

Programme Specification

Course record information

Name and level of final award:	MSc Global Public Health Nutrition The Global Public Health Nutrition is an MSc degree that is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible.
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Postgraduate Diploma Postgraduate Certificate
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution:	Recognised Body
Location of delivery:	115 New Cavendish Street London
Language of delivery and assessment:	English
Course/programme leader:	Regina Keith
Course URL:	
Mode and length of study:	Full-time, one year (or part time over to 2 to 5 years)
University of Westminster course code:	PMNUT04F (full time) MSc Global Public Health Nutrition FT PMNUT04P (part time) MSc Global Public Health Nutrition PT
JACS code:	B900
UKPASS code:	MCR: P09FPGPH (Full-time - UKPASS) P09PPGPH (Part-time - UKPASS) D09FPGPH (Full-time -Direct Entry) D09PPGPH (Part-time - Direct Entry)
QAA subject benchmarking group:	
Professional body accreditation:	Association for Nutritionists (pending)
Date of course validation/review:	May 2016/ May 2022
Date of programme specification:	May 30 th 2016

Admissions requirements

You should have an Honours degree from a UK university, or equivalent from a non-UK university, in a relevant public health, nutrition, science or social science subject. Fluency in written and spoken English is a prerequisite for this course. A minimum of IELTS score of 6.5 or an equivalent UTESOL is required for the award with 6.5 in the written element. Candidates will be considered on a case-by-case basis, with preference given to those with related work experience.

If your first degree is not Public Health Nutrition related then you will be asked to complete the online Essentials of Nutrition (EoN) course. This short course prepares students for the technical nutrition science and Public Health content of the MSc degree. There are four sections with an assignment after each. The cost of the EoN course can be taken off the first semester fees, once the student has passed the EoN course, and started the MSc GPHN.

See:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/professional-and-short-courses/nutrition/essentials-of-nutrition>

Applications and selection

Applications are made to the Admissions Office of Cavendish Campus, online through the University website. These are considered by the Course Admissions Secretary and/or Course Leader. If entry criteria are met, then a place is normally offered. Applicants may be invited to explore their suitability for the course by means of an interview where possible, or by a short piece of written work for which guidelines are provided.

Accredited Prior Learning (APL)

The University of Westminster does have an APL policy, which will allow students with long term work experience in Public Health Nutrition fields to be accepted on to the MSc course. There is also an online Essentials of Nutrition access course for post graduate students who have not completed their BSc in Nutrition. All cases will be assessed on their own merit, according to the University guidelines.

Aims of the course

To reflect the changing profile of public health and within this Public Health Nutrition, the course takes a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding health and disease as related to food and nutrition.

The course is designed to deliver a broad but balanced approach to the understanding of nutritional issues, in which the perspectives of social science are explored as well as the more traditional disciplines of nutrition, epidemiology and statistics. This allows participants to acquire and apply advanced knowledge and skills in the identification, implementation and evaluation of public health strategies to address nutritional problems, that incorporate social and policy, as well as public health contexts.

The course aims to provide academic training to prepare participants to work in a variety of contexts that include government agencies, health care systems, international organizations, bilateral aid agencies, non-governmental organizations and industry as well as academic and research institutes. Professionally the course is designed to ensure that individuals meet the criteria for accreditation as Public Health Nutritionists as defined by the UK Association for Nutrition (AfN). All our nutrition degrees are accredited with the AfN. The MSc GPHN is presently pending accreditation.

Professional Development: Encouraging Choice

All module leaders invite guest speakers to enrich the scope of experience and knowledge the students can learn from. This also has opened up opportunities for internships and jobs following graduation. The Westminster Nutrition Society holds regular talks and changes for students to meet employers and past graduates to help them decide on the next steps following graduation. Many course assessments will equip the students with skills they require for working as public health nutritionists.

