For all parts a pass grade (> 5.5) needs to be obtained in order to receive a final mark.

Literatuur
See e-reader

Vereiste voorkennis
Bachelor-level education; any subject

Doelgroep
The Disability & Development module is an optional course for Master students Management, Policy Analysis and Entrepreneurship in Health and Life Sciences (MPA), International Public Health and Biomedical Sciences; external students from low and middle-income countries are strongly encouraged to apply. We encourage the participation of students with disabilities, especially from low and middle-income countries.

Overige informatie
For more information contact Ruth Peters (r.m.h.peters@vu.nl)

Economic Evaluation

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<td>dr. J.E. Bosmans</td>
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After finishing the course Economic Evaluation the student has obtained knowledge of HTA research and specifically economic evaluations. The student is able to choose between a trial-based or model-based study to answer his/her research question. The student is aware of the challenges associated with performing economic evaluations and is able to design an economic evaluation while taking into account these challenges. The student is able to analyse, interpret and report cost-effectiveness data from trial-based and model studies. Finally, the student is able to critically read and judge the quality of cost-effectiveness trials and model studies.

The course will include the following topics:
- Aims of economic evaluations
- Types of economic evaluations
- Measuring, valuing and analyzing costs
- Quality of life, utilities and QALYs
- Monetary valuation of informal care and productivity losses
- Bootstrapping
- Incremental cost-effectiveness ratios
- Cost-effectiveness planes
- Cost-effectiveness acceptability curves
- Net-benefit framework
- Sensitivity analysis
- Decision tree analysis
- Markov modelling
- Probabilistic sensitivity analysis
- Interpretation and reporting of results of economic evaluations
- Use of cost-effectiveness information in health care policy

Lectures (33 hours), workshops (3 hours), computer practicals (20 hours)

Two assignments and a written examination. The first assignment will be graded with a grade between 1 and 10. The second assignment will be graded as sufficient/insufficient. Both assignments should be sufficient (first assignment grade >=6, second assignment sufficient) to pass the course. The grade for this course is based on a written examination, which should be graded with a 6 at least.

- Additional literature on Blackboard.

Students following the master Health Sciences and other interested master students.

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Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
Doel vak
1. To provide a solid basis in understanding elementary aspects of the theory, research and practice in the field of health promotion & disease prevention
2. To write a scientific study protocol in English about the planned development and evaluation of a preventive health intervention.

Inhoud vak
This course fits in the program of the specialization Prevention and Public Health. Within this specialization you are trained to become a health promoter who is able to work in a theory- & evidence-based way and is able to link research, practice and policy. The courses within this specialization are structured according to the six steps of Intervention Mapping. These steps are: 1) Needs assessment, 2) Preparing matrices of change objectives, 3) Selecting theory-informed intervention methods and practical applications, 4) Producing program components and materials, 5) Planning program adoption, implementation, and sustainability and 6) Planning for evaluation. The course Health Promotion and Disease Prevention will introduce you to the six steps of Intervention Mapping. Specific emphasis will be put on step 2 and 3 with a focus on primary prevention.

This course focuses on lifestyle/ health behaviors and environmental differences related to health and diseases among individuals and populations. The ultimate goal is to improve peoples' health status and quality of life by health promotion interventions. Some examples of the topics that will be addressed are:

- Intervention mapping; designing theory- and evidence-based health promotion programs.
- Theory-based intervention methods and strategies; theoretical methods that can help to change several of the most important determinants of health behaviors.
- Computer tailoring & e-health: Use of new media provides opportunities and challenges for the implementation of health education interventions
- Environmental influences on health. The physical environment and health interact. The importance of environmental interventions and their effect on health are postulated.
- Health-related quality of life; the role of perceived mental and physical health status in the development of interventions.
- Effect and process evaluation; principals, perspectives on process evaluation, and determining the effects of health promotion programs.

Core element in this course is writing a study protocol in English, describing the design of a health promoting or disease preventing intervention trial.
Onderwijsvorm
This course is rewarded with 6 ECTs and runs from 29Th September until 24th October 2014. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention is a full-time course, this means that 42 hours a week are necessary to pursue the goals of this course. Regular attendance during the weeks is mandatory.

Teaching activities include: Lectures, tutorials, guest lecturers, group assignment (study protocol), peer review sessions and self study.

Toetsvorm
Grades will be based on the assignment (study protocol) and a written exam that includes multiple choice and open-ended questions. The final grade is being determined by the study protocol (25%) and written exam (75%). The study protocol as well as the written exam must have a grade 5.5 or higher.

Literatuur
The following book is required for students who follow the specialization Prevention and Public Health. Planning Health Promotion Programs: An Intervention Mapping Approach, 3rd Edition, by L. Kay Bartholomew, Guy S. Parcel, Gerjo Kok, Nell H. Gottlieb, Maria E. Fernandez. February 2011, Hardcover (E-book also available). Chapters which are applicable to this course will be announced through BB.

In addition, students will use a course manual, and additional course materials are provided on Blackboard.

Vereiste voorkennis
At the start of this course, we expect you to master knowledge, insight, attitude and skills at a level which is comparable to the final qualifications stated by the Bachelor Health Sciences at the VU.

Aanbevolen voorkennis
The following courses of the Bachelor health sciences are strongly recommended: ‘Preventie’ and ‘Gezondheidscommunicatie’.

Doelgroep
Students with a Bachelor degree or pre-masters in Health Sciences with interest in the field of prevention and public health.

Intekenprocedure
Registration for this course via VU-net. Registration for the assignment in subgroups via Blackboard; obligated 1 week before the start of the course.

Overige informatie
This course is compulsory within the Master specialization Prevention & public health.

Health Psychology

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### Doel vak

The objective of the course ‘Health Psychology’ is to obtain knowledge and understanding of:
1. coping with diseases;
2. compliance;
3. stigmatization;
4. communication processes between health care workers and their patients;
5. interventions in chronic illness;
6. psychosomatic disorders

**Knowledge:**
- You can explain what health psychology is;
- You have insight in and can explain the (historical and recent) development of the field of health psychology;
- You can explain what tertiary prevention is;
- You understand and have insight into the fundamental elements of coping, compliance, stigmatization, doctor-patient communication, self-regulation and psychosomatic disorders. You can explain these before mentioned topics in terms of theory and research;
- You have knowledge of intervention programs in health psychology (tertiary prevention) in theory and practice;
- You have knowledge of research in health psychology.

**Skills:**
- You are able to interpret and apply scientific literature in the field of health psychology;
- You are able to develop a feasible Mhealth intervention plan (mobile app aimed at tertiary prevention) based on intervention mapping steps 1-4 with a specific focus on steps 3 and 4;
- You are able to pitch an idea for a theory-based health psychology intervention (tertiary prevention) in order to bring in funding, in under 10 minutes;
- You are able to pitch in English;
- You can write a short paper in English on the theory regarding a predetermined theme and are able to reflect if and in what way the reality of a guest lecturer (patient) is in accordance with this theory.

### Inhoud vak

This course, fits in the program of the specialization Prevention and Public Health. Within this specialization you are trained to become a health promoter who is able to work in a theory- & evidence-based way and is able to link research, practice and policy.

