



Durham  
University



# School of Medicine & Health

Postgraduate study opportunities 2012/13

World-class taught and research degrees to PhD

Providing innovative  
integrated Health courses.



“The School is excellent and very supportive.”  
Kate Hughes, MSc Research Methods.

# School of Medicine & Health

The School of Medicine and Health is a multi-disciplinary school, with a broad research remit addressing health, well-being and advances in medicine and healthcare. The School is based at Queen’s Campus, Stockton in modern surroundings with excellent study, library and IT facilities.

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The School has a young and vibrant community of academics and clinical practitioners conducting policy, clinical and service level research and providing undergraduate teaching in medicine. It also offers flexible postgraduate courses and CPD for academic and health and social care professional communities.

School members enjoy a wide range of research seminars and workshops throughout the academic year. Internal seminars range from internal research development sessions for students and staff to latest findings and discussion pieces from the School’s five research centres and three research service units. Students and staff are invited to regular public guest lectures by world renowned academics and policymakers. The School also provides many formal and informal opportunities to become involved with respected academics and staff in other areas of the University, the local health sector and international projects.

## POSTGRADUATE DEGREES

The following research degrees are currently offered:

- PhD
- MD (Doctor of Medicine)
- Masters of Science
- Masters of Philosophy.

## MAIN RESEARCH AREAS

The School has been very successful in attracting research grant income, being one of the two highest grant winning departments in the University for several years running. Our research centres’ directors are international leaders within their academic fields. The School’s research centres and foci are organised around several broad themes. These themes are:

- Clinical and Health Services
- Public Policy, Health and Well-being
- Medical Education
- Nutrition and Obesity Related Behaviours
- The Life Sciences and the Life Cycle
- Medical Humanities.

Currently the specific areas of research include: the primary-secondary care interface of healthcare; long-term conditions especially cardiovascular disease, gastroenterology, diabetes and mental health; microbiology; health policy; health economics; the implementation of healthcare research findings into practice; healthcare management and environment; the history, philosophy and ethics of medicine; and the phenomena of ‘health-seeking behaviour’.



#### POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH FACILITIES

Facilities include office space, library and IT services. Postgraduate and staff research seminars are provided which postgraduate students are encouraged to attend.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTGRADUATE DEGREES

- Masters: Bachelor degree at 2:1 Honours equivalent or better
- PhD: Bachelor degree/Masters
- MD: Bachelor degree/Masters plus applicants must be a medical practitioner with a qualification which is recognised for registration by the General Medical Council for the United Kingdom.

#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

- IELTS of 7.0 or equivalent.

We welcome applications from holders of international qualifications. For advice on the equivalency of international qualifications and further information on English language requirements, please contact our International Office on [international.office@durham.ac.uk](mailto:international.office@durham.ac.uk) or visit our website at [www.durham.ac.uk/international](http://www.durham.ac.uk/international)

#### TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

All taught postgraduate programmes offer opportunities to work closely with health professionals of other disciplines who are also undertaking further study. In each subject area you have the opportunity to study at four different levels, dependent on your experience and preferred level of study:

- Master of Science (MSc)
- Postgraduate Diploma (PGD)
- Postgraduate Certificate (PGC)
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

All programmes are taught via lectures, seminars and tutorials, practical sessions, structured reading, self-paced learning, independent study and research and analysis.

#### MEDICAL EDUCATION

This programme is aimed at students and clinicians in a variety of clinical settings with responsibility for educating clinicians, whatever your career stage or work context.

The **PGC** is an ideal place to start if you want to gain some immediately applicable skills and boost your confidence in teaching.

The **PGD** extends the knowledge and skills gained in the Postgraduate Certificate, enabling you to think in more detail about the health system in which you work and the role of research and leadership within your employing organisation. It will also develop your teaching skills in a variety of clinical settings.

The **MSc** in Medical Education comprises the Postgraduate Diploma plus the completion of a dissertation. It provides the opportunity to hone your research skills and develop your capability to plan and undertake research in medical education.

Conducted through face-to-face teaching, these courses provide an in-depth understanding of the educational principles underlying good practice in medical education in various settings. You will practise your growing skills in a supportive learning environment. From time-to-time, modules are offered in varying formats (e.g. short intensive courses, evening courses, etc.).

#### CLINICAL MANAGEMENT

This programme is an ideal place to start if you want to understand the management of western healthcare organisations and current issues in care design and delivery.

The **PGC** offers an introduction into the subject area and the **PGD** extends knowledge and skills gained on the **PGC** by introducing components of the system supporting clinical management and care design and delivery. In addition, you will gain knowledge and skills in systems thinking, change management and research skills.

