慈濟大學公共衛生學系、碩士班之沿革與發展

Tzu Chi University

A History of the Undergraduate and Master’s Program in Public Health.

本系為本校大學部創校最早的三個系之一。在籌建之初，創校校長李明亮秉持慈濟基金會證嚴上人關心原住民的執著，於1993年成立「原住民健康研究室」，並親自擔任主任。1994年創校成立公共衛生學系後，「原住民健康研究室」即併入公衛系運作。秉持基金會服務弱勢族群，提高東部醫療水準的發展理念，與「尊重生命，以人為本」的創校精神，本系有計畫地培育具備人文素養的公衛人才，並期望學生畢業後進入社會，能懷抱濟世助人的理念，並實踐志工服務的精神。

The Department of Public Health, established as one of the University’s original three departments, was under the guidance of the dean of the College of Medicine, Professor Ming-Liang Lee. Reflecting Tzu Chi Foundation’s commitment to indigenous peoples, inspired by founder Dharma Master Cheng Yen, Professor Lee inaugurated the “Indigenous Health Research Office” in 1993, also serving as its director. With the founding of the Department of Public Health in 1994, this office became a part of it.

Deeply committed to supporting underserved communities and enhancing healthcare quality in eastern Taiwan, the department mirrors the University’s foundational principles of valuing life and nurturing compassion for individuals. Its goal is to prepare public health professionals well-versed in humanistic principles, fostering a sense of benevolence and a commitment to volunteerism in its students.

因發展理念與地處東部之故，「偏遠地區醫療衛生議題」與「原住民健康」遂成為本系主要之發展重點。台灣花東地區原住民族計有阿美 (Amis)、泰雅 (Atayal)、太魯閣 (Truku)、布農 (Bunun)、雅美 (Yami)、卑南 (Puyuma)、排灣 (Paiwan) 、噶瑪蘭(Kavalan)、魯凱(Rukai)、撒奇萊雅(Sakiraya) 及賽德克(Sedeg)等族，並佔所有居民人數四分之一以上；由於原住民族的許多疾病型態迴異於漢人，且各健康影響因子有其特性存在，因此衍生諸多與族群相關之公共衛生議題。

Based on its educational goals and location in eastern Taiwan, the department prioritized tackling “Healthcare Challenges in Remote Areas” and “Indigenous Health.” In Hualien and Taitung Counties, indigenous populations such as the Amis, Atayal, Truku, Bunun, Yami, Puyuma, Paiwan, Kavalan, Rukai, Sakiraya, and Sedeg represent more than a quarter of their total inhabitants. Health issues prevalent in these indigenous groups often vary from those in other communities, with each group having its unique health concerns. This situation has given rise to distinct public health challenges associated explicitly with each ethnic group.

這些議題，特別在生理及心理健康的層面，亟需要特殊的關懷與研究；在此前提之下，「原住民健康研究室」於1998年獨立成為「原住民健康研究所(原健所)」，系所即以「偏遠地區醫療衛生」與「社區健康」為研究重點，逐漸拓展公衛各相關領域之教學研究，並與原健所密切合作並相互支援。在師資與設備逐漸成熟之際，本系於2003年成立公共衛生研究所碩士班且正式招生。由於屬性與原健所關連密切，並考量資源共享的優勢，本系與原健所經多次會議討論決議合併，於2008年正式實施，成為公共衛生系學士班，及公共衛生碩士班。持續完備各領域的師資與設備，並結合慈濟基金會的資源以發展國際衛生，為本系所目前與未來的發展方向。

Addressing the critical physical and mental health needs, the Indigenous Health Research Office transitioned into the Institute of Indigenous Health in 1998. In collaboration with the institute, the department prioritized research in areas like “Healthcare in Remote Regions” and “Community Health,” encompassing various public health disciplines through joint teaching, research, and initiatives. This expansion led to a Master’s Program in Public Health in 2003. The close relationship with the institute and the advantages of pooled resources culminated in a merger in 2008, resulting in an extensive range of undergraduate and master’s programs in public health. Continuing to bolster its teaching, research, and community engagement capacities, the department partners with Tzu Chi Foundation, aiming to make significant contributions to the global health sector.

**慈濟大學公共衛生學系及碩士班簡介**

About the Undergraduate and Master’s Program in Public Health

慈濟大學公共衛生學系及研究所課程皆依據本校教育宗旨及目標，參照國內、外公共衛生領域之實務發展趨勢，結合在地特色，更為滿足我國公共衛生師應具備之專業素養所設計規劃。公衛系目前畢業學分為128學分，其中包含校核心課程及公衛必修課程。除校系必修課程外，本系課程依公衛專業劃分為四個專業學群：環境與職業衛生、社會行為科學、衛生行政與管理與生統流病學群。而研究所畢業必須修滿28學分，其中必修13學分(不含碩士論文6學分)，本國生及外籍生必修課程規劃皆包含研究所強調的公衛研究法及專題討論，以及核心科目生統與流行病學，以上皆備有中英課程，其他皆為選修課程，外籍生亦可依據研究主題選修相關全英語課程。

Tzu Chi University’s foundation reflects its missions and educational objectives, focusing on local characteristics and global public health trends. Its aim is to provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge for careers in public health.