The courses within this specialization are structured according to the six steps of Intervention Mapping. These steps are: 1) Needs assessment, 2) Preparing matrices of change objectives, 3) Selecting theory-informed intervention methods and practical applications, 4) Producing program components and materials, 5) Planning program adoption, implementation, and sustainability and 6) Planning for evaluation
The course Health Psychology will pay special attention to step 3 and 4 of Intervention Mapping with a focus on tertiary prevention.

Health Psychology refers to the psychological aspects of health, illness and the health care system. In the current course ‘Health Psychology’, six different subjects regarding tertiary prevention, which are relevant in the field of Health Psychology, will be discussed. Psychological aspects which are relevant in treatment of diseases and coping with (chronic) diseases will be studied, as well as the way we can influence these aspects. Questions to be studied will be for example ‘How can we improve compliance of patients with diabetes?’, and ‘How can we improve communication between health care workers and their patients?’, and ‘How can we diminish stigmatization of HIV-patients?’. These and other questions will be studied in six cases. In all cases, first underlying determinants or psychological processes of the problems have to be studied. Second, interventions to tackle the presented problems or research into the different problems will be studied.

Onderwijsvorm
This course is rewarded with 6 ECTs. Health Psychology is a full-time course, this means that 42 hours a week are necessary to pursue the goals of this course. Regular attendance during the weeks is mandatory.

Teaching activities include:
Lectures, tutorials, workgroups, patient guest lectures, pitch sessions.

During the course we use blackboard. Here you can find information, e.g. lectures or alterations to the schedule et cetera.

Toetsvorm
In order to pass for the course you must:
1. Write a plan for the systematic development of an M-health Intervention (mobile app aimed at tertiary prevention) in which you briefly describe Intervention Mapping steps 1 and 2 and emphasize Intervention Mapping steps 3 and 4. In addition you have to pitch your elaborated intervention plan in order to bring in funding. You will carry out this assignment in couples (pass mark is 5.5);
2. Hand in your PowerPoint slides (or other materials that you used for the presentation);
3. Attend the three guest lectures by patients;
4. Hand in an individually written report about one of the guest lecturers before the end of the course (pass mark is 5.5);
5. Pass the written exam (pass mark is 5.5).

The final mark for the course is being determined by:
• Assignment 1 consisting of the intervention plan and the corresponding pitch (40%);
• The paper about the guest lecture (10%);
• The written exam (50%).

Literatuur
The following book is required for students who follow the specialization Prevention and Public Health:

Chapters which are applicable to the course Health Psychology will be announced through BB.

Furthermore, we will use the following book during this course:

Other literature will be announced in the course manual.

**Vereiste voorkennis**
At the start of this course, we expect you to master knowledge, insight, attitude and skills at a level which is comparable to the final qualifications stated by the Bachelor Health Sciences at the VU.

Specific entry requirements are:
- Knowledge about Intervention Mapping Protocol
- Knowledge about primary and secondary prevention

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**
The following course of the Master health sciences is strongly recommended: ‘Health Promotion and Disease Prevention’.

**Doelgroep**
Master students Health Sciences. All other students need approval of the course coordinator and the examination committee of their own program.

**Intekenprocedure**
Registration for this course via VU-net.

**Health, Globalisation and Human Rights**

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<td>dr. C.W.M. Dedding</td>
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**Doel vak**
The student;

- Is able to describe, understand and apply human rights concepts in a global context
- Develops a deeper understanding and a critical attitude towards scientific literature in the field of health, globalization and human rights in order to formulate soundly argued positions
- Is able to create his/her own vision with regard to the socio-cultural dimensions of human rights values in relation to public health
- Is able to apply methods of human rights assessment in relation to innovations in health care
Inhoud vak
This course focuses on the human rights issues that are raised around the globe in connection with public health concerns. The course introduces the students to the effects of globalization on health issues, to the relevant UN human rights instruments on health and to the mechanisms to promote and protect these rights. Attention is given to a wide range of human rights topics in which health and well being play a crucial role. Examples are situations of armed conflict, reproductive rights, migration and refugee issues and childrens rights. Within the context of current globalisation processes the importance of local cultural insights into the human rights & public health interaction will be discussed. During the course students will prepare and participate in a simulation on a human rights assessment of innovations in health technology and discuss relevant scientific literature in study groups. In the exam students will show their creative problem-solving skills applying them to human rights dilemmas in public health.

Onderwijsvorm
Lectures: 33 hours
Work groups: 12 hours
Group project, simulation and exam: 11 hours
Self study and preparing: remaining hours

Toetsvorm
Group project (10%), Simulation (20%), exam (70%). All parts need to be passed (6.0)

Literatuur
To be announced at the start of the first work group/lecture

Doelgroep
Optional course for students in all differentiations of the Masters Health Sciences, Biomedical Sciences and Management, Policy Analysis and Entrepreneurship in Health and Life Sciences.

Overige informatie
(Guest) Lectures and guest organisations (under reservation):
Cees Hamelink
Christine Dedding (Children and rights)
Fiona Budge (Culture and Health)
Bert Keizer (Elderly Rights)
Els Mons (Rights and disabled persons)
Women on Waves
Doctors without Borders
And more to be announced.

For more information contact Wanda Konijn (w.s.konijn@vu.nl) or Anna van Luijn (a.van.luijn@vu.nl)

International Comparative Analyses of Health Care Systems
Doel vak

• To understand and recognize the different components of a health system and different models of health system organization using various frameworks for health system analysis
• To understand and analyze outcomes of health systems with respect to equity, fair financial contribution and health status
• To understand the complex adaptive nature of health systems and its constitution
• To understand different methods in analyzing and comparing health systems: health system performance assessment (benchmarking), case study analysis, cost effectiveness analysis
• To understand the underlying reasons for health system reform and to recognize different health care reform strategies;
• To understand cases study methodology regarding comparison of components of health systems
• To apply the acquired knowledge in the context of;
• To design, carry out and reflect on a (comparative) analysis of developing, transitional and developed countries, making use of the framework for comparative analysis;
• To be able to link the characteristics of policy recommendations, strategies on health system reform and public opinions on certain aspects of care to the specific determinants of the country/region at hand.
• To give a well structured and academically solid lecture on the comparison of countries;
• To write a clearly structured and academically solid paper on the comparative analysis you have carried out;

Inhoud vak

Given the fact that health systems worldwide are confronted with demographical and epidemiological changes, health systems are currently experiencing a period in which they have to re-assess their set-up, framework and goals. In this course you will obtain an overview of the complex nature of health systems and its different components, both with respect to conceptual components (service delivery, resource creation, stewardship, financing) and content components (primary care, mental health care, etc), and you will acquire skills to analyze and compare these components. In various lectures, both the quantitative aspects, and the critique there-upon, and the qualitative aspects of health system comparison is discussed. Furthermore, you will gain insight in the complexity and culturally determined nature of health system design and health system reform, through a series of lectures form VU-lecturers and experts from a variety of institutions such as the Royal Tropical Institute.
Institute and the Nivel. Through two assignments, you learn and reflect on the topics that are discussed throughout the course. First, you will critically review a comparative analysis report on a specific aspect of health care in Europe, and present this in a lecture. Second, you will set up your own comparative analysis between two selected countries on a specific health care theme. In this case, you are invited to look critically at your own analysis process. You will report on your findings by means of a report and via a poster presentation. In both assignments you will have regular feedback sessions with health researchers in small groups.

