Benefit from the international environment through continuous professional development (CPD), and to gain specific public health knowledge. The entire course with so many different topics definitely sharpened the neurons to think critically. You can find out about registering as a student here: http://www.peoples-uni.org/content/how-enrol-course-module-first-time
WHAT IS PEOPLES-UNI?

The People’s Open Access Education Initiative (Peoples-uni – http://peoples-uni.org) is a UK-registered charity (Registration Number 1126265) with the mission to contribute to improvements in the health of populations in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC), by building public health capacity among health professionals, using Internet-based e-learning at very low cost.

WHAT MAKES PEOPLES-UNI UNIQUE?

• Peoples-uni is based outside the traditional higher education system making it more agile, responsive and continual, but is benchmarked to it in terms of quality.
• It utilises international volunteer experts, open educational resources, and an open module educational platform ( Moodle) to ensure low fees for students as well as high quality.
• Our online tutors are experienced public health academics and professionals from many countries, who dedicate their time free of charge.
• Course content is focused on the needs of LMICs.
• Course delivery is deliberately low-tech to accommodate the needs of students working in LMICs. Only basic internet access and an e-mail address are required.
• Through an active alumni network, Peoples-uni continuously develops the capacity of its Masters level programme alumni by involving them as tutors, and supporting their research efforts.
• This Peoples-uni provides opportunities for public health education from introductory to Masters level, using a train-the-trainer model.
• The courses and programmes are adaptable to specific target groups, populations, or public health problems.
OUR MAIN OFFERS

MASTER LEVEL COURSES

- A choice of 17 Masters-level modules are available for online study (the modules previously formed a Master of Public Health programme awarded by Manchester Metropolitan University).
- The modules cover both the Foundation Sciences of public health and LACIC-relevant Public Health Problems, as well as a Dissertation module.
- Modules are offered twice a year with each semester lasting 14 weeks, including assignment preparations. Online reading resources are combined with asynchronous discussion groups with a maximum of 30 students, facilitated by volunteer tutors. Formative and summative assessments are used.
- As of 2017, over 300 academics and public health professionals from over 50 countries have been tutors in our international volunteer faculty; 75 of these are based in developing countries, including some of our own Master of Public Health (MPH) graduates.
- 1255 students from 80 countries have been enrolled; 464 have passed at least one module, 121 have so far graduated with a Master of Public Health, and a further 54 and 54 have achieved a Diploma and Certificate in Public Health respectively.
- We have capacity to offer approximately 500 module places per semester; most students take two modules per semester.

QUALITY AND GOVERNANCE

TRUSTEES

Poonam Saluja Mathok
MB BS MSc. FRCS FFHM. Chair
Julie Penn
SHONRN RGN RNH MBA
Professor Dick Heller
GDBS ND FRCP FFFH FRACGP FAAPRS.
Co-director

The Trustees are supported by a Leadership Group involving senior tutors and public health academics and professionals, chaired by the Academic Coordinator.

OPEN ONLINE COURSES

- Peoples-uni Open Online Courses (http://ooc.peoples-uni.org) is a sister site for global learning through free self-paced courses in a wide range of subjects relevant to global health; 21 courses are currently available.
- So far there have been 1645 students, of whom 151 gained a certificate of completion; Students were from 100 countries with the largest single group from Africa.
- Some of these courses have been developed for, or by, partner organisations, and more courses may be added at any time.
• Course content is focused on the needs of ICs who dedicate their time free of charge.

• Our online tutors are experienced public health specialists.

• We utilize a high-quality online education platform (edX) to ensure low fees for students, as well as educational resources and an open-source educational system making it more agile, responsive, and accessible.

• It utilizes international volunteer experts to support the development of educational content.

• Peoples-uni is based outside the traditional higher education system to provide opportunities for lifelong learning through free self-paced courses in a wide range of subjects relevant to global health.

• Through an active alumni network, Peoples-uni provides opportunities for academic and professional networking.

• Course delivery is deliberately low-tech to ensure accessibility.

• Choice of masters-level modules are available for online study (the modules previously developed online undergraduate courses for a University).

• Some of these courses have been developed for, or in collaboration with other organisations, and have achieved a Masters in Public Health (MPH) Programme.

• We work with the ‘Preparing to Study’ introductory course, and others have taken additional support in academic matters from designated Student Support Officers.

• Prior to enrolling in modules, students take a free ‘Preparing to Study’ introductory course, and are assigned an academic mentor.

• Asynchronous online discussions are followed by the module leader, and reviewed by the Academic Coordinator. All exchanges are recorded on the online education platform (edX), which is auditable.

• Tutors and students benefit from technical support, available through our helpdesk and IT team.

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES

• An Education Committee, involving all module leaders, the Academic Coordinator, and additional advisors from the management board, and provides oversight on the educational quality of the modules and programmes.

• Student feedback surveys are used every semester and reported to the Education Committee.

