

2-2. Promoting Human Development

Hiroshima University (National) Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences

◆ **Program name**

Division of Integrated Health Sciences, Program of Public Health

◆ **Degrees:**

Master of Public Health

◆ **Credit and years needed for graduation:**

30 credits, 2 years

◆ **Address:**

• **Biomedical and Health Sciences:** 1-2-3 Kasumi, Minami-ku, Hiroshima-shi,
Hiroshima JAPAN 734-8553



Features of University <http://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/index.html>

Hiroshima University (HU) was established by combining eight existing institutions in May 1949 under the National School Establishment Law. Later in 1953, the Hiroshima Prefectural Medical College was also added to the new HU. Some of these higher educational institutions already had brilliant traditions and histories of their own. Although these educational institutions suffered a great deal of damage due to the atomic bomb which was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, they were reconstructed and combined to become the new HU. In addition, Graduate Schools were established in 1953. The new HU has risen from the ruins of war like a phoenix, which is in fact the University's symbol.

HU is located in the southwest part of Honshu, the largest island of Japan. Approximately 900 kilometers away from Tokyo, it takes 70 minutes by airplane, or 4 hours by Shinkansen (bullet train) to Hiroshima. HU has three campuses and the main campus, covering 252 hectares, is located in Higashi-Hiroshima, in a verdant area which is famous for sake brewing. Including campuses in Hiroshima, known as the International City of Peace and Culture, the University includes 12 schools, 4 graduate schools, a research institute, a university hospital, and 11 affiliated schools.

HU aims to be a world-class hub of education and research, to foster excellent human resources to contribute to the community, and developmentally expand science.

HU's mission of ongoing growth is based on the following five guiding principles:

1. The Pursuit of Peace

To develop intellectual attitudes which always seek peaceful solutions to the problems affecting society and the world at large.

2. The Creation of New Forms of Knowledge

To evolve new systems of study which surpass existing frontiers of knowledge and encourage intellectual innovation.

3. The Nurturing of Well-Rounded Human Beings

To train graduates with well-developed and multifaceted personalities by means of an education which has breadth as well as depth.

4. Collaboration with the Local, Regional, and International Community

To create a university with a strong international awareness which can efficiently disseminate knowledge on a worldwide scale, in collaboration with local and regional communities.

5. Continuous Self-Development

To maintain a constant readiness to re-examine established ways of acting, and a constant openness to

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improvement and innovation.

HU has a long history of accepting international students from Southeast Asia. This commenced before World War II with students employed as high government officials devoted to the development of their home countries. As of May 2025, HU has over 15,000 students including 1,919 international students from different 98 countries.

Features of Graduate School <https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/bhs>

Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences

Social needs caused by the rapid process of low birthrate and aging population are to overcome diseases such as cancer, cognitive impairment and circulatory illness which aged person are more likely to suffer from. It is important to take measures to innovate advanced medicine based on the development of life and medical sciences, and to maintain • promote human health from a new perspective.

In current medical diagnosis, treatment team to conduct medical care for patients in collaboration of staff with special fields is widely enforced. Accordingly, it has become an urgent necessity to foster highly specialized personnel (medical/ dental doctors, dental hygienists, dental technicians, pharmacists, nurses, public health nurses, birthing assistants, physiotherapists and occupational therapists) capable of promoting highly-qualified diagnosis in a treatment team.

Kasumi Campus, Hiroshima University as one of the prominent medical campuses in Japan, is equipped with facilities to provide sustained education from undergraduate to graduate programs. Highly specialized personnel trained in those fields are required to deepen relations with other fields for the basis of treatment team as well as to develop education • research in conjunction with areas in health and medical sciences.

As a new institution making the best of human resources and functions at Kasumi Campus, Graduate Schools of Biomedical Sciences and Health Sciences were integrated into Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences with 4 specific fields in medical and health sciences.

Principal purposes of the establishment are as follows:

- To train scientists who can take active roles in new or combined areas extended from the conventional education
- To activate research activities coping with scientific improvement and complexity
- To build more flexible educational • research systems such as development of major scientific projects aiming for creating new knowledge which used to be impossible with conventional two graduate schools; biomedical sciences and health sciences.

Guiding Principles

Putting on a great value on the guiding principles of Hiroshima University (Pursuit of peace, Creation of new forms of knowledge, Nurturing of well-rounded human beings, Collaboration with the local, regional and international community and Continuous self-development), our basic principles are as follows;

1. To promote fundamental research in medicine, dentistry, pharmaceutical sciences, health sciences
2. To explore new areas of knowledge through exercising synthetic, scientific and advanced research
3. To foster educators, scientists, highly specialized personnel who possess extensive knowledge and advanced skills
4. To contribute to the development of human health, welfare and medicine, dentistry, pharmaceutical sciences • health sciences at a global level

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Master of Public Health (MPH)

The course has a systematic curriculum which has compulsory and vocational courses divided in five fields according to the international standard of graduate Schools of Public Health. Through taking various courses including Health Statistics, Health Policy, Principle of Research Methodology and Ethics, Clinical Epidemiology, Health Service Administration, Environmental Health Sciences, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, students will acquire skills and abilities to control and estimate health conditions in the community, to operate disease surveillance and control, be familiar in designing clinical researches and help building policies for administration.

I. Key Features of Education

Education Programs in English

We believe it is important to develop international professionals capable of writing academic articles and reports, communicating and conversing in English. Therefore, many lectures and seminars are provided in English, and our well-organized curricula enable students to receive degrees through courses in English.