**Onderwijsvorm**

'International Comparative Analyses of Health Care Systems' is a fulltime course of four weeks (6 ECTS). The total study time is 160 hours. Tuition methods include lectures, training workshops, and self-study. The different elements have the following study time:
- lectures 22 hours
- assignment sessions 28 hours
- pass/fail test 2 hours
- (project) self study remaining hours

Attendance to the assignment sessions is compulsory

**Toetsvorm**

You are assessed on the basis of two comparative case study assignments. Both assignments need to be passed (higher than 5.5).
- Assignment 1: 40%
- Assignment 2: 60%

In addition a brief pass/fail test is given which needs a pass but is not graded, to check lecture attendance.

**Literatuur**

A selection of literature will be made on the basis of lectures and state of the art research. (selection of last years literature)


Methods: Benchmarking

  - Message from the director
  - Chapters 1 and 2
  - Statistical Annex

  - Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 10

  - Executive summary
  - Chapter 1
Methods: case study
- Chapters 1 and 2

Health systems
- Hsiao (2003). What is a health system and why should we care
- Chapter 15
- Building the field of health systems and policy research
- Framing the questions
- An Agenda for Action
- Social Science Matters

Aanbevolen voorkennis
It is recommended that students have knowledge on public policy in the context of healthcare.

Doelgroep
Compulsory course within the Master specialization International Public Health, optional course within the Master specialization Infectious Diseases (master programme Biomedical Sciences). In any other circumstances admission should be requested from the course coordinator.

Overige informatie
Guest lecturers:
- dr. Rob Baltussen, health economics at (UMCG)
- Dr. Michael van den Berg (RIVM)
- Barend Gerretsen (KIT)
- Prof. dr. Wienke Boerma (NIVEL)

Internship Health Policy

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<td>Fac. der Aard- en Levenswetenschappen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coördinator</td>
<td>dr. A.H.E. Koolman</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Doel vak
At the end of the placement, the student is able to:
• Conduct a scientific research project independently.
• Formulate a rigorous research question.
• Find scientific information independently.
• Select adequate literature relevant for a specific research question.
• Apply adequate and rigorous scientific methods to answer a specific research question.
• Draw conclusions that are supported by the data.
• Write a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.
• Collaborate with researchers.
• Orally present the research results and discuss the findings in English.
• Obtain a good impression of the field of activity.

Onderwijsvorm
The placement involves many different aspects, such as, theoretical preparation, literature survey, practical execution, report writing, oral presentation, and participation in the scientific activities of a research department. The placement is combined with the course Scientific Writing in English.

Toetsvorm
During the master’s placement the student writes a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.

At the end of the placement, usually the last week of June, the student gives an oral presentation in English about his or her findings to an academic audience.

Literatuur
The used literature depends on the topic of the placement. Literature must be up-to-date, relevant national and international scientific references are used.

Vereiste voorkennis
Before starting the placement, the student:
1) has passed either Care and Prevention Research or Research Methods for Needs Assessments and
2) has received an additional 12 ECs in the MSc programme (total at least 18 ECs). Depending on the specialization, additional requirements for admission have to be met.

Doelgroep
Master Health Sciences

Overige informatie
See detailed information about the internship in the Placement Manual: Master Health Sciences, VU University Amsterdam 2015-2016 on BLACKBOARD tab Community My Organizations Master Health Sciences (2015-2016).

Internship Health Sciences
Doel vak
At the end of the placement, the student is able to:
• Conduct a scientific research project independently.
• Formulate a rigorous research question.
• Find scientific information independently.
• Select adequate literature relevant for a specific research question.
• Apply adequate and rigorous scientific methods to answer a specific research question.
• Draw conclusions that are supported by the data.
• Write a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.
• Collaborate with researchers.
• Orally present the research results and discuss the findings in English.
• Obtain a good impression of the field of activity.

Onderwijsvorm
The placement involves many different aspects, such as, theoretical preparation, literature survey, practical execution, report writing, oral presentation, and participation in the scientific activities of a research department. The placement is combined with the course Scientific Writing in English.

Toetsvorm
During the master’s placement the student writes a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.

At the end of the placement, usually the last week of June, the student gives an oral presentation in English about his or her findings to an academic audience.

Literatuur
The used literature depends on the topic of the placement. Literature must be up-to-date, relevant national and international scientific references are used.

Vereiste voorkennis
Before starting the placement, the student:
1) has passed either Care and Prevention Research or Research Methods for Needs Assessments and
2) has received an additional 12 ECs in the MSc programme (total at least 18 ECs).

Doelgroep
Master Health Sciences

Overige informatie
At the end of the placement, the student is able to:
• Conduct a scientific research project independently.
• Formulate a rigorous research question.
• Find scientific information independently.
• Select adequate literature relevant for a specific research question.
• Apply adequate and rigorous scientific methods to answer a specific research question.
• Draw conclusions that are supported by the data.
• Write a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.
• Collaborate with researchers.
• Orally present the research results and discuss the findings in English.
• Obtain a good impression of the field of activity.

The placement involves many different aspects, such as, theoretical preparation, literature survey, practical execution, report writing, oral presentation, and participation in the scientific activities of a research department. The placement is combined with the course Scientific Writing in English.

During the master’s placement the student writes a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.

At the end of the placement, usually the last week of June, the student gives an oral presentation in English about his or her findings to an academic audience.

The used literature depends on the topic of the placement. Literature must be up-to-date, relevant national and international scientific references are used.

Before starting the placement, the student:
1) has passed either Care and Prevention Research or Research Methods for Needs Assessments and
2) has received an additional 12 ECs in the MSc programme (total at least 18 ECs). Depending on the specialization, additional requirements for admission have to be met.

Master Health Sciences
Overige informatie

Internship International Public Health

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Doel vak
At the end of the placement, the student is able to:
• Conduct a scientific research project independently.
• Formulate a rigorous research question.
• Find scientific information independently.
• Select adequate literature relevant for a specific research question.
• Apply adequate and rigorous scientific methods to answer a specific research question.
• Draw conclusions that are supported by the data.
• Write a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.
• Collaborate with researchers.
• Orally present the research results and discuss the findings in English.
• Obtain a good impression of the field of activity.

Onderwijsvorm
The placement involves many different aspects, such as, theoretical preparation, literature survey, practical execution, report writing, oral presentation, and participation in the scientific activities of a research department. The placement is combined with the course Scientific Writing in English.

Toetsvorm
During the master’s placement the student writes a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.

At the end of the placement, usually the last week of June, the student gives an oral presentation in English about his or her findings to an academic audience.

Literatuur
The used literature depends on the topic of the placement. Literature must be up-to-date, relevant national and international scientific references are used.

Vereiste voorkennis
Before starting the placement, the student:
1) has passed either Care and Prevention Research or Research Methods
for Needs Assessments and
2) has received an additional 12 ECs in the MSc programme (total at least 18 ECs). Depending on the specialization, additional requirements for admission have to be met.