• Module assessments are used to ensure quality assurance.

• Tutors and students benefit from technical support.

• Our online tutors are experienced public health specialists.

• Agents of change are available through our helpdesk and IT team.

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PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

• One of our long-standing partnerships is with the UK Royal Society of Public Health, which accepts applications for its coveted Fellowship from our programme alumni, and from volunteer tutors at a reduced rate.

• We work with the Public Health Africa Special Interest Group of the UK Faculty of Public Health on exploring and developing online public health education for Africa.

• We are the public health capacity-building partner for the Health Education England Global Health Exchange.

• We work with the Sudan Public Health Institute on developing online Masters-level education in public health.

• We are partners with NextGenU.org who share our goals of Public Health capacity building in LMICs.

• We have previously partnered with Manchester Metropolitan University which validated and accredited our MPH Programme.

• We also provide infrastructure for an online masters course for another organisation, develop and host open online courses in collaboration with other organisations, and have developed online undergraduate courses for a UK University.

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CURRENT FEES
(June 2017 status; please check website for latest fees)

Low- and middle-income country students:
£50 per module;
£100 for the dissertation.

High-income country students:
£400 per module;
£800 for the dissertation.

Open online courses are free
(donations requested).

OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS

- Receive Masters-level public health education at very low cost, whilst continuing to live and work in their normal setting.
- Benefit from the international environment through studying with students from other LMICs, and tutors from around the world.
- Students from high income countries can also gain exposure to issues of global relevance through interaction with peers from LMICs.
- Teaching is provided in small groups, and additional support is available.
- Courses can be studied for Continuous Professional Development (CPD), and to gain specific public health competencies that are relevant to any country.

FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS / CHARITIES / LOW- OR MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

- Peoples-uni courses are available for employees who need specific public health education at any level, or for a particular topic (e.g. epidemiology, communicable disease control, health economics, HIV/AIDS, disaster management, maternal and child mortality prevention, etc.).
- Customized online resources, short courses, postgraduate modules, and awards can be co-developed, commissioned, or delivered directly to particular target groups using Peoples-uni’s online course infrastructure.
- Participation in the delivery of courses or programmes, e.g. through blended learning, or contributing to online teaching and resources.

FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALISTS

- People’s-uni courses are available for employees who require general public health education at any level, or for a particular topic (e.g. epidemiology, communicable disease control, health economics, HIV/AIDS, disaster management, maternal and child mortality prevention, etc.).
- An opportunity to ‘give back’, while gaining valuable teaching experience.
- Teach, learn, work, and network with colleagues internationally.

FOR POTENTIAL EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

- Supplement own programmes with online courses from People’s-uni.
- Co-develop, offer, or commission online public health programmes, or courses for particular audiences, such as health professionals in training, or for continuous professional development.

FOR STUDENTS

- You can find out about registering as a student here: http://www.peoples-uni.org/content/how-enrol-course-module-first-time

PEOPLE'S-UNI - COURSES FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AT ANY LEVEL

- You can definitely sharpen the neurons to think critically. I "The entire course with so many different topics provided me a benefit to widening my..."
STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

In the most recent semester feedback surveys, 95% of our students thought the course in question was “very relevant” to LMICs and would recommend their courses to others. Below are quotes from some of our graduates:

“People’s Uni has a very good e-learning structure with a number of excellently helpful materials and tutors that are ready to teach and help students through their assignments for knowledge. I hope one day I can also help students the same way.”

Throughout my course work, I have had the privilege of interacting with students and tutors from diverse backgrounds and cultures. This really helped me to sharpen my analytical and critical skills, which were dormant before enrolling for the course.”

“The entire course with so many different topics was amazingly interesting and proved to be very useful in learning the serious concepts and definitely sharpened the neurons to think critically. I learnt the importance of correct presentation of facts, methods of referencing…”

Of all things, the feedback and advice which I was receiving from the course tutors in each class was very helpful to enlarging my horizon and analytical skills. The aids and reference materials posted under each course were also very helpful and supportive.”

CONTACT US:
You are welcome to contact us directly.
To discuss potential partnerships or collaborations, please contact education@peoples-uni.org
You can find out about registering as a student here: http://www.peoples-uni.org/content/how-enrol-course-module-first-time.
For further enquiries please contact: helpdesk@peoples-uni.org
To enquire about becoming a tutor please contact education@peoples-uni.org or register directly at: http://courses.peoples-uni.org/course/tutor_registration.php

DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING:
We welcome any donations to support our continued work: http://www.peoples-uni.org/donate
Thank you.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
https://twitter.com/Peoplesuni
https://www.facebook.com/Peoplesuni/
https://www.linkedin.com/Peoplesuni

To enquire about potentially partnering or collaborating, please contact education@peoples-uni.org
Donations and fundraising: We welcome your contributions to support our continued work:
http://www.peoples-uni.org/donate
Thank you.