

REGULATIONS

**For courses affiliated to the
Kerala University of Health Sciences**

Thrissur- 680596



Master of Philosophy

(M. Phil) in Clinical Epidemiology

(Part time)

by

School of Public Health

Thiruvananthapuram

(2020-21 Academic year onwards)

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**REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN
CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY (PART - TIME) UNDER FACULTY OF PARAMEDICAL AND ALLIED
HEALTH SCIENCES**

Title: The program will be known as MPhil in Clinical Epidemiology (Part time) course. This is given in the field of health sciences covering various branches where all epidemiology has applications and discussed in Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels (like modern medicine, Pharmacy, Dental, Nursing and Para Medical & Allied faculties)

Definitions

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-

- (i) 'Act', 'Statutes', 'Ordinances', and 'Regulations' mean respectively the Act, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations of the Kerala University of Health Sciences.
- (ii) 'School/Department/Centre' means the School/Department/Centre of Study and Research of the University, established by the Statutes.
- (iii) 'Laws of the University' means the Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations and Rules of the University as the case may be.
- (iv) 'Registration' means registration in the Kerala University of Health Sciences as a student for M Phil Degree under these Regulations.
- (v) 'Guide' means a teacher who is a qualified Guide to supervise research as per the respective MPhil Course Regulations and KUHS and Statutory Council norms.
- (vi) 'Examiner' means the expert appointed for evaluation as per the MPhil Course Regulations, KUHS, and Statutory Council norms, if any.

1.1 Eligibility for Admission

Students who have passed postgraduate course, in the Faculty of Medicine, Dental sciences, Nursing, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Paramedical and Allied health Sciences, from Kerala University of Health Sciences or examination equivalent there to as approved by the Kerala University of Health Sciences [viz., Faculty of Medicine (MD/MS/Equivalent), Dental Sciences (MDS/Equivalent), Nursing (MSc Nursing/Equivalent), Pharmaceutical Sciences (M. Pharm/Equivalent), Paramedical and Allied Health Sciences (MSc/Equivalent)] and currently working in health care institutions, permitted to spend specified time as a part time student.

1.1 (i). 50% of the total seats is reserved for Faculty of affiliated colleges of KUHS, having registered in the Faculty Enrolment Program of KUHS and the remaining 50% open to health care professionals including Faculties of the affiliated colleges of KUHS who are registered in the Faculty Enrolment Program.

All the candidates shall satisfy the eligibility criteria fixed as per clause 1.1 of approved Regulations of M. Phil Clinical Epidemiology (Part time) Course.

If required number of seats are not filled by reserved one, the seats will be filled by other category based on the merit as per the rank list.

The maximum age limit of the candidate shall not be more fifty years as on 31st December of the admission year.

Centre for conduct of the MPhil Course: The School of Public Health (KUHS), Thiruvananthapuram will be the centre for conduct of the course.

1.2 Mode of selection:

The selection is merit based with an Entrance examination for 150 marks of 3 hours duration (150 questions with one mark for each question), conducted by KUHS. All are objective type questions. The area includes, basics of Research methodology, Biostatistics and Bioethics (Distribution of questions for the entrance examination from these 3 papers will be approximately 60:25:15 percentages).

In case of tie in the marks, ranking will be done based on the age of the student and higher age getting higher rank. If there is any tie again, the track record on research interest and experience as indicated in the bio-data will be considered to decide on the rank for eligibility; higher getting better rank. The validity of select list will be for one month from date of starting of the course.



1.3 Number of seats per year:

12 (Two units of 6 each) to start with. May be increased by additional unit/units, from time to time as approved by University

1.4 Minimum Requirements for conduct of course

Building and Space requirements: There shall be one hall room, 2 separate class rooms, separate resting rooms for male and female candidates.

Books and Journals: There are 15 text books and 3 journals electronic and one journal print form.

Hostel arrangements: All students are part time and no hostel arrangements are required.

There are more than fifty MPhil Clinical Epidemiology holders now, trained already from CERTC, Thiruvananthapuram. Some are working now as epidemiologists and others are doing their service as teachers and post-graduate guides in the various Medical Colleges of Kerala State. They can function as guest faculty. In addition, there can be external faculty, invited from outside state and foreign Universities.

1.5 . Registration of students to University

The students should submit their application form for registration with appropriate NOC (No Objection certificate) from the Controlling Officer and written agreement of sponsorship, if any, to the University along with the following documents.

- Original PG Degree Certificate/Equivalent
- SSLC Certificate/ Equivalent
- Permanent State Council Registration Certificate
- Transfer Certificate from the previous Institution
- Conduct Certificate
- Migration Certificate (For students pursued qualifying degree from outside Kerala)
- Details of Fee remitted.

Online registration: The registration of students may be done as in the case of admission of UG, PG & MPhil courses in the affiliated institutions of KUHS. The admitting authority will be the Professor/HOD, School of Public Health, Thiruvananthapuram/Concerned Department.