Doelgroep
Master Health Sciences

Overige informatie

Internship Nutrition and Health

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Doel vak
At the end of the placement, the student is able to:
• Conduct a scientific research project independently.
• Formulate a rigorous research question.
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• Select adequate literature relevant for a specific research question.
• Apply adequate and rigorous scientific methods to answer a specific research question.
• Draw conclusions that are supported by the data.
• Write a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.
• Collaborate with researchers.
• Orally present the research results and discuss the findings in English.
• Obtain a good impression of the field of activity.

Onderwijsvorm
The placement involves many different aspects, such as, theoretical preparation, literature survey, practical execution, report writing, oral presentation, and participation in the scientific activities of a research department. The placement is combined with the course Scientific Writing in English.

Toetsvorm
During the master’s placement the student writes a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.

At the end of the placement, usually the last week of June, the student gives an oral presentation in English about his or her findings to an academic audience.
Literatuur
The used literature depends on the topic of the placement. Literature must be up-to-date, relevant national and international scientific references are used.

Vereiste voorkennis
Before starting the placement, the student:
1) has passed either Care and Prevention Research or Research Methods for Needs Assessments and
2) has received an additional 12 ECs in the MSc programme (total at least 18 ECs). Depending on the specialization, additional requirements for admission have to be met.

Doelgroep
Master Health Sciences

Overige informatie

Internship Prevention and Public Health

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<td>dr. W. Kroeze</td>
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Doel vak
At the end of the placement, the student is able to:
• Conduct a scientific research project independently.
• Formulate a rigorous research question.
• Find scientific information independently.
• Select adequate literature relevant for a specific research question.
• Apply adequate and rigorous scientific methods to answer a specific research question.
• Draw conclusions that are supported by the data.
• Write a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.
• Collaborate with researchers.
• Orally present the research results and discuss the findings in English.
• Obtain a good impression of the field of activity.

Onderwijsvorm
The placement involves many different aspects, such as, theoretical preparation, literature survey, practical execution, report writing, oral presentation, and participation in the scientific activities of a research department. The placement is combined with the course Scientific Writing in English.
Toetsvorm
During the master’s placement the student writes a final report in the format of a scientific article in English.

At the end of the placement, usually the last week of June, the student gives an oral presentation in English about his or her findings to an academic audience.

Literatuur
The used literature depends on the topic of the placement. Literature must be up-to-date, relevant national and international scientific references are used.

Vereiste voorkennis
Before starting the placement, the student:
1) has passed either Care and Prevention Research or Research Methods for Needs Assessments and
2) has received an additional 12 ECs in the MSc programme (total at least 18 ECs). Depending on the specialization, additional requirements for admission have to be met.

Doelgroep
Master Health Sciences

Overige informatie
See detailed information about the internship in the Placement Manual: Master Health Sciences, VU University Amsterdam 2015-2016 on BLACKBOARD tab Community My Organizations Master Health Sciences (2015-2016).

Management in Health Organisation

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Doel vak
To get acquainted with important theories on organizational structures and to acquire knowledge on organizational structures in health organizations
To acquire insight in different management practices
To obtain insight in motivation methods and conflict management and specific problems in health organizations
To acquire insight into strategic management in health organizations To gain insight in and to practice leadership
To improve communication skills
To practice team management
Inhoud vak
Organizations in the health science sector are changing rapidly, partly due to newly emerging technologies and increasing societal complexity. A growing number of students with a degree in health sciences become managers/professionals in health organizations. During this course students learn how to be effective performers both individually and in teams within health organizations. This requires understanding the macro aspects of organizational behaviour, which of necessity involves managerial skills and ways of strategic thinking. Several speakers conduct lecturers on different aspects, such as motivation, managing behaviour between people, leadership, communication in health organizations. The speakers will explain theories from literature and relate the theories to the experiences from practice. Next to the theoretical part, the students learn practical skills associated with managerial success, e.g. how to engage in group-based planning. In addition, the students become a project manager of a project team of Bachelor students who have been given the assignment to write a policy advisory report. While being a project manager you are trained and coached by experts. With the other students you discuss your experiences and the coach helps you relate the experiences to theory.

Onderwijsvorm
Lectures (approximately 20 hours), response lecture (2 hours) self study (approximately 58 hours), training workshops (approximately 12 hours), project assignment (approximately 68 hours).

Toetsvorm
Written exam (50%) and assessment of the functioning as a project manager (50%). Grades of both parts must at least be 6 or higher.

Literatuur
To be announced

Doelgroep
Optional course for Master students in the specialisation in 'Policy and Organisation in Health Care' in Health Sciences and other specialisations in Health Sciences

Overige informatie
Attendance is compulsory. Preferably students have attended the BSc course 'Beleid en Management'. For additional information, please contact: h.wels@vu.nl.

Migration, Culture, Health and Research

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Doel vak
To prepare master students to carry out a qualitative health research project within diverse cultural settings in The Netherlands or abroad. Students will be supervised in writing their qualitative health research proposal.

Final attainment levels
To gain insight into culture, diversity and the role of migration in relation to health;
To have knowledge at an advanced level about qualitative and participatory (action) research;
To have mastered the traditional qualitative research techniques (e.g. focus group discussions, in-depth interviews);
To acquire skills in the field of visual qualitative research methods (e.g. life line, photo voice, balloon method);
To understand how to apply the above mentioned research techniques in diverse cultural settings;
Being able to carry out different types of qualitative data analysis;
To gain insight into specific challenges when conducting qualitative research with migrant populations or abroad in a different cultural context;
To develop a qualitative research proposal according to high scientific standards.

Inhoud vak
Cultural diversity and health care, migration and health, culture and health.
Various schools of qualitative and participatory research.
Linking research with interventions and advocacy. Learning to work with mobile populations.
Learning about traditional qualitative and visual data collection methods, translation & transcription, different types of qualitative data analysis, standards of validation and evaluation of qualitative research. writing and publishing a qualitative health research article.

Onderwijsvorm
Lectures (14 hrs), work group (12 hrs), workshops (8 hrs), group projects (8 hrs), self study (80 hrs).

Toetsvorm
Participation and input during lectures and work group; preparing and conducting a workshop; to develop and present a research proposal. Participation and group project count for 30%; development and presentation of a research proposal count for the other 70% of the final result.

Literatuur
- Bowleg, L. (2012), The problem with the phrase Women and Minorities:

**Vereiste voorkennis**
bachelor in health or life sciences

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**
Bachelor in health, life or social sciences

**Doelgroep**
Optional course for Health, Life or Social Science Master students with an interest in topics related to culture & health, migration & health and diversity in health care. With motivation to become a qualified qualitative and participative health researcher.

**Overige informatie**
Attendance of workgroup sessions is compulsory.

**Nutrition and Infectious Disease**

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After finishing this course students have specialized knowledge about clinical nutrition research. This course will focus on research in nutritional problems such as malnutrition or obesity, related to specific diseases, like gastro-intestinal, nefrologic, and oncologic disease (cachexia) and to specific conditions, like, peri-operative and intensive care nutrition. This specific knowledge will be applied to writing a research protocol for clinical practice, with the final goal of achieving evidence based clinical nutrition care. This course supplies the knowledge and competence needed to perform clinical nutrition research.

