THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

MSc Global Health Policy:

Introduction to the Programme and Q&A

This session will begin at 15.30 GMT

Dr. Amrit Virk, Programme Director, MSc Global Health Policy
Placement Based Dissertation Supervisor

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In this session…

- Introduction to the Global Health Policy Unit (GHPU)

- The MSc Global Health Policy Programme

- Opportunity for questions and answers

- Where to find further information

The Global Health Policy Unit

- Research and teaching unit based in Social Policy, within the School of Social and Political Science.

- Takes interdisciplinary, policy-focused approaches to understanding population health and the factors that influence it.
  - National, regional, globally.

- Research areas:
  - Global governance of health
  - Knowledge, evidence, and policy
  - Commercial determinants of health
  - Universal health coverage

GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY UNIT

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Dr Sudeepa Abeysinghe   Dr Emily Adrion   Dr Eleanor Brooks   Prof Jeff Collin   Dr Ben Kasstan-Dabush

Dr Kristina Kim   Dr Mark Hellowell   Dr Kathrin Lauber   Dr Nason Maani   Dr Kaveri Qureshi   Dr Amrit Virk

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A sample of GHPU research

COVID-19: policy response and societal impacts

GHPU staff have been at the forefront of research into the COVID-19 pandemic, seeking to understand its impact upon diverse health systems, social groups and policies, and to advise governments and other actors involved in responding.

COVID-19 and stigma in Indonesia

FIND OUT MORE

Tobacco control and COVID-19

FIND OUT MORE

COVID-19 and West Africa

FIND OUT MORE

Associated recent publications

COVID-19 and ethnic minorities

Scotland's response to COVID-19 and its impact upon ethnic minorities

How COVID-19 just transformed EU health policy

COVID-19 and the social determinants of health: all in it together?

Social distancing, health and wellbeing

FIND OUT MORE

Unhealthy commodity industries and COVID-19

FIND OUT MORE

Migration, stigma and COVID-19 in Japan

FIND OUT MORE

Vulnerable communities in Tamil Nadu, India

FIND OUT MORE

WHO Advisory Group: Private sector and COVID-19

COVID-19 and the Social Determinants of Health

The unequal impact of COVID-19

COVID-19 and the European Union

Universal Health Coverage

Ensuring they everyone has access to needed healthcare is crucial for improving and maintaining human health. At the same time, people need to be protected from being pushed into poverty because of the cost of accessing the care they need. Universal Health Coverage is defined as ensuring that all people have access to high-quality health services that ensures the use of these services does not expose the user the financial hardship. GHPU is at the forefront of research to support policy action in pursuit of these objectives.

Public Health Insurance in the United States

FIND OUT MORE

Managing Markets for Health (MM4H)

FIND OUT MORE

Global Governance of Health

Our research on global health governance seeks to understand how the process and content of global health policy are being transformed by the powers and policy instruments of international and supranational institutions. At GHPU, we examine contemporary challenges in global health governance and their implications for policy, equity, and opportunities for positive, innovative change.
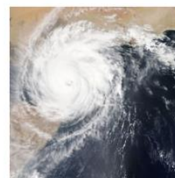
EU Health Governance

FIND OUT MORE

Health and Crisis

FIND OUT MORE

HeaRD: Health, Risk, Disaster Network

FIND OUT MORE

Associated recent publications

Disappearing Everyday Materials: The Displacement of Medical Resources Following Disaster in Fukushima, Japan - Social Science and Medicine

Contesting a Pandemic: The WHO and the Council of Europe - Science as Culture

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Commercial Determinants of Health

The involvement of unhealthy commodity industries (alcohol, tobacco, and ultra-processes food and rinks) in public health policy is an important and contested topic in policy and research. GHPU researchers are at the forefront of these debates.

Global Challenges Research Fund Tobacco Control Capacity Programme

FIND OUT MORE

Tobacco and Health Inequalities

FIND OUT MORE

Regulating unhealthy commodity industries

FIND OUT MORE

Associated recent publications

Can public health reconcile profits and pandemics? An analysis of attitudes to commercial sector engagement in health policy and research - PLOS One

'Half-cut' science: a qualitative examination of alcohol industry actors' use of peer-reviewed evidence in policy submissions on Minimum Unit Pricing - Evidence & Policy

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Introducing the programme: the basics

- Why are health outcomes worse in some social groups than in others?
- What exactly is the role of State in ensuring good health?
- Are market- or planned-model health systems more efficient?
- How do power and health policy intersect between and within countries?