1.6 Course Fees

The course is designed as a part-time course. The total duration is two academic years. Total course Fee is as fixed by KUHS from time to time, shall be remitted as lump sum per year. The examination fees should be remitted separately to the University as per the rules of Kerala University of Health Sciences.

1.7 Medium of instruction

The medium of instruction and examination will be in English.

1.8 Attendance and course period

The duration of the courses is two academic years. Maximum duration permitted is double the duration of the course prescribed, i.e., 4 years. Minimum 80% attendance in each year separately for all subjects is needed for completing the course.

1.9 Condonation of Shortage of Attendance

No Condonation of shortage of attendance is permitted.

1.10 Leave, Holidays

Not applicable

1.11 Monitoring Learning Progress:

As this is primarily a research-oriented program, a special mentorship program will be there for supervision of learning and thesis work. One faculty from the panel of teachers approved by KUHS, will act as mentor and thesis guide (methodology expert) for the student throughout the course. There will be permission for one or two co-guides (subject experts) related to the same paper/area of the study and preferably from the same centre or nearby institution of the student. There will be a separate logbook for monitoring the academic performance of each student approved by the Guide and Co-guide scheduling and documenting mentor mentee relationships.

1.12 Transfer during course:

Not applicable

1.13 Duration permitted for completion of the course

Two academic years as part time contact and e-learning methods, for completion of total 1600 learning hours (175 hours for theory including skill development and protocol development during first year and 175 hours during second year (7 hrs from 9 am-5 pm/day with 1 hr lunch break that is 25 days per year) and 42 hrs of contact class during the one week mop-up at the end of the



course, totalling to 392 hrs the rest 408 hours will be of supervised distance learning based on e-learning/modules. There will be 800 hours of thesis work at the parent institution or in the community (during the total course period). Two consecutive days, preferably Saturday (second Saturday) and Sundays will be arranged for contact classes of every month of the course and one week towards end of second year as mop-up of contact classes, for discussion of progress of thesis as well as knowledge transfer of topics of advanced epidemiology and Biostatistics, which are not covered elsewhere.

1.14 Internal Assessment:

Internal assessment of the student consists of assessment of regularity of attendance, extent of involvement and interest expressed in the academic activities as reflexed in course logbook and also the marks obtained during the formative evaluation. The structures of the internal assessment marks are given below.

- a) Log book- 10 marks
- b) Presentations/seminars/debate/symposia/journal clubs/CME/conference- 10 marks
- c) Topic presentation in the form of Specific assignments- 10 marks
- d) Participation in CME, educational activities, crash courses in concerned topics offered by other reputed institutions- 10 marks
- e) Marks of the formative evaluation is by sessional examinations (60 marks)

The formative internal assessment examination of each paper will be of 20 marks and average of the best two (2) marks will be taken as the final internal assessment mark for each paper. Not less than 50% marks is required in the internal assessment for each paper separately is required to attend the First & Second year University examinations. The formative evaluation includes theory, practical and assignments.

1.15 Examinations

Final summative examination will be conducted at the end of each Academic Year by the University as per the approved schedule.

For registering examination, the students should have minimum 80% attendance in all the papers, and 50% marks in the internal assessment examinations of each paper.

1.16 Criteria for pass

A minimum of 50% marks in University Examination is required for a pass for all the papers separately in;

- i) Part I, Group A, Paper I and II (theory Papers)
- ii) Part II, Group A, paper III (Theory Paper)
- iii) Part III, Group B, Paper IV (Hard Copy Evaluation of Thesis) Paper V (Practical) and Paper VI (Practical)

- Part I (Group A) Examination shall be conducted at the end of the First Year.
- Part II (Group A) and Part III (Group B) Examination shall be conducted at the end of the Second Year.
- A student, if fails in any of the 2 papers (Theory) of Part I (Group A) shall appear for both the papers (i.e., Paper I and II).
- A student, if fails in Part II (Group A) Paper III shall appear for that paper only.
- A student, if fails in Part III (Group B) Paper IV (hard copy Evaluation of Thesis) shall appear for Paper IV, paper V, Paper VI.
- A student, if fails in Paper V or Paper VI, shall appear for Paper V and VI (Practicals).
- After the First Year Examination, the Mark list shall specify Paper wise pass only and will be uploaded in the University Website. No Mark list will be issued.
- After the end of the Second Year Examinations, a consolidated Mark list will be issued.

1.17 Grace Marks

Not applicable

1.18 Criteria for promotion to second year

- Eighty Percentage (80%) attendance for all the papers in the first year and registered for first year examination.



- The second year tuition fee shall be remitted within the period prescribed by the University

1.19 Carry over benefit

Carry over benefit will be provided.

1.20 Issuance of Mark lists and Certificates

- First year mark list will be uploaded in the website only and contain only details of paper wise pass/fail.
- Consolidated mark list will be issued after the declaration of results of the Second year examination.
- Degree Certificate will be issued after the Convocation.