The course has a strong international focus and will cover key nutritional concepts related to global trends, with a focus on the nutritional concerns of vulnerable populations. The course will focus on both epidemiology and biological pathways. The inter-relationship between parasitic infection and both under-nutrition as well as nutrition related chronic disease is of increasing importance and will be emphasized throughout the course.

The focus of the course is on guided student learning. The first week will include lectures followed by discussion groups or in-class assignments. The remainder of the course will be focused on individual as well as group projects and data analysis. Students will be expected to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of nutrition and infectious disease.

Total contact hours:
Lectures/workgroups: 46 hours
Group work/computer rooms: 76 hours

Written exam (30%), graded SPSS assignments (30%), a final project (30%) and presentation grade (10%). All grades must be a 6 or above.

Reader

Epidemiologie en biostatistiek I, II and II (for Health Sciences students)
Or Epidemiologie (for BMW students)
Or Methodologie I, II and II (for Life and Health Students)
Doelvak
After finishing this course students have specialized knowledge about clinical nutrition research. This course will focus on research in nutritional problems such as malnutrition or obesity, related to specific diseases, like gastro-intestinal, nephrologic, and oncologic disease (cachexia) and to specific conditions, like, peri-operative and intensive care nutrition. This specific knowledge will be applied to writing a research protocol for clinical practice, with the final goal of achieving evidence based clinical nutrition care. This course supplies the knowledge and competence needed to perform clinical nutrition research.

Inhoud vak
- Possibilities and impossibilities of nutrition research
- Disease related malnutrition in gastro-intestinal, nephrologic, and oncologic disease, peri-operative and intensive care nutrition
- Effects of adequate nutritional therapy on outcome
- Effects of nutritional status on disease outcome
- Application of knowledge in writing a research protocol

Onderwijsvorm
6 ECTS (=168 hours); lectures (30 h), self study (38 h), research proposal (100 h)

Toetsvorm
Discussion on the contents of the lectures (40% of grade), research proposal (incl. presentation) (60% of grade). No exam. All grades should be 5.5 or above in order to pass the course.

Literatuur

Complementary articles will be available on blackboard before the start of the course.

Vereiste voorkennis
Nutrition in Health and Disease

Aanbevolen voorkennis
Nutrition in Health and Disease

Doelgroep
MSc students with basic training in health sciences and/or nutrition. The course is a component of the MSc Nutrition and Health

Overige informatie
Taught in Dutch, English upon request (notify the coordinator at least eight weeks beforehand).

Nutrition in Health and Disease

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Doel vak
After finishing this course students can place nutrition in the context of the prevention and treatment of disease. This course will focus on energy and protein metabolism and requirements, body composition and nutritional assessment in specific conditions (e.g. Intensive care unit, overweight), disease-related and age-related malnutrition, nutritional status and disease outcome. This course supplies the knowledge and competence needed to perform nutrition research in a public health setting and/or in a clinical setting.

Inhoud vak
- Role of nutrition in prevention of disease and in medical treatment
- Effects of nutritional status on disease outcome
- Disease related and ageing related malnutrition
- Determining energy and protein requirements and body composition in health and disease
- Nutrition & Sports
- Pediatrics and nutrition

Onderwijsvorm
6 ECTS (=168 hours); lectures (30 h), self study (60 h), patient case assignments (20 h), practical experience in nutritional assessment (8 h), group assignment in nutritional assessment

Toetsvorm
Patient case assignments (25% of grade), group assignment body composition (25% of grade) and written exam (50% of grade). All grades
should be 5.5 or above in order to pass the course.

**Literatuur**
Complementary articles will be available on blackboard before the start of the course.

**Vereiste voorkennis**
Voeding en Gezondheid, Voedingsonderzoek in de Praktijk or Voedingsleer en Onderzoek or equivalent level.

**Doelgroep**
MSc students with basic training in Health Sciences and/or Nutrition & Dietetics, and medical students. The course is a component of the MSc program ‘Nutrition and Health’

**Overige informatie**
Guest lecturer: A.M. Ambergen, sports dietician and lecturer HvA

Taught in Dutch, English upon request (notify the coordinator at least eight weeks beforehand).

**Parasitology**

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**Doel vak**
This course aims to provide students with a wide knowledge and understanding of Medical Parasitology.

At the end of the course students: will have learned the principles of medical parasitology and will be able to:
*apply these principles to different parasite groups
*describe parasite life cycles
*identify the role of the host and parasite on the outcome of an infection and describe underlying molecular host-parasite interactions
*describe (and understand) the effect of parasite infection on other infectious diseases as well as on non-communicable diseases
*describe the advantages and disadvantages of diagnostic techniques as discussed in literature.
*describe the principles for treatment and prevention programmes
*describe the principles for vaccination research
*debate on important controversies within parasitological themes
**Inhoud vak**
The course will cover all aspects of medical important parasites: life cycles, virulence factors, (immunological) interaction between parasites and their host(s), diagnosis, epidemiology, control and elimination.

**Onderwijsvorm**
Lectures will be followed by discussion groups or in-class assignments. In discussion groups students will be expected to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of medically important parasites.

During the first two weeks students will have (interactive) guest lectures covering all aspects of medical parasitology. During these first two weeks they will also have to present selected articles during two sessions and they will have the opportunity to observe and identify parasites during the parasite demonstration.

The examination will take place in the third week.
In the final week students will present a grant application on a selected parasite during an elevator pitch. At the end of this week students will have to prepare and actively participate in a debate on a selected parasitological topic.

Total contact hours:
Lectures: 32 hours
Workgroups: 14 hours
Parasite demonstration: 4 hours

**Toetsvorm**
The final grade will be determined on the basis of a written exam. Bonus points can be earned on the basis of oral presentations (regular presentations as well as their performance during the elevator pitch and the debate).

**Literatuur**
Reader

**Vereiste voorkennis**
Immunology, Infectious disease

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**
Basic cell biology and basic immunology

**Doelgroep**
Obligatory course within the MSc Infectious disease specialisation Health Sciences; Optional course within the MSc programmes of Biomedical sciences.

**Overige informatie**
Several guest lecturers will be invited to give lectures

**Policy, Management and Organisation in International Public Health**

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Doel vak
To develop a detailed understanding of the health policy process and its outcomes both at national and international level
To acquire insight into the different theoretical concepts on policy design in the field of public health
To understand how policy decisions are translated into programs and projects, and subsequently implemented
To get acquainted with different management practices in health programs
To gain insight into change management
To get acquainted with and acquire skills in international diplomacy, resolution writing, negotiation and the procedures of the United Nations

Inhoud vak
This course contains two parts that will run parallel throughout the course: a theoretical part and a practical, diplomacy, part. In the theoretical part you study different theoretical concepts of policy science in international public health. You study core concepts of public administration in relation to IPH such as power relations, securing public interest, public versus private sector, managing change and the network society. Questions are addressed such as: In what way does the political structure of a country influence health policies; Why do certain topics get on the policy agenda while other topics never make it; Why do policy makers and politicians regularly seem to ignore scientific insights; To what extent do international organisations (such as the World Bank and the World Health Organisation) influence national policies? In the diplomacy part you develop basic diplomatic skills by practicing them in 4 training sessions and a final 1.5 day World Health Organization simulation under Model United Nations rules of procedure (WHO MUN). Model United Nations (informally abbreviated as Model UN or MUN) is an academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate you about civics, effective communication, globalization and multilateral diplomacy. In Model UN, you take on roles as foreign diplomats and participate in a simulated session of the WHO.