Weekly talks and seminars are held run by the FST department and students can also attend the regular psychology talks. MSc GPHN students are welcome to attend NGO advocacy events and briefings, through FNPH team connections. Being located in central London with a well-connected teaching team enables students the opportunities to attend debates and meetings at the cutting edge of public health nutrition policy governance and research.

Employment and further study opportunities

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- Career development and transferable skills are embedded in all courses
- Opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students
- Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision
- Staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.
- The course team has over three decades experience in Public Health Nutrition and Social Science fields. Including contacts in the UK PHN employment arena and the global health and nutrition development arena.

The course is designed to equip students with the specialist knowledge and practical skills of a globally skilled public health nutritionist and so prepare them to work in a range of workplace contexts including community-based projects. Employment opportunities for public health nutritionists are growing with new openings, for instance working with the UK based Food Foundation or the Department of Health policy team or as Infant and Young Child feeding advisers for London councils, or carrying out SMART surveys in Nigeria for UNICEF. Many graduates are now working as public health nutrition advisers with international development organisations like Save the Children, World Vision, ACF, UNICEF, WHO, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and Ministries of Health.

The curriculum and skills covered in the MSc GPHN are designed to meet the professional competencies defined by the Association for Nutrition, the mapping of public health nutrition

competencies on the National Standards for Public Health Specialists for the UK, and the common standards for training and curriculum developed as part of the European Master's Programme in Public Health Nutrition commissioned and funded by the European Commission. The World Public Health Nutrition Association has also developed global competencies and standards which have also been used in the development of the MSc GPHN course. The World Health Organization's policies and standards are used throughout the course, as the global leader of public health governance and standards.

Graduates who have completed previous MSc's in Public Health Nutrition have gone on to work for Ministries of Health (in countries like Sierra Leone, Bhutan and Ghana), UNICEF, WHO, FAO, USAID, GAIN, German Development Agency, Save the Children, ACF, Results, World Vision and Micronutrient Programmes. Others have selected to further their career in academia going on to complete PhDs, or teach at universities such as Sheffield and the University of Ghana. Some students decide to reside in the UK and work with Public Health England or the NHS in policy roles, nutrition programme officer positions or as community support workers promoting better infant and young child feeding.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These threshold statements of achievement are linked to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student will have gained on successfully completing a course.

Knowledge and understanding

1. Apply knowledge of the principles of human nutritional science
2. Critically evaluate energy and nutrient requirements through the life-cycle
3. Describe and critically analyse current patterns and trends in nutritional problems in varied in low middle and high income contexts
4. Appraise the impact of diet on diseases (both communicable and non-communicable) using epidemiological data and population based approaches
5. Evaluate the key features of the governance, organization and delivery of public health and nutrition services in low, middle and high income countries
6. Design innovative solutions to overcome the impact of climate change, globalisation and other social political economic and environmental factors on the global food system
7. Summarise and debate the evidence base for the current toolbox of efficacious interventions in low, middle and high income countries
8. Defend the ideas and concepts underpinning the importance of the use of qualitative and quantitative research methods in Public Health Nutrition in a local and global context

Subject specific skills

1. Critically appraise and summarize current scientific evidence on the relationships between diet, infection and disease
2. Identify and synthesize both the qualitative and quantitative evidence that informs on nutritional situations and solutions
3. Apply appropriate methods to assess nutritional status in populations living in different contexts
4. Plan, implement and evaluate interventions to sustain or improve the nutritional status of populations or communities, focusing on low and middle income countries and countries in transition
5. Appraise the effectiveness of food and nutrition policies, especially those relating to low middle and high income countries

6. Develop programmes and interventions to counteract the impact of climate change, globalisation and other social political economic and environment on food security
7. Design and implement a research project in a topic relating to national or global Public Health Nutrition

Transferable skills for MSc Global Public Health Nutrition

In all modules you will be supported to develop transferable skills in the areas of working with groups, problem solving and organisation, using and managing information, self-motivation and reflection and effective communication skills. These skills are essential for your future careers and will help you to become an effective Public Health Nutritionist. In all modules you will be encouraged to engage in presentations, public speaking, communicating complex messages in a simple format and the crucial skill of time and information management. As with all areas of learning the more commitment you invest in your studies, and in the strengthening of the skills below, the more you will benefit from your MSc studies.

