

Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health

Be an Agent of Change

Turning discovery into healthier communities
through education, research and partnership



What is Public Health?

Public Health is an exciting interdisciplinary field that focuses on enhancing population health through disease prevention, health promotion, and addressing factors influencing health outcomes. It is exceptionally relevant today given global health threats, the surge in non-communicable diseases, and ongoing health disparities.

What sets public health apart is its comprehensive, multi-faceted approach with an emphasis on the broader populace and proactive measures, prioritizing prevention over individual patient care and treatment. Its scope encompasses not only the prevention but also the effective management of both communicable and non-communicable diseases. It engages various sectors and employs a range of disciplines, all geared towards preventing health issues and effectively managing existing ones within the entire population.

Professor Chia Kee Seng
*Founding Dean
Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health*



Make a Difference with NUS Public Health

Designed for aspiring public health professionals like you, the undergraduate programme is a gateway to a fulfilling and impactful career that transcends boundaries, shapes healthier communities, and transforms lives.



Top Ranked University in Asia

NUS is ranked #1 in Asia and #8 in the world in the QS World University Rankings 2024.



Global Classroom

Benefit from the extensive knowledge vault of our global faculty members on addressing complex public health challenges in today's interconnected world.



Practical Projects

Gain practical insights into the latest innovative approaches to address real-world issues such as mental health, ageing population and infectious diseases.



Interdisciplinary Curriculum

Cutting-edge curriculum rooted in evidence-based approaches across diverse fields such as epidemiology, biostatistics, and health policy and management.



Career Advancement

Graduates have gone on to assume leadership positions in vast array of organisations including government agencies, NGOs, hospitals, and pharmaceuticals.



International Alumni Community

Tap on the expertise of our family of alumni from over 30 countries who have made significant contributions to public health globally.

“It is a great joy to learn, as an alumnus, at the National University of Singapore, one of the finest universities in the world, and an outstanding leader in education, research and innovation. The knowledge I learned in NUS has helped my career in public health in Hong Kong and later in the World Health Organization.”



Dr Margaret Chan, Class of 1985
*Emeritus Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO),
Founding Dean of Vanke School of Public Health at Tsinghua University*

Second Major in Public Health

The Second Major in Public Health is integrated into a single degree programme, where students fulfil the criteria for two Majors. This provides you with the opportunity to broaden your knowledge and skills by concurrently engaging in a second Major alongside your primary one.

The Second Major in Public Health offers an in-depth exploration into the core domains of public health, including epidemiology, biostatistics, lifestyle behaviours, health systems and policies.

You can expect:

1



To gain knowledge and practical skills for effective work in public health-related roles

2



An internship opportunity from a curated list of public health agencies that aligns with your area of interest

3



To learn to synthesise information and draw conclusions from evidence-based approaches, harnessing the power of data in public health practice





Minor in Public Health

A Minor programme is a course of study in an additional area outside of the Major and contributes to the breadth of learning envisaged for undergraduate education.

The Minor in Public Health explores key public health principles which complements your first major, thus creating a unique interdisciplinary perspective.

You can expect:



To discover if public health is the right career path for you



A variety of elective courses ranging from foundational knowledge to practical application



Application of public health methodologies and disciplines within the context of your specific fields of study

Complement your First Major and Expand your Career Options

What sets public health apart is its comprehensive and multi-faceted approach. It engages various sectors and employs a range of disciplines, all geared towards preventing health issues and effectively managing existing ones within the entire population.

With a Second Major or Minor in Public Health, you can expect to expand your career options in the following fields:

Data Analytics & Modelling

- Computing
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Statistics



Disease Prevention

- Business Administration
- Life Sciences
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Social Work
- Sociology



Research & Technology

- Business Analytics
- Data Science
- Engineering
- Food Science & Technology



Health Policy

- Business Analytics
- Economics
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Political Science
- Social Work



Health Promotion

- Area Studies & Languages
- Communications & New Media
- Food Science & Technology
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology



Social Services

- Area Studies & Languages
- Communications & New Media
- English Literature
- Geography
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Social Work
- Sociology



Surveillance & Outbreak

- Business Analytics
- Data Science
- Geography
- Information Systems
- Life Sciences
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Social Work
- Sociology



Health Systems

- Architecture
- Engineering
- Business Analytics
- Business Administration
- Economics
- Political Science
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Social Work



Where Our Graduates work



Hear it from our Alumni!

The flexibility of the Second Major enabled me to couple my learnings from my first major (Political Science) in exploring three distinct areas of interest in Public Health - ethics and philosophy, behavioural psychology, and statistics. In fact, I enjoyed studying the prevention and control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) so much that I took additional internships and wrote my Honours Thesis on residential smoking, and even got a job doing precisely that in the Ministry of Health (MOH)!

Grace Tan

Assistant Manager
(Population Health Division),
Ministry of Health
Bachelor of Social Science,
Political Science with a
Second Major in Public Health



Enrolling in the Second Major in Public Health has helped me to build a solid understanding of the diverse determinants of health behaviours and strengthened skillsets such as problem-solving, critical thinking and collaboration. This came in handy during my internship with Doctors Without Borders under the Operations Support Unit where I was involved in the planning and execution of the first phase of a research and stakeholder mapping project on emergency preparedness and response in Singapore.

Quek Hui Yi

Senior Analyst, Vista Health
Bachelor of Science, Life Sciences
with a Second Major in Public Health



Beyond the discipline, I also appreciate the safe and application-based learning environment that many professors and teaching staff in Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health have created for us. Lessons often entail case studies or reflections that have helped me think about application of concepts and theories beyond the four-walls of our classrooms.

Charmaine Ang

Masters Student, Imperial College London
(Ministry of Health Holdings, Healthcare Graduate Scholarship Award Recipient, 2023)
Bachelor of Science, Life Sciences with a Minor in Public Health



As a Life Science major pursuing a Minor in Public Health, my understanding of the biological concept behind vaccines and knowledge of public health allowed me to apply what I learnt in school to real world problems, as well as take a more active role during discussions with my diverse and talented colleagues.



Miguel Tan

Public Health Officer, ACCESS Health International
Bachelor of Science, Life Sciences with a Minor in Public Health



About Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS)

The NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health is Singapore's first and only national school for public health. Built upon more than seven decades of experience in research, education, and practice, the School is a leader in advancing public health knowledge, developing public health leaders and transforming health practices in Asia.

Through the Global Health programme, the School has strong alliances and partnerships with governments, public health agencies, and academic institutions from around the world, including the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Tsinghua University Vanke School of Public Health, to contribute to capacity building in addressing global health challenges.