Onderwijsvorm
Lectures (29 hours), training workshops (14 hours) and simulation (12 hours), self study (102,5 hours), and examination (2.5 hours)

Toetsvorm
Individual exam (70%) and diplomacy assignment (30%). Both grades need to be at least 5.5 to pass the course.

Literatuur


Other reading materials via Blackboard
Doelgroep
Compulsory course within the Master specialization International Public Health; optional course for students in other specializations of the Masters Health Sciences and Biomedical Sciences.

Overige informatie
Attendance of training workshops and simulation is compulsory. For further information and application, please contact Anna van Luijn (a.van.luijn@vu.nl)

Prevention and Policy

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Doel vak
The course ‘Prevention & Policy’ aims to provide insight in 1) how local and national policy in the field of disease prevention and health promotion in the Netherlands are developed and how scientific knowledge about health and prevention can contribute to the development of policy and 2) the course will aim to develop competences to think multidisciplinary from both policy and research and to improve effective communication between both disciplines to facilitate collaboration.

Inhoud vak
This course fits in the program of the specialization Prevention and Public Health. Within this specialization you are trained to become a health promotor who is able to work in a theory- & evidence-based way and is able to link research, practice and policy. The courses within this specialization are structured according to the six steps of Intervention Mapping. These steps are: 1) Needs assessment, 2) Preparing matrices of change objectives, 3) Selecting theory-informed intervention methods and practical applications, 4) Producing program components and materials, 5) Planning program adoption, implementation, and sustainability and 6) Planning for evaluation. The course Prevention and Policy will pay special attention to step 5 and 6 of Intervention Mapping with a focus on policy.

The course starts with a short introduction into theories, definitions and key elements of policy and policy development. Examples from policies on disease prevention and health promotion are used to illustrate this introduction. Next, the course will focus on the development of local and national health policy and will continue by outlining the reciprocal relation between policy and public health. On the one hand, the health status of a population influences (local)
health policy. For example, institutes such as the RIVM gather information about the population's health status. This information is used by the national government to develop policy, which results in prevention policy statements such as the statement "Health Close to people, 2011".

On the other hand, policy in various fields has an impact on disease prevention and health promotion. Mostly, this concerns (local) health policy that is developed and executed directly to improve people's health status. Examples are laws on smoke-free workplaces and public places or on minimum age limits for off-premise sale of alcohol. Policy may also impact health and health behavior indirectly via policy measures on non-health domains, e.g. policy on environmental planning such as the construction of safe bicycle tracks or providing extra subsidies for sport participation for low income families. Special attention will be paid to the development, implementation and evaluation of an integrated approach in which different policy sectors and stakeholders collaborate to tackle an unhealthy lifestyle by addressing both individual behavior and environment.

Besides knowledge and insight into the relation between policy and disease prevention and health promotion, practical skills will be taught. Students will practice methods that can contribute to development, implementation and evaluation of (intersectoral) health policy.

**Onderwijsvorm**

This course is rewarded with 6 ECTs and runs from November 23th until December 18th 2015.

Prevention and Policy is a full-time course, this means that 42 hours a week are necessary to pursue the goals of this course. Regular attendance during the weeks is mandatory.

Teaching activities include: lectures, work group meetings, feedback on assignments.

**Toetsvorm**

An individual examination that counts for 60% of the final grade of this course. An assignment conducted in small groups, that counts for 40% of the final grade of this course. To pass this course you have to have at least a 5.5 for both the individual exam and the assignment.

**Literatuur**

The following book is required for students who follow the specialization Prevention and Public Health.


Chapters which are applicable to this course will be announced through BB.

Other literature will be provided through BB or as a reader. Some examples of literature which are relevant for this course are:


Koperen van TM, Jebb SA, Summerbell CD, Visscher TLS, Romon M, Borys JM,
Seidell JC. Characterizing the EPODE logic model: unraveling the past and informing the future. Obesity reviews 2012:14(2), 162-170.

**Vereiste voorkennis**
At the start of this course, we expect you to master knowledge, insight, attitude and skills at a level which is comparable to the final qualifications stated by the Bachelor Health Sciences at the VU.

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**
The following course of the Master health sciences is strongly recommended: ‘Health Promotion and Disease Prevention’.

**Doelgroep**
Msc students Health Sciences

**Intekenprocedure**
Registration for this course via VU-net. Registration for the assignment in subgroups via Blackboard; obligated 1 week before the start of the course.

**Overige informatie**
Guest lecturers:
Dr L.Stokx, MD, MPA (National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM))
Dr L. Den Broeder, MPH (National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM))

**Prevention of Mental Health Problems**

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**Doel vak**
Knowledge and insight
- Student will have knowledge and insight on the most important theoretical insights and concepts in the field of preventing mental health problems.
- Students will be up to date with knowledge on relevant prevention effectiveness studies.
- Students will be familiar with different mental illness prevention techniques used in clinical practice.
- Students will have know-how on how to plan for and evaluate the effects of mental illness prevention studies.
**Skills**

- Students will be able to mention and describe the most important theoretical and scientific concepts about the prevention of mental health problems.
- Students will be able to use the acquired theoretical and scientific knowledge to evaluate existing literature on prevention programs.
- Students will be able to use existing literature on a self-chosen problem to discuss its current state of affairs and construct concrete recommendations as to how preventive mental healthcare can be improved on this topic.

**Attitude**

- Students will be aware of the societal relevance of prevention programs and their positions within their own discipline of study.
- Students will grasp the interdisciplinary character of prevention programs.
- Students will understand the most important obstacles in implementing mental illness prevention programs.
- Students will understand the relevance of research and funding in this field.

**Inhoud vak**

For Health Science students this course fits in the program of the specialization Prevention and Public Health. Within this specialization you are trained to become a health promotor who is able to work in a theory- & evidence-based way and is able to link research, practice and policy.

The courses within this specialization are structured according to the six steps of Intervention Mapping. These steps are: 1) Needs assessment, 2) Preparing matrices of change objectives, 3) Selecting theory-informed intervention methods and practical applications, 4) Producing program components and materials, 5) Planning program adoption, implementation, and sustainability and 6) Planning for evaluation.

For Psychology students this fits in the program of the Clinical Psychology specialization. Within this specialization you are trained to become a psychologist specializing in either the research, policy or practice of mental health care. Most courses in this specialization can be freely chosen and are all specific subtopics in mental healthcare, usually aimed at specific disorders or types of treatment.

The course Prevention of Mental Health Problems will pay special attention to step 3 through 6 of Intervention Mapping with a focus on mental health.