Please see the transferable skills you will be strengthening below

Transferable skills	
1. Group working (GW)	Leadership
	Negotiation and conflict management
	Giving and responding to constructive feedback
	Sharing tasks
	Critical reflection on own performance as team member
	Support of others
2. Organization and problem solving (OPS)	Identification/definition of problem essentials
	Creative and innovative thinking
	Decision making
	Planning and management
	Application of methods/tools
3. Learning resources and information management (LIM)	Use of a range of learning resources
	Identification and retrieval of information/data
	Data management and organization including numeracy
	Critical evaluation of data/information quality
	Respect for ownership of information
	IT skills
4. Self-evaluation and autonomy (SEA)	Ability to motivate self and learn independently
	Management of own learning (including time management)
	Reflection and self-criticism
	Challenge opinion
	Respond to feedback
	Focus on personal development
5. Communication (Com)	Reporting / presentation in visual (including written) formats
	Oral reporting and presentation
	Use of ICT for communication
	Advocacy
	Discussion and debate

MSc GPHN transferable skills covered in each module

Module	Group work	OPS	LIM	SEA	Com
Policy and Governance in PHN	X	X	X	X	X
Concepts and Principles of Human Nutrition	X	X	X	X	X
PG Research Methods for Health Science I		X	X	X	X
Diet and Disease for Public Health	X	X	X	X	X
Nutritional Assessment	X	X	X	X	X
Global Challenges for Food and Health	X	X	X	X	X
Nutrition Interventions and Programmes	X	X	X	X	X
PG Research Methods for HS II and Project		X	X	X	X

Learning, teaching and assessment methods

The overall teaching and learning pattern is designed to promote active learning that draws upon real life experiences and also involves reflecting upon experience to help individuals recognize and develop an independent spirit of enquiry. A range of teaching methods are used, which include lectures, seminars, workshops, simulations, scientific problem-based learning, and self-directed learning. These are used in a structured way to support the development of specific areas of knowledge and understanding, practical and transferable skills. In recognition of the need for continuing professional development in today's work environment, emphasis is placed upon developing transferable skills and skills for lifelong learning, for instance in the utilization of information and educational technology.

The overall programme seeks to foster self-evaluation and autonomy and a significant part of each module is devoted to self-study and projects requiring completion by the end of the module. All students will complete a reflective diary, a research notebook and a professional portfolio to build skills as a reflective practitioner. Critical analysis is a feature of all modules, but for those students taking the MSc this culminates in the research project which allows for students to pursue an individual academic enquiry into a selected in-depth area of study. In addition to individual and self-directed learning, there are also opportunities for group learning via group work and critical reading seminars for the debate and discussion of important papers. These allow for academic dialogue not only with staff, but also with peers.

Blackboard

Blackboard is a key resource during your time at Westminster – every course and module has a Blackboard site. Blackboard helps students and tutors to:

- Share learning resources (module outlines, lecture notes, assignment briefs)
- Communicate via announcements and email
- Collaborate through discussion boards, blogs and wikis
- Complete online group work, take short answer tests and submit coursework electronically

Blackboard is available at learning.westminster.ac.uk and Blackboard help for students is available via the 'Help' link at the top right of every Blackboard page. You can also access Blackboard on a smartphone or tablet device by downloading the appropriate app – just visit the app store for your device and search for Blackboard Mobile Learn.

For further information on Blackboard Mobile, visit bit.ly/Bbmobile

Research-informed Learning and Teaching

Developing the links between research and teaching is an exciting way of engaging students in their learning. Although only a small proportion of our students will go into academia, all will (we hope) be the professionals of the future, having to deal with a rapidly-developing and changing world, facing challenges in their professional lives.

