

Doctoral Program in Public Health

Name of the degree to be conferred	Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health
Educational purpose	The program fosters advanced public health specialists with specialized knowledge in public health, cross-disciplinary knowledge in related fields, and research skills to solve a variety of health problems faced at a global level, such as the ultra-low birthrate and aging society.
Vision of human resources development	Individuals who have a sufficient combination of high-level specialized knowledge, interdisciplinary knowledge, and research and education skills in public health, and who contribute to public health administration and the improvement of community, school, occupational, and global health.
Diploma Policy	
The degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health is commenced to those who have fulfilled the requirements for the completion of the Doctoral programs, as set out in the Graduate School Regulations of the University of Tsukuba and related university regulations, and who are deemed to have the following competencies.	
Competencies	Evaluation perspectives
1. Knowledge creation competence: Ability to create new knowledge that can contribute to future society	① Are there any research findings that can be considered new knowledge? ② Can we expect you to create knowledge that will contribute to future society?
2. Management competence: Ability to plan and implement measures to identify and solve challenges from a higher perspective	① Can you make and implement long-term plans for critical challenges? ② Can you identify challenges, even in other areas of expertise, and solve them from a higher perspective?
3. Communication competence: Ability to express the true nature of academic findings positively and clearly	① Can you explain the true nature of research content and specialized knowledge clearly and logically to researchers from different areas and to people other than researchers? ② Do you proactively share your findings with researchers and experts from your field of expertise and accurately answer questions?
4. Leadership competence: Ability to have objectives get accomplished under your leadership	① Can you set attractive and compelling goals? ② Are you capable of building systems to realize goals and accomplish objectives as the leader?
5. Internationality competence: Possession of a high level of awareness and motivation to be internationally active and contribute to international society	① Do you have strong awareness and motivation to contribute to international society and international activities? ② Have you obtained adequate linguistic skills for international information collection and action?
6. Research skills: Ability to set contemporary and future research questions based on the latest expertise in the field of public health, and to carry out research plans independently.	① Can the student identify contemporary and future issues in the field of public health based on the latest expertise ② Can the student independently carry out a research plan for the research topic set
7. Expertise: Advanced and specialized knowledge in the field of public health and interdisciplinary expertise in related sciences.	① Does the student have advanced and specialized knowledge in the field of public health? ② Does the student have interdisciplinary expertise in related sciences?

8. Ethics: Ethical awareness and knowledge appropriate for a researcher in the field of public health, and in-depth ethical knowledge of the specific field of study.	① Does the student have in-depth ethical knowledge in the field of public health? ② Does the student have a sense of ethics and ethical knowledge about the specific field of their major?
9. Interdisciplinary application skills: Ability to apply interdisciplinary knowledge and skills related to public health to the solution of contemporary and future problems.	① Is the student addressing contemporary and future issues in public health from an interdisciplinary perspective? ② Is the student attempting to apply interdisciplinary and comprehensive approaches to solving contemporary and future issues in public health?

Dissertation evaluation criteria

After satisfying the requirements stipulated in the Graduate School Regulations of the University of Tsukuba, the dissertation review committee, consisting of one primary examiner and at least three secondary examiners, must confirm that the dissertation meets the following evaluation criteria, and the final examination must result in a passing grade.

1. In public health, which is an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary field of study, the student must be able to develop an original and novel theme based on relevant previous research.
2. The background, objectives, methods, results, discussion, and conclusions of the research should be logically organized in the form of a dissertation.
3. To be recognized as contributing to the solution of health issues by obtaining results of high social contribution through appropriate research methods in public health.
4. The research must be fair and free from ethical problems.

Curriculum Policy

The program provides education and research guidance for students to learn interdisciplinary expertise in public health and to develop advanced research skills, ethics, and problem-solving abilities through a multidisciplinary cross-section of human, physical, and medical sciences in collaboration with the Doctoral Program in Human Care Science and the Graduate School in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Health.