Theoretical backgrounds of the prevention of mental health problems will be discussed, as well as currently used methods in preventive mental health care. Guest lecturers who work in the field of preventive mental health care will discuss current programs aimed at preventing several psychological symptoms and disorders. Also, the most important results of research conducted in the field of preventive mental health care will be presented. There will also be a focus on the implementation and evaluation of mental illness prevention programs.

In the practicals students will tackle a self-chosen problem within the field of preventive mental healthcare, writing a report on it and presenting their most important recommendations.

Because this is an interdisciplinary course and students from several
Master tracks are welcome to follow this course, we provide quick ‘crash courses’ in the topics of prevention and psychopathology with additional literature to get students up to speed on the discipline they are not yet familiar with.

All lectures and work group meetings will be taught in English. All examination will be done in English as well.

**Onderwijsvorm**
This course is rewarded with 6 ECTs and runs from January 6 to January 30 2015.

Prevention of Mental Health Problems is a full-time course, this means that 42 hours a week are necessary to pursue the goals of this course. Regular attendance during the weeks is mandatory.

Teaching activities include: lectures, work group meetings, consultation hours, feedback on assignments, answers to questions via the Discussion forum on BB.

**Toetsvorm**
An individual written examination that counts for 60% of the final grade of this course.

A written assignment conducted in couples that counts for 30% of the final grade of this course.

A presentation on the written assignment conducted in couples, but graded individually, that counts for 10% of the final grade of this course.

To pass this course you have to have at least a 5.5 for both the individual exam, the presentation and the assignment.

**Literatuur**
The following book is required for students who follow the specialization Prevention and Public Health:


Chapters which are applicable to this course will be announced through BB.

For Clinical Psychology and Artificial Intelligence students we will try to find a solution to only make the relevant chapters available.

Other literature will be provided through BB or as a reader. Some examples of literature which are relevant for this course are:

Vereiste voorkennis
At the start of this course, we expect you to have mastered knowledge, insight, attitude and skills at a level which is comparable to the final qualifications stated by the Bachelor of either Health Sciences, Psychology or Artificial Intelligence at the VU.

Aanbevolen voorkennis
• Basic knowledge of psychopathology (symptoms of the most common psychiatric disorders).
• Basic knowledge on what prevention programs are and how they are Developed

Doelgroep
Health Science, Psychology and AI students.

Overige informatie
Registration for this course via VU-net.

Public Health Nutrition

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<td>Coördinator</td>
<td>dr. ir. M.R. Olthof</td>
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Doel vak
Does fish consumption once or twice per week prevent cardiovascular disease? What is true for the slogan ‘an apple a day keeps the doctor away’? The product Becel pro-activ claims that it lowers your cholesterol levels: is this claim justified? These questions are examples of nutrition questions that nutritionist are confronted with. Everyone knows that nutrition is an important contributor to better public health. But what is a healthy diet, and what foods are ‘a healthy choice’?

For development and revisions of dietary guidelines and for validation of health claims on food products an evidence-based approach is necessary. For this evidence-based approach all evidence should be collected and critically weighed in an objective way, putting aside prejudice and beliefs. Only in this way nutrition research can be translated into good policy. This course
covers nutrition research from critically evaluating available evidence, choosing the appropriate study design for nutrition related research, analyzing and interpreting the results, and finally translating nutrition research in nutrition policy.

The objectives of this course are as follows:
- Students should be able to explain the evidence based approach in nutrition and health research.
- Students should be able to apply the evidence based approach, given a nutrition related question.
- Students should be able to critically evaluate the quality and relevance of nutrition and health related research

Inhoud vak
Various evidence based approaches
Quantitative research designs
Scientific evidence for dietary recommendations
Public health nutrition in practice
Update on major nutrition-related diseases
Scientific evaluation of a self chosen topic on nutrition and health

Onderwijsvorm
This course consists of 6 credits divided as follows: lectures (~16 hours); workshops literature assignment (~10 hours), excursion (if possible; 8 hours), self study (~134 hours)

Toetsvorm
Grades for written exam (50%) and for literature assignment (50%). Both grades should be 5.5 or higher in order to pass the course (no compensation).

Literatuur

Additional readings will be announced through blackboard and the study guide

Aanbevolen voorkennis
'Voedingsonderzoek in de praktijk' or 'Voedingsleer en onderzoek', or equivalent level. Students should have basic knowledge of nutrition and epidemiology.

Doelgroep
Master students with training in Health Sciences and Nutrition

Overige informatie
The course is a compulsory course for the specialization 'Nutrition and Health' within the MSc Health Sciences program.

Regulation and organisation of health care
**Doel vak**
To provide students with instruments (i.e. theoretical and methodological concepts) to describe, analyse and evaluate;
- The Dutch healthcare system (relationships between providers, customers, financers and state) under different social and political circumstances
- Health services (hospitals, first line arrangements, home care and institutions)
- Networks of integrated care and quality assurance

Final attainment levels:
- Students are able to describe and critically analyse health systems on the national and at a local level. They are also able to analyse systems and relations between different organisations
- Students are able to conduct a stakeholder analysis and apply the relevant concepts within this analysis
- Students can apply the knowledge and theories obtained from lectures and literature into a practical assignment

**Inhoud vak**
- Health systems on the national level: various configurations (of state, insurance companies, suppliers, and customers) but comparable problems
- Health organisation on a local level
- Local markets and strategy
- Professional and bureaucratic organisation regimes
- Quality and safety: professional and organisational systems and instruments
- Methods for comparative evaluation research and stakeholder analysis

**Onderwijsvorm**
The theoretical and methodological concepts will be introduced and discussed during the lectures and in the literature. These concepts include organisational and policy theories relevant for describing organisations and the Dutch healthcare system. Practice teachers, representing health care organisations (i.e. patient organisation, hospital, home care organisation, health insurance, healthcare inspectorate) will apply the theoretical concepts to their organisations during guest lectures. They also provide and illustrate cases concerning organisational problems and commission students to analyse the problems in order to develop a sophisticated problem solving approach. The acquired knowledge has to be applied by the students during the practicals and the assignment.

In couples or small groups the students will write a report about a problem in health care. In short, this report includes an analysis of the current situation, a stakeholder analysis, a proposal for improvement and an appropriate
research plan to evaluate the proposed intervention for improvement. During the practicals, the students present their analysis and proposal to each other and the practice teacher.

Contact hours
Lectures: 48 hours
Self-study: 75 hours
Working groups: 10 hours
Assignment: 40 hours

Toetsvorm
Students have to complete a written exam and write a report. The final grade is composed as follows:
exam (70%)+ report (30%). The total score has to be at least 5.5 to successfully complete this course.
In addition, students have to attend all practicals and present the progress of their report during the practicals where they participate actively.