Developing students' capabilities in identifying and addressing new knowledge requirements is an essential element of their learning. We believe that bringing research and teaching together is the key to the enquiry-based higher education. Enquiry-based learning can provide the means for developing future postgraduate students with appropriate skills for adapting and participating in real world issues.

We seek to **Engage, Extend and Empower** students through research: through their own projects, the Food Nutrition and Public Health team's ongoing research and external Public Health Nutrition research.

The attributes and skills which research-informed learning at a postgraduate level can foster, are:

- Originality and creativity in formulating, evaluating and applying evidence-based solutions and arguments;
- Competent and clear in application of systematic and critical assessments of complex problems and issues;
- Capacity to address complex issues and make sound judgments in the absence of complete data;
- Proficient in analysis, critique and enquiry;
- An understanding of the need for a high level of ethical, social, cultural, environmental and wider professional conduct;
- Evaluate if current strategies and policies are having the desired impact;
- Confident in the use of tools to ascertain key priorities and address them integrating voices from all stakeholders especially the target population.

Our approaches towards developing research-informed learning

The course curriculum was developed to bring out current and previous research developments in the discipline. We support students in making clear the employability elements of research (particularly important for those students whose focus is on using a degree to get employment - and who may not otherwise appreciate the value of a research-based approach). Students are assessed in ways that mirror or support the research processes in the discipline. For example, students need to complete food security assessments, programme proposals and posters that all require an engagement in research and evidence-based approaches to seeking effective solutions. They are assessed through policy analysis, critiques of current journal articles and direct application of nutrition assessment approaches. All assessments require research through secondary or primary sources. We develop student involvement in staff research by encouraging attendance at nutrition division seminars as part of the curriculum. Students are encouraged to attend London research meetings on Public Health Nutrition and many students have utilised their projects as a means to gain field experience in carry out research. In 2015 for example, one students' research project was incorporated into a research report launched in the Parliament to raise awareness of the need for renewed focus on funding innovative nutrition programmes.

We ensure that the dissertation component of the degree is supported by a research training "tool kit" clearly articulated and embedded into the PG research methods and project modules and supported by PATS and Supervisor guidance.

We provide students with a dissertation topic list which is appropriate to their level of study and interacts with current staff/ supervisor research projects.

Students are requested to orally present their design study (proposal) for critique and evaluation from staff and peers. In addition, students present their research in July to the other MSc nutrition students to share learning and to avail of student and staff comments on research prior to submitting final thesis.

Research methods modules (I and II) use problem-based learning approach: student groups learn about methods by being fully engaged in research process.

Staff are encouraged to apply for funding to support students' research alongside their own research activity. Students in turn act as paid research assistants. Students are encouraged to apply for paid and unpaid internships. Many students have been successful in moving from their internships into paid employment with the organisation they acted as an intern for. Students can get involved voluntarily in the field work of university research projects.

Every year there are a number of research opportunities for students to work with field nutrition teams to develop their dissertation research project. Staff are encouraged to share their research outcomes with students by:

- Developing student awareness of learning from staff involvement in research.
- Asking students to critique staff publications from a research perspective; ask students to design their own methodology – problem-based learning.
- Presenting their research proposal in research methods modules in terms of 'how did you research this issue?'; 'what were the problems?' Ask students to critique the approach.

Assessment

How you will be assessed

The overall assessment strategy is designed to assess the learning outcomes of each MSc. To achieve this, a variety of assessment methods are used. The methods have been selected to develop and assess particular skills (subject specific as well as transferable) and knowledge in addition to specific learning outcomes.