Curriculum organization policy	<p>Students learn theories and research methods in a wide range of specialized fields related to the support of human life and health, such as pedagogy, psychology, physical education, health science, medicine, nursing, epidemiology, and statistics, through a cross-disciplinary faculty structure consisting of faculty members from the humanities, physical education, medicine and medical science, and the National Institute of Public Health. In this way, students will acquire interdisciplinary specialized research skills and problem-solving abilities related to public health from multiple perspectives of individuals, society, and the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program offers cross-disciplinary Foundation Subjects for Major ("Special Lecture", 1 unit for each course, 6 units in total, required) to study theories and research methods in a wide range of fields related to support for human life and health, and to acquire the perspective and expertise of cross-disciplinary integration. • In "Special Lecture on Human Care Science I, II, and III," students will gain expertise in various fields of human care science (Gerontological Nursing and Caring, Education for Human Coexistence, Clinical Psychology, Developmental Clinical Psychology, Social Psychiatry and Mental Health, and Stress Management). In "Public Health I, II, and III," students acquire expertise in the fields of public health (Global Health, Health Care Policy and Management, Health Sociology, Health Service Research, Life Support, Exercise Nutrition, Health Promotion Sciences, Environmental Health and Sciences and Health Emergency Management).
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Major Subjects ("Seminar" and "Special Research", 3 credits each, 6 credits compulsory), students acquire cutting-edge, high-level expertise in specialized fields of human care science through the Seminar in Public Health Science, and acquire high-level research methods and ethical standards for writing and presenting papers through the "Research in Public Health Science". In addition, by receiving research guidance from multiple instructors, students acquire research skills and problem-solving abilities from a broad perspective of interdisciplinary integration.
Learning methods • Processes	<p>Students will receive guidance from multiple instructors in a systematic and continuous manner according to the standard course flowchart, aiming for completion (degree acquisition) in three years, the standard years of study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first year, students develop a research plan for their dissertation, go through a research ethics review, and begin their research. • In the first and second year, students acquire specialized knowledge and interdisciplinary knowledge in public health through the Foundation Subjects for Major of "Special Lecture on Public Health I, II, III" and "Special Lecture on Human Care Science I, II, III". • In the second year and thereafter, students acquire cutting-edge knowledge and research methods in their specialized fields through Major Subjects such as "Seminar on Public Health" and "Research in Public Health." In addition, they receive guidance from their advisors and secondary advisors on the preparation of their dissertations, and actively make presentations at conferences and submit papers. • Immediately after admission, at the end of each academic year, and at the time of application for dissertation review, the student is required to submit a Competence Evaluation Form (the student's own evaluation of his/her level of achievement regarding the knowledge and abilities specified in the Diploma Policy, which is confirmed by the faculty advisor). • The student is required to submit a record of academic guidance (a record of confirmation and guidance of academic achievements and research progress by the advisory and secondary advisor) every three months until passing the midterm review meeting. • The student will make a presentation at the midterm examination, preliminary examination, dissertation examination, and doctoral dissertation presentation.
Evaluation of learning outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately after admission, at the end of each academic year, and at the time of application for dissertation review, the achievement of the student's knowledge and abilities specified in diploma policy are submitted in the Competence Evaluation Form, and the status of each student's achievement is checked and evaluated by the faculty members at the Major education meeting. • The student's academic achievements and research progress are submitted every three months in the form of a record of academic guidance, and the status of each student's academic work and research is checked and evaluated by the faculty members at the Major education meeting. • The midterm examination is open to the public, and the primary examiner and two secondary examiners will review the overall plan of the dissertation, logical consistency of the research content, consistency with the research ethics review, and ensure that progress of at least 50% of the overall research has been made. • The preliminary examination is open to the public, and the primary examiner and two associate examiners at the midterm review meeting will review the quality of the dissertation, the submission of the academic paper, and whether or not to proceed to the dissertation review meeting. • The dissertation examination will also be open to the public, and the primary examiner and two secondary examiners from the preliminary review meeting will be joined by one secondary examiner from outside this degree program to conduct an appropriate review from a more interdisciplinary perspective.

Admission Policy

Desired students	We are looking for individuals with a genuine passion for addressing the pressing challenges in public health --locally and globally --who are eager to tackle these issues through interdisciplinary research, leveraging cutting-edge expertise and methodologies. Ideal candidates have an academic background and practical experience in public health and related disciplines.
Selection policy	Selection will be based on the ability to conduct research, practice, and international collaboration, and will include written examinations in specialized fields and English, as well as an oral examination based on the research plan, for a comprehensive evaluation.