Literatuur
The following literature will be used en discussed during this course:

- Different chapters (to be defined) of: ‘Making health policy’, by Kent Buse, Nicolas Mays and Gill Walt, This book is available online
- In consultation with guest lectures additional literature will be provided

The exact course literature (different articles) will be available on Blackboard to the participating students in September 2015

Aanbevolen voorkennis
Students are expected to be familiar with: Mackenbach en van der Maas, Volksgezondheid en gezondheidszorg, zesde druk (2012)

Doelgroep
MSc students Health Sciences

Intekenprocedure
Use Blackboard to enroll for this course
Overige informatie
Involved lecturers:
- Prof. dr. Cordula Wagner
- Drs. Hanneke Merten
- Didi Verver MSc., contact person for this course: d.verver@vumc.nl

Guest lecturers:
- Dr. Gerard Scholten
- Other guest lecturers will be announced through the course schedule

NB This course will be taught in Dutch

Research Methods for Need Assessments

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Doel vak
• The overall goal is to acquire insights, skills and attitudes regarding various quantitative and qualitative research methods used for conducting needs assessment, analysis of international public health problems, epidemiological investigation, field surveys to strengthen public health surveillances and understand the relative strengths and weaknesses of the various research methods
• To be able to make an adequate research design for the analysis of a specific health problem (theory, concepts and design)
• To acquire knowledge and skills in interview techniques, questionnaire design, and focus groups (data collection)
• To acquire insight in ways to involve community members and patients to include their views and jointly decide on the needs and priorities. This includes interactive and participatory methods for transdisciplinary research, such as focus groups, diagramming, mapping and other visualisation techniques (participative data collection)
• To know how to interpret quantitative and qualitative findings in the context of international public health (data analysis)

Inhoud vak
This course focuses on the knowledge, skills and attitude needed to design and conduct research in the field of international public health, with a specific focus on needs assessments. Before planning a health intervention, a thorough epidemiological, behavioural and social analysis of quality of life, health problems, health related behaviours, their causes and contributing factors should be conducted. The social context, environmental factors and community capacity should be investigated. To achieve results, it is necessary for health workers to (1) work with other sectors in a so called inter-sectoral approach,
and (2) work with the community, since communities have relevant knowledge which increases the quality of the interventions and ownership of the implementation process. In other words, a transdisciplinary approach is required.

A variety of qualitative and quantitative methods can be employed. During this course the most essential research methods will be addressed and practiced: questionnaires, surveys and epidemiological statistics, semi-structured in-depth interviews, as well as several interactive and participatory methods, such as focus group discussions, diagramming, mapping and other visualisation techniques. Strengths and weaknesses of each research method and technique will be discussed, as well as the possibility to apply them in resource-poor settings and in different communities.
Throughout the course, students will apply the acquired theoretical knowledge by conducting and presenting their own mini-study in small groups.

**Onderwijsvorm**

‘Research methods for needs assessments’ is a fulltime course of four weeks (6 ECTS). The total study time is 160 hours. Tuition methods include lectures, training workshops, and self-study.

The different elements have the following study time:
- lectures 18.5 hours
- workshops and training 31.5 hours
- (project) self study 107 hours
- examination 3 hours

Attendance to the workshops and training is compulsory

**Toetsvorm**

The course grade is based on the study design and the exam. Both aspects have to be concluded with the grade of 5.5 or higher.

Exam : 50% of total grade
Study-Design: 50% of total grade

**Literatuur**


**Vereiste voorkennis**

Knowledge of epidemiology and SPSS is a prerequisite to gain access to this course.

For further information please contact b.j.regeer@vu.nl.

**Doelgroep**

Compulsory course within the Master specialization International Public Health of the Master programmes Health Sciences and Biomedical Sciences. Optional course within the Master specialization Infectious Diseases (master programme Biomedical Sciences). In any other circumstances admission should be requested from the course coordinator.

**Scientific Writing in English**

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The aim of this course is to provide Master’s students with the essential linguistic know-how for writing a scientific article in English that is well organized idiomatically and stylistically appropriate and grammatically correct.

At the end of the course students
- know how to structure a scientific article;
- know what the information elements are in parts of their scientific article;
- know how to produce clear and well-structured texts on complex subjects;
- know how to cite sources effectively;
- know how to write well-structured and coherent paragraphs;
- know how to construct effective sentences;
- know what collocations are and how to use them appropriately;
- know how to adopt the right style (formal style, cohesive style, conciseness, hedging)
- know how to avoid the pitfalls of English grammar;
- know how to use punctuation marks correctly;
- know what their own strengths and weaknesses are in writing;
- know how to give effective peer feedback.

Final texts may contain occasional spelling, grammatical or word choice errors, but these will not distract from the general effectiveness of the text.

The course will start with a general introduction to scientific writing in English. Taking a top-down approach, we will then analyse the structure of a scientific article in more detail. As we examine each section of an article, we will peel back the layers and discover how paragraphs are structured, what tools are available to ensure coherence within and among paragraphs, how to write effective and grammatically correct sentences and how to choose words carefully and use them effectively.

Topics addressed during the course include the following:
- Structuring a scientific article
- Considering reading strategies: who is your readership? How do they read your text? What do they expect? How does that affect your writing?
- Writing well-structured and coherent paragraphs
- Composing effective sentences (sophisticated word order, information distribution).
- Arguing convincingly – avoiding logical fallacies
- Academic tone and style: hedging – why, how, where?
- Using the passive effectively
- Understanding grammar (tenses, word order, etc.)
- Understanding punctuation
- Referring to sources: summarising, paraphrasing, quoting (how and when?)
- Avoiding plagiarism
- Vocabulary development: using appropriate vocabulary and collocations

Onderwijsvorm
Scientific Writing in English is an eight-week course and consists of 4 contact hours during the first week and 2 contact hours a week for the rest of the course. Students are required to spend at least 6 to 8 hours of homework per week. They will work through a phased series of exercises that include with the requirement to write several text parts (Introduction, Methods or Results section, Discussion and Abstract). Feedback on the writing assignments is given by the course teacher and by peers.

Toetsvorm
Students will receive the three course credits when they meet the following requirements:
- Students hand in three writing assignments (Introduction, Methods or Results, Discussion) and get a pass mark for all writing assignments;
- Students provide elaborate peer feedback;
- Students attend all sessions;
- Students are well prepared for each session (i.e. do all homework assignments);
- Students actively participate in class;
- Students do not plagiarise or self-plagiarise.

Literatuur

Doelgroep
This course is only open to students of the following Master’s programmes of the Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences: MSc Biology, Health Sciences, Ecology, Biomolecular Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Neurosciences, Global Health, Hydrology, and Management, Policy Analysis and Entrepreneurship in Health and Life Sciences.

This course is an alternative for students who are not able to attend Scientific Writing in English in their designated group (this is not applicable for students Hydrology).

Intekenprocedure
Students should register on time by sending an e-mail to onderwijsbureau.beta@vu.nl, self registration in VUnet is not possible. Please note that this course will only go through with a minimum of 18 participants and maximum of 24. Students are advised to consult their schedule carefully, since overlap may occur.

If you are registered for a group in VUnet, you are expected to attend all sessions (eight). If you decide to withdraw from the course, please do so in time. This all will avoid a ‘fail’ on your grade list for not taking part in this course and allows other students to fill in a possible very wanted group spot.
**Overige informatie**
- To do well, students are expected to attend all lessons. Group schedules are to be found at rooster.vu.nl and on Blackboard.
- If you (expect to) miss a session, please inform the group trainer as soon as possible. If you miss a session without notification, you may not be able to finish the course.
- For any questions concerning this course, please contact onderwijsbureau.beta@vu.nl.