Details of these linkages along with individual assessment criteria are given in the individual module outlines, but key assessment methods used include:

- Critical essays/reviews
- Case studies/reports / classroom based tests
- Posters/ Programme Proposals/ Group Presentations/ Interviews
- Scientific and technical reports
- Group consultancy assignment
- Project dissertation

Written assessment lengths

Full instructions for all assessments will be contained in your module handbook or placed on your Module Blackboard site. Written assessments will range from 1,500 words to 4,000 words depending on the marks the assessment carries. The dissertation, project will be longer from 5 to 10,000 words depending on the MSc project style selected.

Course structure

This section shows the core modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year.

Credit Level 7					Award Available		
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECT S	MSc (180 credits)	PGDip (120 credits)	PG Cert (60 credits)
7HMNT002W	Concepts and Principles of Human Nutrition	Core	20	10	✓	✓	✓
7HMNT015W	PG Research Methods I for HS	Core	20	10	✓	✓	✓
7HMNT008W	Nutritional Assessment	Core	20	10	✓	✓	✓
7HMNT014W	Policy and Governance in PHN	Core	20	10	✓	✓	
7HMNT013W	Diet and Disease	Core	20	10	✓	✓	
7HMNT016W	Global Challenges for Food and Health	Core	20	10	✓	Option	
7HMNT017W	Nutrition Interventions and Programmes	Core	20	10	✓	Option	
7HMNT018W	PG Research Methods for HS II and Project	Core	40	20	✓		

Westminster MSc GPHN Electives

For most students there are, at present, no electives on this MSc GPHN degree. However, from 2018, PG students who have passed the Global Challenges for Food and Health module in UG level six will be offered the choice of two electives: the Communicating Science module or the Nutrition in Emergencies summer short course module, both are worth 20 credits.

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations

Award

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7HMNT002W	Concepts and Principles of Human Nutrition	Core	20	10
7HMNT015W	PG Research Methods for Health Sciences I	Core	20	10
7HMNT008W	Nutritional Assessment	Core	20	10
7HMNT014W	Policy and Governance in PHN	Core	20	10
7HMNT013W	Diet and Disease for PH	Core	20	10
7HMNT016W	Global Challenges for Food and Health	Core	20	10
7HMNT017W	Nutrition Interventions and Programmes	Core	20	10
7HMNT018W	PG Research Methods for HS II and Project	Core	40	20

Intermediate awards

Students who are unable or do not wish to complete the MSc GPHN may be eligible to claim an intermediate award as described below. If a student plans (for whatever reason) to leave the course they are registered for and so wants to claim an intermediate award, they must notify the relevant Faculty Registry Office in writing. The University will then confer any intermediate award for which they are eligible at the next available opportunity. A student shall not normally be allowed to claim more than one award within the same postgraduate route/course.

Postgraduate Diploma in Global Public Health Nutrition

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
<i>Core modules to the value of 100 credits:</i>				
7HMNT002W	Concepts and Principles of Human Nutrition	Core	20	10
7HMNT015W	Research Methods in Health Sciences I	Core	20	10
7HMNT008W	Nutritional Assessment	Core	20	10
7HMNT014W	Food and Nutrition in Public Health Policy	Core	20	10
7HMNT013W	Diet and Disease for Public Health	Core	20	10
<i>Option modules to the value of 20</i>				
7HMNT016W	Global Challenges for Food and Health	Core	20	10
7HMNT017W	Nutrition Interventions for Programme Planning	Core	20	10

Postgraduate Certificate in Global Public Health Nutrition

Credit Level 7: Core modules to the value of 60 credits:				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7HMNT002W	Concepts and Principles of Human Nutrition	Core	20	10
7HMNT015W	Research Methods for Health Sciences I	Core	20	10
7HMNT008W	Nutritional Assessment	Core	20	10

Maximum periods of registration

The University normally expects a student to complete their award within the following maximum periods of registration (in years) including any period of suspension of studies.

	Full-time Study	Part-time Study
Masters degrees:	4	5
Postgraduate Diploma:	2	4
Postgraduate Certificate:	1	2

Support for students

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce students to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which they will be studying, the Library and IT facilities and to the Faculty Registry. Students will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Students are allocated a personal tutor who can provide advice and guidance on academic matters.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at their Faculty. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books).

Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught at their Faculty. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students.

Student Affairs provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. The Student Affairs Hub is located at 101 New Cavendish Street, Cavendish House (1st Floor), with an additional office located at the Harrow Campus. More information can be found at: westminster.ac.uk/study/new-students/when-you-arrive

The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support all students during their time at the University. For further information please visit uwsu.com

Support for International Students

There is an International Student Adviser (ISA) at the University who is based in the Student Advice Service at Cavendish House, 101 New Cavendish Street, throughout the week. The ISA provides support with non-academic issues such as immigration, working in the UK, finance, culture shock, homesickness and making friends. The ISA can see you for one appointment or for ongoing support. There is an International student welcome programme for international and EU full-time students which covers information such as your rights to healthcare in the UK, safety in London, working in the UK (during or after your studies), how to cut your costs in London and much more. To book a place complete the booking form at westminster.ac.uk/welcome-programme

There are regular visa clinics if you need to extend your Tier 4 visa, the advice service can check your application prior to you sending it off. For further information please visit: westminster.ac.uk/visas

If you have any queries or wish to book an appointment please contact us on the details below.

T: +44 (0)20 7911 5000 ext. 66080

E: studentadvice@westminster.ac.uk

Course Information, News and Events

Announcements will be posted on the MSc GPHN blackboard or on the relevant module blackboard. Course representatives will be sent information to share with the rest of the class.

Personal Tutor Arrangements

The University of Westminster recognises the importance of personal tutors in providing students with academic and related support in their successful completion of their courses. Studying at postgraduate level requires development of additional skills (comparatively to undergraduate studies) and we support students to help them to develop the greater autonomy required for postgraduate study.

Students registered for more than three modules and on courses of at least one year's duration will be allocated a personal tutor. They will be one of the academic staff in the department and can provide advice on academic and personal matters which may affect your studies at Westminster. They may also be able to advise you on assessment regulations, professional body requirements and study skills.

The Department of Life Sciences Senior Tutor is Claire Robertson. Claire will ensure that you are informed of the personal tutoring arrangements during your orientation / induction period, and that the necessary arrangements are in place for you to initiate and maintain contact with your tutor. Their name will be visible on your Student Record System profile. During your first year of study you will be encouraged to attend at least four tutorials with your personal tutor. You should make contact with them at the earliest possible opportunity to introduce yourself and establish the best means of future communication. You should note that it is your own responsibility to seek the advice of your personal tutor and to keep appointments when made. Tutoring is supported by a Blackboard site accessible to all students. The Department of Life Sciences Senior tutor, Claire Robertson (Email: c.robertson@westminster.ac.uk) can be contacted with an problems that cannot be dealt with by your personal tutor.

Disability Learning Support

The Disability Learning Support team provide information, support and guidance to disabled students, for example those with specific learning difficulties (dyslexia, dyspraxia dyscalculia and ADHD) , long-term mental health conditions, visual impairments, hearing impairments, physical disabilities, long-term medical conditions and Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

We provide an opportunity for students to disclose a disability in confidence and put in place learning support entitlements such as exam access arrangements and accessible rooms to enable students to have equal access to all aspects of the university experience.

We also offer a range of confidential services, including one-to-one specialist tuition, mentoring, and advice on accessing the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) If you have a disability which is likely to affect your studies, you should let Disability Learning Support know at the earliest opportunity.

Please ensure you have up to date medical evidence e.g. a GP letter or consultant's report, or if you have a specific learning difficulty (dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia) an up to date diagnostic report.

Disability Learning Support, University of Westminster, First Floor, 101 New Cavendish Street, London W1W 6XH.

