

1. When can I apply for a specialisation?

OH Specialisation:

- To inform Education Office by end of SPH5001.

HPS, EQM & GH Specialisation:

- For Full-Time students, apply in Semester 2 of study (in March)
- For Part-Time students, apply in Semester 4 of study (in March)

2. Do I need to have obtained a minimum grade for the core/ elective modules to be considered as having fulfilled the requirements of my specialisation?

No. However, students need to obtain a minimum CAP of 3.0 for the modules counted towards the specialisation.

3. Can I change/drop my specialisation mid-way/towards the end?

Subject to approval if you wish to change your specialisation. Students should have completed/are reading the required specialisation modules and a Practicum topic related to the specialisation. Students who are enrolled in a specialisation but do not enrol in the correct modules to meet the specialisation requirements will not be eligible for the specialisation.

4. I have an interest in 'XYZ', but I am not sure if I should specialise in 'XYZ'.

You may arrange for a discussion with the specialisation leads through the Education Office.

5. Some modules have limited places. Would I have priority if the specialisation list those modules as a core/ elective requirement?

No priority for specialisation will be given.

6. Will I get additional help with finding a practicum topic/supervisor in the area of my specialisation?

We will help all students, regardless of their interest/ specialisation. The Academic Advisors were assigned based on the students' expressed area of interest at the start of their candidature. Students can discuss with their Academic Advisor on possible practicum topics and if required, a separate Practicum Supervisor may be assigned.

7. Will the specialisation affect my CAP?

Modules read to complete the degree requirements will be computed in the CAP, including modules completed for the specialisation.

8. Would the specialisation increase my employability – how do employers view specialisation?

Specialisations may help employers differentiate suitable candidates for positions in different areas, as it indicates the candidates' areas of interest, as well as some knowledge or skills in desired areas as indicated by the grades obtained for the modules. It may however narrow your opportunities as employers may not consider you for other opportunities, as they may perceive the lack of knowledge or skills in other areas.

9. What are some of the pros of specialisation?

Specialisation provides students with the opportunity to learn more about a particular sub-discipline within their main discipline. It is very useful for students who plan to enter specific career tracks upon their graduation.

- If the specialization is a match to the student's interest, the individual is likely to thrive better in it
- It allows employers to differentiate the student from other candidates in a segmented area of public health.
- Having a focus would be beneficial for course guidance

10. What are some of the cons of specialization?

While skills and knowledge are applicable and transferable to other areas, employers may pigeonhole an individual based on their specialization, thus narrowing their job opportunities, and limiting their contribution to the Public Health community according to the chosen specialization.