Systematic and Interdisciplinary Curriculum

We offer a systematic and interdisciplinary curriculum to produce specialists who can contribute to international development and cooperation in ways that cut across established academic disciplines.

II. Special Education Programs

We offer special education programs designed to improve the qualifications and skills of students who plan to work in the field of international cooperation. The main features of these programs are as follows.

Formation of a Strategic Center for Global Internship (G.ecbo)

HU is currently promoting the “Formation of a Strategic Center for Global Internship” (commonly known as the “G.ecbo program”) following the 2007 adoption of the Support Program for Improvement of Graduate School Education. G.ecbo is a practical education program that includes pre- and post-internship training designed to achieve viable outcomes from student internships. The following types of internships are available:

- (1) Overseas internships, in which students go to a university or organization outside Japan;
- (2) Domestic internships, in which foreign students go to a Japanese company or organization;
- (3) Third-country internships, in which students from developing countries go to institutions in other developing countries.

Features of the Program

https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/bhs/departments/m_program_of_public_health

Developing countries today are facing various difficulties, including rapid population growth, regional conflicts, deteriorating standard of living and environmental problems. Insufficient social infrastructure, particularly in education and medical conditions and technological level, impedes socioeconomic development in developing countries.

Master of Public Health (MPH)

Here this MPH course, we welcome applicants, such as healthcare professionals (including doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacist, etc.) and staff in public health administration who desire to have the ability to operate EBM and people who would like to learn applied knowledge and techniques to solve problems related to clinical medicine, public health, and medical administration.

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As a goal, we desire our students to have the ability to operate EBM, acquire the techniques and abilities for disease control, knowledge and thinking skills for clinical research and epidemiological studies.

The medium of instruction of the program is basically English.

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

[Hiroshima University Syllabus](#)

To obtain a Master's degree, JDS fellows need to satisfy the following requirements: (1) minimum of 30 credits through course work, and (2) submission of a master's thesis.

All students need to decide research topic and supervisors (one head-supervisor and two sub-supervisors) at the beginning of the first semester. Under the head-supervisor's advice, students will choose subjects to register and start preparations for a master's thesis.

Hiroshima University organizes **Master course of Public Health (MPH)** with a systematic curriculum including the following five areas: 1) Epidemiology, 2) Biostatistics, 3) Social and Behavioral Sciences, 4) Health Service Administration, and 5) Environmental Health Sciences, which is the international standard of graduate Schools of Public Health. In the course, we will train health professionals/policy makers who can operate EBM with a research mind and people in charge of public health administration and who can help building operational policies.

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/med/research/lab/basis>

Students need to decide their research topic and supervisors (one head-supervisor and two sub-supervisors) at the beginning of the first semester. Under the head-supervisor's advice, students will choose subjects to enroll and start preparations for their master's thesis.

【Public Health Course】

Position	Name	Research Subject
Professor	FUKUMA Shingo	Epidemiology, Clinical Epidemiology, Data science, Statistics, Implementation Research, Behavioral Intervention
Professor	KUBO Tatsuhiko	Public health, Health policy and environmental health
Professor	NAGAO, Masataka	Clinical forensic medicine, Clinical toxicology, Forensic toxicology, Forensic pathology
Professor	ITO Masanori	General internal medicine, Epidemiology and primary care, Adipocyte differentiation and metabolic syndrome, Japanese traditional (Kampo) medicine.

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Academic Schedule

(Reference)

1st year

October 1	Entrance Ceremony, Orientation
Beginning of October - Early February	Class Period
Early April - Beginning of August	Class Period
Throughout the year	Seminars and research

2nd year

Beginning of October - Early February	Class Period
Early April - Beginning of August	Class Period
Throughout the year	Seminars and research
Beginning of August	Thesis Submission (MPH)
End of August	Thesis Defense (MPH)
September 20	Graduation Ceremony

In the MPH course, seminars and researches are conducted throughout the year regardless of the Class Periods.

Facilities <https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/centers>

The Master course of Public Health (MPH) is a course of the Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences at Kasumi Campus located in Hiroshima city for medical schools and hospitals of Hiroshima University.

Accommodation & Dormitories

<Kasumi Campus>

There is no dormitory, however, students commuting to Kasumi Campus can apply for the Hiroshima City International House (<https://i-house-hiroshima.jp/over-view-of-hiroshima-i-house/>). The rent per month for single room is 26,000yen, and 36,000yen for the family room. The selection will be conducted by Hiroshima city. But it is rather competitive, and many students are living in privately-owned apartments around the campus.

Library

<Kasumi Campus>

Kasumi campus has Kasumi Library that owns 197,330 books and 8,447 journals currently, and is proud of the collections especially in the medical, dental, pharmaceutical and health sciences fields. Students can also use the BIBLA-Kasumi where is a common free space opening 24 hours for discussion, group-work, self-learning, etc.

Other facilities

Within the campuses, we have welfare facilities such as various cafeteria, a travel agency office, stores, and book shops. Hiroshima University also has a post office, a university health service center as well as a dental clinic in

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Higashi-Hiroshima campus and Hiroshima University Hospital at Kasumi campus. The International Center provides mental counseling service to international students in English.

Message for Applicants

Master course of Public Health (MPH)

In our course, we would like to train people to acquire advanced knowledge in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and be familiar with research plans for clinical studies, epidemiological surveys, evaluation of health systems, operate disease surveillance, respond to public health emergencies and manage large epidemiological datasets. In addition, we hope health professionals and policy makers in our course to be able to not only to involve in their primary duties but also to be implicated in the education and training of other staff. We also hope that our students will be the next generation of public health leaders.