The undergraduate program requires that students complete 128 credits. This includes the University’s core courses and required courses mandated by the department. The curriculum is divided into four specialized areas: Environmental and Occupational Health, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Health Administration and Management, and Biostatistics and Epidemiology.

The master’s program has a 28-credit requirement, with 13 credits in required courses (excluding 6 credits for the master’s thesis). All students, whether domestic or international, must complete courses in Public Health Research Methods, Seminar, and Biostatistics and Epidemiology. These courses are offered in both Chinese and English. Additionally, the department provides a variety of elective courses, and international students can choose English-taught courses that match their research interests.

公衛系提供多元學習的管道，如開設一系列職業衛生、緊急救護課程，方便同學取得相關就業證照。此外，本系也與英國Middlesex University簽有雙聯學位合作協議，利用四年時間可完成雙公衛學士(慈濟大學及英國Middlesex University)；現有碩士班學、碩士一貫的實施辦法，另外提供同學們更有效及一氣呵成地完成學、碩士學業。在研究所部分，也有與安德魯斯大學(Andrews University) 管理學院簽訂「合作辦理雙聯學制協議書」，完成課程要求後獲得慈大公衛碩士和安德魯斯大學MBA碩士雙聯學位。

The department offers diverse learning opportunities, focusing on practical skills and academic excellence. Notable aspects of the program include:

1. Occupational Health and Emergency First Aid Courses: These courses are designed to impart practical skills essential for the health sector. They also assist students in obtaining the necessary licenses for employment in this field.
2. Dual Degree with Middlesex University, the United Kingdom: This unique collaboration allows students to earn two bachelor’s degrees in Public Health—one from Tzu Chi University and another from Middlesex University—within four years. This program is tailored for students seeking an international perspective in their studies.
3. Integrated Bachelor’s-to-Master’s Program: This streamlined pathway enables students to complete their undergraduate and master’s degrees in Public Health more efficiently. It’s ideal for those aiming to accelerate their academic progress.
4. Postgraduate Dual Degree Program with Andrews University, Michigan, USA: In partnership with the School of Business Administration at Andrews University, this program offers students the opportunity to earn a Master’s in Public Health from Tzu Chi University and an MBA from Andrews University. This dual degree benefits those who blend public health expertise with business acumen.

公衛人才培養的目的，是期許學生具備評估、發展與執行改善方案的能力，並能有效地動員資源來管理經營公共衛生事務。為落實此理念本系有別於其他大學公衛系之課程規劃，安排大二暑期第一次實習與大三暑期進階實習；另外，系上也安排許多在地社區參訪與服務的活動機會，同時亦配合慈濟人文之志工活動，讓同學們實際參與公共衛生實務操作；且藉由理論與實務結合的學習過程，培養同學專業應用及敬業服務的處世態度。

The educational goal of our programs is to empower students with the skills and knowledge necessary for assessing, developing, implementing, and improving projects related to public health. This approach sets our curriculum apart from other public health departments. Our strategy includes providing internship training in the sophomore year’s summer and another in the junior year’s summer. Additionally, we organize numerous local community visits and service opportunities, collaborating with Tzu Chi affiliates to enable student participation in public health volunteer services. The learning process, merging theory and practice, aims to sharpen students’ professional abilities and nurture their commitment to service.

**慈濟大學公共衛生學系及碩士班畢業生未來發展**

Career Choices for Undergraduate and Master’s Students

公私立衛生機構、環保機構、研究或教育機構、生命科學及保險公司皆提供多元的專業就業機會，包括統計研究人員、職業安全衛生管理人員、大數據分析員、統計分析師等職稱。此外，參與公職考試（包括高普考及地方特考）時，可選擇行政類別如衛生行政、環保行政、醫務管理、食藥管理，或技術類別如環境檢驗、環境工程、衛生檢驗及衛生技術等不同領域。同樣地，醫院行政部門也擁有眾多職缺，包括企劃、品質管理、績效管理、個案館師等。在媒體傳播業中，例如記者、編輯、社群媒體編輯等角色，同樣提供與公共衛生相關的就業機會。除了就業選擇外，進一步升學（包括碩士、博士或海外留學）亦是一個可行的發展方向。

The field of public health provides a wide range of career opportunities for students, accommodating various interests and skills. Here are some key areas:

1. Association with Diverse Organizations: Students can work in healthcare institutions, environmental organizations, research institutions, educational institutions, life sciences companies, and insurance companies.
2. Roles in these Organizations: Opportunities include positions such as statistical researchers, occupational safety and health specialists, big data analysts, and statistical analysts.
3. Public Service Examinations: Students can opt for administrative roles in health administration, environmental administration, medical management, food and drug management, or technical positions in environmental testing, environmental engineering, health inspection, and health technology.
4. Healthcare Institutions and Hospitals: In these settings, students can engage in operational planning, quality management, performance management, and case management.
5. Media and Communication Industry: Students can take on roles such as journalists, editors, and social media editors focusing on public health issues, playing a crucial role in public health advocacy and information dissemination.
6. Further Education: Students can pursue advanced studies, including doctoral or additional master’s programs, either in Taiwan or abroad. This path is ideal for those aiming for academic or research-oriented careers in public health.

Each of these paths offers a unique way to contribute to society, enabling students to use their skills and interests to significantly impact various public health areas.