The **MSc** is designed for people who are, or are aspiring to be, healthcare professionals, whether as clinicians, managers or policy advisors. It focuses upon understanding health organisations, improving the management of clinical work and examining current issues facing healthcare systems. It aims to assist students understand and manage the contested nature of healthcare organisation, work management and the delivery of care. The MSc provides an opportunity to develop research skills and a capability to plan, undertake and excel in research in issues pertaining to clinical management. Students

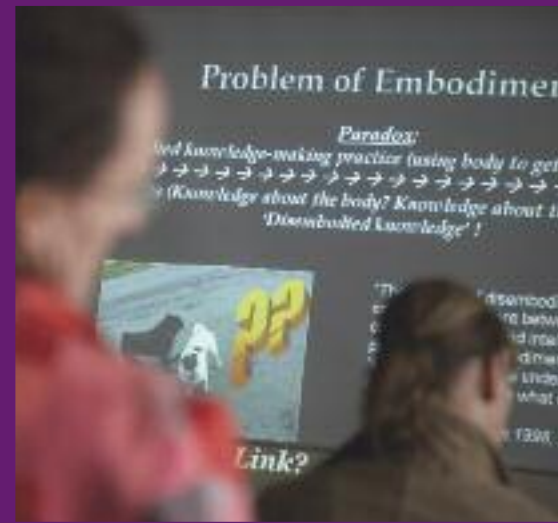
undertaking this course are eligible to work with the North East Public Health Observatory in the preparation of their dissertation. Conducted through face-to-face teaching and multidisciplinary small groups, it provides an opportunity to practise the collaborative learning and working essential to good healthcare provision and management.

#### HEALTH RESEARCH METHODS

This programme is designed to assist health professionals, health service researchers and others who want to develop a solid grounding in health and healthcare research methods.

The **PGC** focuses on understanding how to develop and utilise intellectual capital which can be applied across a variety of health related disciplines and concerns. The **PGD** extends this knowledge by examining the western health system, health research contexts and change management. This qualification is designed to assist health professionals, health service researchers and others who want to use research evidence to assist in decision making and to implement research outcomes in their organisational and professional contexts.

The **MSc** is designed to assist health professionals, health service researchers and others who want to develop a thorough grounding in research methods and lifelong skills in leadership and research. The focus is on understanding how to develop and utilise intellectual capital which can be applied across a variety of health related disciplines and concerns. It provides an opportunity for you to hone your research skills and develop your capability to plan, undertake and excel in your chosen field of research. Students undertaking this course are eligible to work with the North East Public Health Observatory in the preparation of their dissertation. Appropriate progress through the health research modules will allow you to advance to either PhD or MPhil study.



### PUBLIC POLICY AND HEALTH

The **PGC** is an ideal course if you want to develop and extend immediately applicable skills in the use of public health information. The emphasis is upon the knowledge and skills required for using data to inform public policy and decision making to alleviate health inequalities in western countries, especially the United Kingdom.

The **PGD** offers the opportunity to extend your knowledge of the use of public health information acquired in the PGC by deepening your understanding of western health contexts. You will also gain knowledge and skills in systems thinking, change management and research skills.

The **MSc** examines public policy, health and inequality issues in the United Kingdom and other western economies. It is aimed at public health practitioners and managers in the NHS, local government, regional agencies, and the voluntary and community sectors. In addition to developing your practical skills in implementation of public policy guidance in health and health inequality, it provides an opportunity for you to hone your research skills and develop your

capability to plan, undertake and excel in research in public policy and health inequalities.

Students undertaking this course may work with the North East Public Health Observatory in the preparation of their dissertation.

### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

- A good second class Honours degree (typically 2:1 Honours) or international equivalent OR professional qualification or two years relevant work-based experience; and a pass in Mathematics (Grade C or above at GCSE level, or equivalent)
- Applicants without a degree will be required to demonstrate sufficient academic capability to satisfactorily complete this degree.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

- IELTS of 7.0 or equivalent.

We welcome applications from holders of international qualifications. For advice on the equivalency of international qualifications and further information on English language requirements, please contact our International Office on [international.office@durham.ac.uk](mailto:international.office@durham.ac.uk)

or you can visit our website at [www.durham.ac.uk/international](http://www.durham.ac.uk/international)

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAUGHT AND RESEARCH POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

The School of Medicine and Health has a number of dedicated bursaries and scholarships. Please see the School contact details over the page for further information about these. The University also has a wider range of funding opportunities for postgraduate students. To find out what support you could be eligible to receive see our online funding database at [www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search](http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search)

### CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

For further information on career options and employability, including the results of the Destination of Leavers survey, student and employer testimonials and details of work experience and study abroad opportunities, please visit [www.durham.ac.uk/school.health/postgraduate/employability](http://www.durham.ac.uk/school.health/postgraduate/employability)

Name:  
**Samantha Ismaile**

Home Country:  
**Jordan**

Postgraduate Course:  
**PhD Medical Education**

I first came to Durham University to study part-time at the School of Medicine and Health for my Masters degree in Medical Education having completed my first degree, a BSc (Hons) in Nursing, at Hashemite University in Jordan. I thoroughly enjoyed doing my Masters degree at Durham University and decided to continue at the School to do a full-time PhD in Medical Education. The support I have received and the learning facilities provided throughout my Masters course were both significant factors which helped me to make my decision to continue at Durham University.

My research interests are focussed on factors promoting and inhibiting guideline adherence among nurses. Since commencing my PhD I have entered competitions and presented at a student conference. The School is very supportive, and I am now planning to attend professional conferences and preparing for the publication of research papers.



## Contact details

For further information on taught programmes and research degrees contact:

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