

International Master's Degree Programme in Health and Wellbeing in the Circumpolar Area (MCH)

BCBU joint meeting of vice-rectors and working groups, Murmansk

3.11.2010

General information about MCH

- Multidisciplinary two-year programme (120 ECTS) approaching Circumpolar Health and Wellbeing as a holistic phenomenon
 - Relationship between environment - societal factors - human health and wellbeing
- Students are awarded a Master of Health Sciences from Medical Faculty, University of Oulu or Master of Social Sciences from University of Lapland
- MCH graduates will work as professionals in administrative and managerial positions in health care services, health promotion, education, development, planning and research.
- Coordinator: Centre for Arctic Medicine, Thule Institute, University of Oulu, Finland

Admission of new students

- 15 + 5 students every second year
- Prerequisites:
 - Bachelor's degree in the field of health or social sciences, or related field of science
 - Sufficient English language proficiency
- More information
 - <http://arctichealth.oulu.fi/mch>
 - <http://www.degree.oulu.fi>



General information about MCH

- BCBU and UArctic Master's programme
- Planning stage 2005-2008
- Pilot phase 2009-2010; First students (12) started in Jan 2009, now on their second year of study
- New course of 14 students starts in Jan 2011
- Students from FIN, CAN, USA, RUS, UK, NOR, Nepal



Curriculum outline

- **Basic studies (40 ECTS, on-line courses)**
 - Health, Security and Wellbeing in the North (6 ECTS)
 - Health Impacts of Climate Change (4 ECTS)
 - Conflict, Politics and Ethnicity (7.5 ECTS)
 - Comparative Approach to Health and Wellbeing among Northern Populations (6 ECTS)
 - Health Promotion (7.5 ECTS)
 - Basics in eHealth (5 ECTS)
- **In-depth studies (50 ECTS)**
 - Research methodology and ethics (15-20 ECTS)
 - Profession-specific applied studies (20-35 ECTS)
 - Field placement (10-15 ECTS, optional)
- **Master's thesis (30 ECTS)**

Study tracks

1. Climate change
 2. Indigenous issues
 3. Societal issues
- Students can select their applied studies (20-35 ECTS) to focus on one of the tracks

New partners, forms of co-operation

- To be discussed in the next partner meeting in Nov 2010
 - BCBU partners
 - Uarctic thematic networks – MCH already now offers 6 ECTS through UArctic
 - Nordic-Russian cooperation network in the field of health (coordination Nordic School of Public Health)
 - Alaska Public Health School



External courses/topics for course exchange from other network collaboration institutions

- Methodological courses, both qualitative and quantitative
- Statistics courses
- In-depth: Intensive courses in specific fields
 - Climate change effects
 - Indigenous issues
 - Societal issues
- Next step: Finding out potential courses from course selection of other network institutions, agreeing on course exchange, setting the dates, informing the students, provision of travel grants



Need for project work opportunities

- Places for internship
- Projects/topics for Master Thesis and Doctoral Thesis
- Supervision



What MCH/coordinator could provide to course exchange

- Health, security and wellbeing
- Health effects of climate change
- Basics in eHealth
- Through co-operation with Univ of Lapland:
Comparative Social Work
- Other courses to be discussed with MCH partner universities in Nov 2010
- PhD Summer school, PhD Winter School
- International Kastelli Symposium: 18-19 Nov 2010
- Pre-Conference Course: 15-17 Nov 2010