1.21 Declaration of Class (Regular/Supplementary)

There is only provision for pass or fail. However, those who are securing $\geq 80\%$ of total aggregate marks of both Group A and B will be awarded with distinction.

1.22 Declaration of rank

First & Second rank shall be awarded on the basis of aggregate marks of all the University regular examinations. Number of students appeared in the examination will be noted on the Rank Certificate.

1.23 Attempt/Chance

Allowed within double the duration of the course.

1.24 Partial Appearance of Examinations

Not applicable.

1.25 Condonation of Break of Study

General policy KUHS on condonation of break of study will be applied.

1.26 Internship

Not applicable

1.27 Transcript: The Recommended KUHS pattern may be followed. However, the following data may be included at the appropriate places in the document.

No of Working Days	Total 56 days (392 hrs) of contact class having 8 hrs per day (9 AM-5PM with 1 hr lunch break) as contact sessions plus distance learning hours (Total 408 learning hrs). This together constitute 800 hrs of actual learning hours without thesis work. Thesis work including data collection and analysis 800 hours. Total: 1600 Teaching-Learning Hours
No of Hours/Days for contact sessions	8 Hrs. and 20 minutes/day, 9am-5.30pm
Thesis Preparation	2 days per week during second half of first year and 3 days per week during first half of second year and 2 days per week during second half of second year. Thesis preparation is expected to be using total 800 learning hrs including discussion with mentors distance learning platforms and participation in topic presentations, seminar and open forums in Headquarters.
Classes	Contact and distance learning for theory and practical 800 hrs (50% of total learning hrs) Contact classes 392 hrs (approximately 50% of learning without thesis work). Distance learning including e-learning –408 hrs. Thesis work – 800 hrs (approximately 50% of total learning hrs)
Total Academic Hours	1600 hours.

1.28 Stipend

No stipend will be provided

1.29 Eligibility for award of Degree

No student shall be eligible for conferment of the M. Phil degree unless he/she is declared to have passed the full examination as per regulations laid down above.

1.30 Log book

A log book in the prescribed format has to be maintained by all students and this has to be reviewed by the clinical supervisor every month and shall be forwarded to the Head of the Department for approval. Log book shall be a paper to evaluation by the external examiners at the time of Final year examination.

1.31 Qualification of Teachers/Guides

All health science teachers working in affiliated institutions under KUHS, eligible to be



declared as a post graduate teacher, having formal training and Masters degree (M Phil/ MSc/MScE /M.Med.Sc) in Clinical Epidemiology/Biostatistics/Statistics/Health Economics/Health Social Science/Health Policy with minimum 3 Publications in peer reviewed journals are eligible to be teachers and in addition to this, those Professors/ Associate Professors having 3 years teaching experience after Masters in Clinical Epidemiology are eligible to be guides for M.Phil students. Teachers/guides shall be appointed from the list approved by the University.

Teaching faculty

1. Regular faculty

KUHS faculty with Masters/MPhil in the field of Clinical epidemiology, Biostatistics/Statistics, Health economics, Health Social Science, Health Policy.

2. Honorary / Adjunct Faculty

Retired faculty with Masters/MPhil/ in the field of Clinical epidemiology, Biostatistics/Statistics, Health economics, Health Social Science, Health Policy.

3. Guest/Visiting faculty

Eminent persons with teaching/Research experience in the fields of Clinical epidemiology, Biostatistics/Statistics, Health economics, Health Social Science, Health Policy. Only regular faculty can act as guide. However, all other faculty are eligible to become co-guides.

1.32 Examiners

All health science teachers (Professor/Associate Professor) working in affiliated institutions under KUHS, eligible to be declared as a post graduate teacher, having formal training and Master's Degree (M Phil/ MSc/MScE /M. Med.Sc) in Clinical Epidemiology/ Biostatistics/Statistics/Health Economics/Health Social Science/Health Policy and having 3 years teaching experience after post-graduation in Clinical Epidemiology are eligible to be examiners for MPhil students.

A list of qualified teachers in each field will be submitted by the professor in charge of School of Public Health to the University from the list of resource persons available. List of experts from other INCLIN CEU's in India will also be submitted to select external examiners. The selection of examiners, question paper setting, conduct of

examination etc. will be done as per norms set for other MPhil examinations of Kerala University of Health Sciences. Only regular faculty can act as examiner.

1.33. Execution of bond regarding levying of liquidatory damages on discontinuation from the course.

A bond in the prescribed format for an amount specified by the University shall be executed by the student at the time of registration to the course towards liquidatory damages on the event of discontinuation of the student from the course leaving the seat vacant without time to fill up by another eligible student from the rank list. In case, if the student leaves the seat vacant giving time to fill up by another eligible student from the rank list, the remaining of the Course fee after deducting 10% of the same as the processing charges and the Caution deposit will be refunded.
