

Prospectus 2019-2020

Kerala University of Health Sciences

**M.Phil. Course in Clinical
Epidemiology (Part time course)**

By

**School of health policy and Planning, Near CERTC ,
IIndFloor, Principal's Office Building
Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram**

**Affiliated to
Kerala University of Health Sciences**

1. Centre conducting the course: School of health policy and planning studies:

The University act Chapter II section 5, contemplates that university may establish study centers at such other places within the state of Kerala with the approval of the Governing council. One institute suggested was the School of health policy (KUHS) for fostering research culture in various health science institutional campuses in Kerala. The Governing council of University decided to start the school of health policy and planning at Thiruvananthapuram. The school is currently located in the CERTC building, Medical College, TVM, conducting several short term courses for faculty and post graduates. The school has a regular faculty and support staff along with adjunct professors from institutions of excellence within and outside the country and empanelled guest faculty who are alumni of CERTC or INCLEN trained fellows. There are seventy five degree holders of M.Phil. Clinical epidemiology, already trained from the CERTC, who have expressed their willingness to serve as visiting faculty for the school. Some are working now as epidemiologists and others are doing their service as teachers and post graduate guides in the medical colleges of Kerala. The INCLEN Trained fellows serving as epidemiologists in the country can be invited as visiting faculty and many are already involved in the ongoing training programs of the KUHS.

2. Description of the course

The M.Phil. Course in Clinical Epidemiology was a regular course conducted at CERTC, Medical College Trivandrum (Clinical Epidemiology Resource and Training Center) since the last two decades. This is a post MD course in research methodology identical to other super-specialty degrees and also other similar epidemiology courses in international schools like that in Macmaster, UPENN, Harvard etc.

The goal of the course is to transform the clinician-community to researchers and rational practitioners through evidence based medicine practice, adherence to high standards of professionalism and clinical governance.

Successful candidates after the course are expected to be primary researchers of high quality in their respective clinical fields, expected to be placed in posts of research planners and managers, and to provide consultancy in health science

research. They are also expected to play key roles in advocacy for public health and good quality research including clinical trials.

The objectives of the course are

- To equip clinical faculty with methods in health science research
- To popularize the concept of quality in health science research among clinical faculty.
- To generate a team of professionals capable of providing consultancy in health science research methodology.

Who shall be benefited from the course?

- Medical teachers, clinicians & faculty in allied disciplines, who have aptitude & commitment to medical research.
- Faculty members who wish to become investigators of research projects
- Faculty members who want to become investigators of clinical trials
- Clinicians who want to become health care managers

3. Eligibility for admission

Those who have passed postgraduate course (MD or Equivalent) in the Faculty of modern medicine, Dental Sciences, Nursing, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Allied health sciences, approved by the Kerala University of Health Sciences.

4. 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 the KUHS. All are objective type questions. The portions include basics of Research methodology, Biostatistics and Bioethics (Distribution of question for the entrance examination from these 3 subjects will be approximately 60: 25:15 percentages each). The validity of select list will be for one month from date of starting of the course

5. Number of seats Per year: 12 (One unit)

6. Application fee & Course Fee:

The application fee for the Course is Rs.1500/-. The course is designed as a two year part-time course. The total duration is two academic years. Total course Fee is Rs. 30,000/- per Candidate per academic year. The fee shall be remitted as lump sum per

year. The Examination fee should be remitted separately to the University as per direction from University and will be same as for other MPhil courses. As this Course is quality improvement programme for the already employed candidates, the communal reservations are not considered .**Also, a bond shall be executed and one lakh plus remainder of the Course fee shall be paid as Liquidatory damages in the event of discontinuation without time to fill up the seat by another eligible candidate. In case, the seat is taken by another candidate, the fee paid will be refunded forfeiting 10% as processing charges.**

7. Medium of instruction

The medium of instruction and examination will be in English.

8. Attendance and course period: This is a part time course designed on distance education platform with contact spells.

The duration is two academic years. Maximum permitted is double the duration, ie, 4 years.

1. Minimum 80% attendance is a must for appearing for the final exam.
2. Average 50% marks in the formative evaluation (Best of three out of four assessments conducted as half yearly exams). The formative evaluation includes theory, practical and assignment. The final formative evaluation exam will be like the summative evaluation (model exam) by the University.
3. The thesis should be submitted one month prior to the registration for final University examination.

9. Duration permitted for completion of the course

Two academic years as part time contact and distance learning platform for completion of total 1600 learning hours (800 hours for contact classes including skill development and protocol development at SHPP, Thiruvananthapuram and 800 hours thesis work at the parent institution or in the community. Two consecutive days, preferably Second Saturday and Sundays of every month for two years of contact program. In addition to this, e learning through interactive platform may be used.

10. Course deliberations:

This is designed as a Course with semester system having contact classes: This will be theory in the form of didactic sessions and practicals. The time in between the contact spells will be engaged with distance learning methods using internet.

Project (Thesis) work: The planning of this will be started from the first year after the contact classes. The candidate will identify a suitable mentor from the parent department of the institution where he/she is working who will guide in the subject along with the methodology guide from the school. The topic should be finalized by the end of six months of start of the course and the protocol need to be approved before start of the study.

Assessment: (Examinations):

Formative evaluations: This is by periodic objective tests, periodic tests through web platforms, reports by the thesis guide and mentor, assessment of extra interest taken by candidate in matters of research or health policy and final opinion by the whole faculty on overall academic performance of the candidate.

Summative evaluations

The final summative examination by KUHS after submission of the thesis

Procedure for submission of applications

The applications shall be submitted to the University on or before **30-09-2019 5 PM**. The provisional date for entrance examinations (if conducted) will be **10-10-2019**. The candidates will be permitted to appear for examination (if conducted) after scrutiny of applications in the University. The results of entrance test (if conducted) will be published in the University website. The Candidates eligible for admission will be intimated after preparing merit list. The classes will be tentatively commenced by November first week of 2019.