T: +44 (0)20 7911 5000 ext. 65429/66113

E: DLS@westminster.ac.uk

Reference points for the course

Internally

The course is situated within the Department of Life Sciences, which is part of the Faculty of Science and Technology. The Faculty aims to integrate the study of different disciplines to promote the better health of all sections of society. The teaching team have links with a range of organizations in the UK and overseas that include other academic institutions, government departments (e.g. Food Standards Agency, Health Development Agency), international agencies (e.g. WHO, FAO and the European Union), Food Industry (e.g., Kantar, Kerry Group, Danone) and non-government organizations (e.g., Save the Children, ACF, Food Foundation and Results).

The staff who deliver the MSc courses have wide research interests and experience in a range of areas associated with food, nutrition and public health in both the UK and internationally (all staff profiles can be viewed on: <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/our-people/directory>).

Externally

There is currently no Quality Assurance Agency for higher education benchmark for public health nutrition, but the professional body, the Association for Nutrition (<http://www.associationfornutrition.org/>) has developed a series of professional benchmarks for both individuals and courses in public health nutrition. The MSc is designed to comply with both, so that individuals who have successfully completed the course qualify for registration as Associate Nutritionists (NB., students are encouraged to apply for this as soon as they are eligible – if already associate members at the outset of the MSc, this training can be used to evidence one year of experience gained to enable them to gain full registration).

For students wishing to work internationally, students can join the World Public Health Nutrition Association (WPHNA), once they complete their MSc. in GPHN. The course also meets the common standards for training and curriculum developed as part of the European Master's Programme in Public Health Nutrition, commissioned and funded by the European Commission Directorate General Sanco/G/3, and the training requirements in public nutrition as defined by the Food and Nutrition Programme for Human and Social Development of the United Nations University (UNU) and the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS).

Professional body accreditation

The University of Westminster is presently in the process of gaining accreditation for the new MSc Global Public Health Nutrition (GPHN) by the Association for Nutrition (AfN). Students can apply for associate registration once they pass their MSc GPHN.

Quality management and enhancement

The course is managed on a day-to-day basis by the Head of the Food Nutrition and Public Health Division working with your course leader, module leaders and other lecturers. This group meets bimonthly to monitor the provision and ensure issues raised by students, staff and the university are disseminated, discussed and actioned. The Faculty offers a range of undergraduate, postgraduate and short courses in the areas of psychology, electronics and computer science, biomedical science, human and health science, molecular & applied science and complementary medicine, all of which are the overall responsibility of the Dean of Faculty.

Course approval, monitoring and review

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in May **2016**. The panel included internal peers from the University and external subject specialists from academia and industry to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers. Periodic course review helps to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. The course is monitored each year by the Faculty to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed.

Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the outcomes from each Course Committee, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from external examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. The Annual Monitoring Sub-Committee considers the Faculty action plans resulting from this process and the outcomes

are reported to the Academic Council, which has overall responsibility for the maintenance of quality and standards in the University.

Student involvement in Quality Assurance and Enhancement

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways. The most formal mechanism for feedback on the course is the Course Committee. Student representatives will be elected to sit on the Committee to represent the views of their peer group in various discussions. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the course committee.

All students are invited to complete a Module Feedback Questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced. The University also has an annual Student Experience Survey, which elicits feedback from students about their course and University experience.

Students meet with review panels when the periodic review of the course is conducted to provide oral feedback on their experience on the course. Student feedback from course committees is part of the Faculty's' quality assurance evidence base.

For more information about this course:

Staff can be contacted, preferably by email or by phone and their contact details are initially given at induction, but are also available from module handbooks and Blackboard.

Contact details of the course leader/course management arrangements

Course Leader: Regina Keith

Telephone: 020 7911 5000 Ext: 64618

Email: r.keith@westminster.ac.uk

Head of Division: Dr Alizon Draper

Telephone: 020 7911 5000 Ext: 64620

Email: A.Draper@westminster.ac.uk

Head of Department: Professor Annie Bligh

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7911 5038

Email: A.Bligh@westminster.ac.uk