■ *How are we different?*

- Linking disciplines of policy analysis, public health, social policy, economics, sociology, medicine and epidemiology

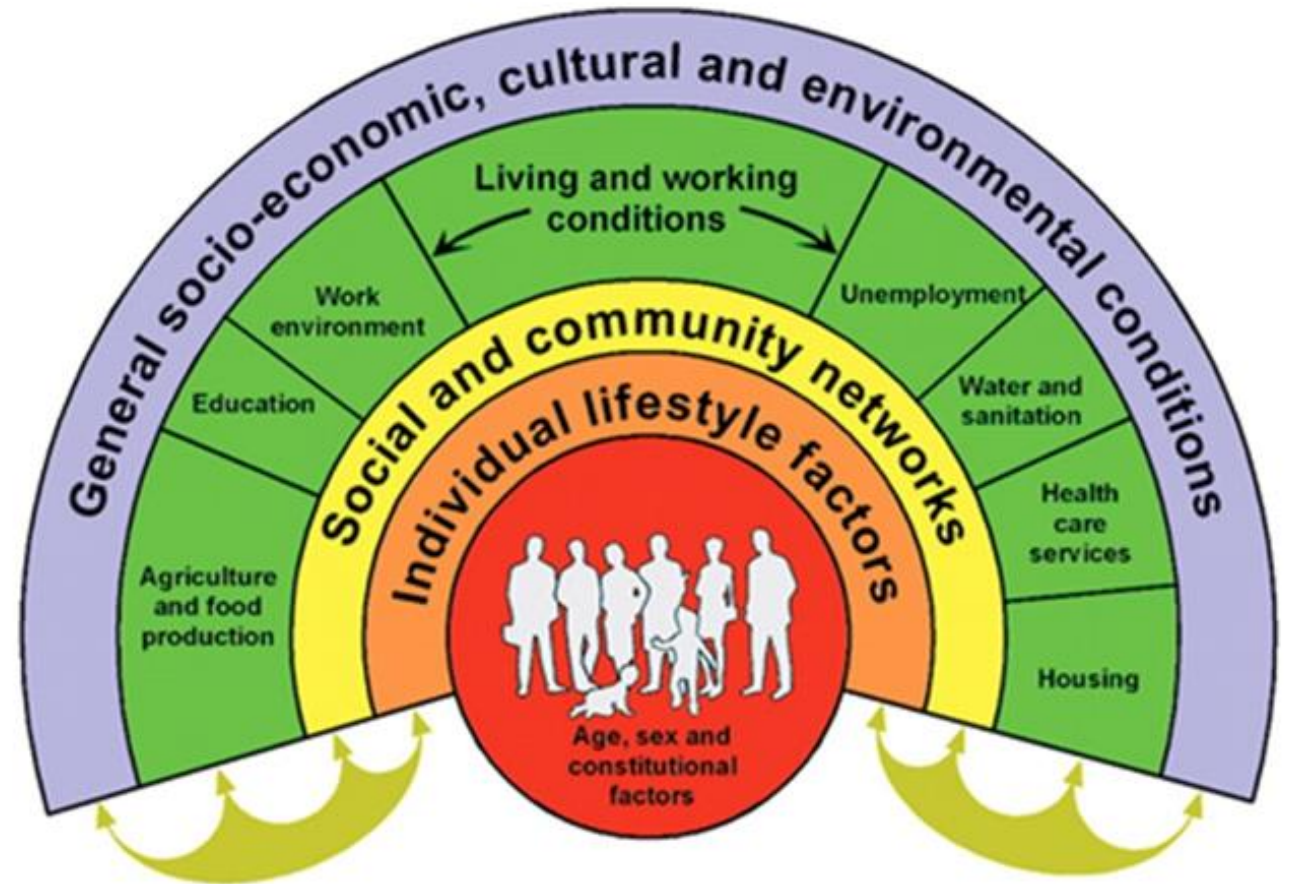- Global focus on the social, economic and political processes which shape health and its determinants

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Core Programme Concepts: Social Determinants of Health

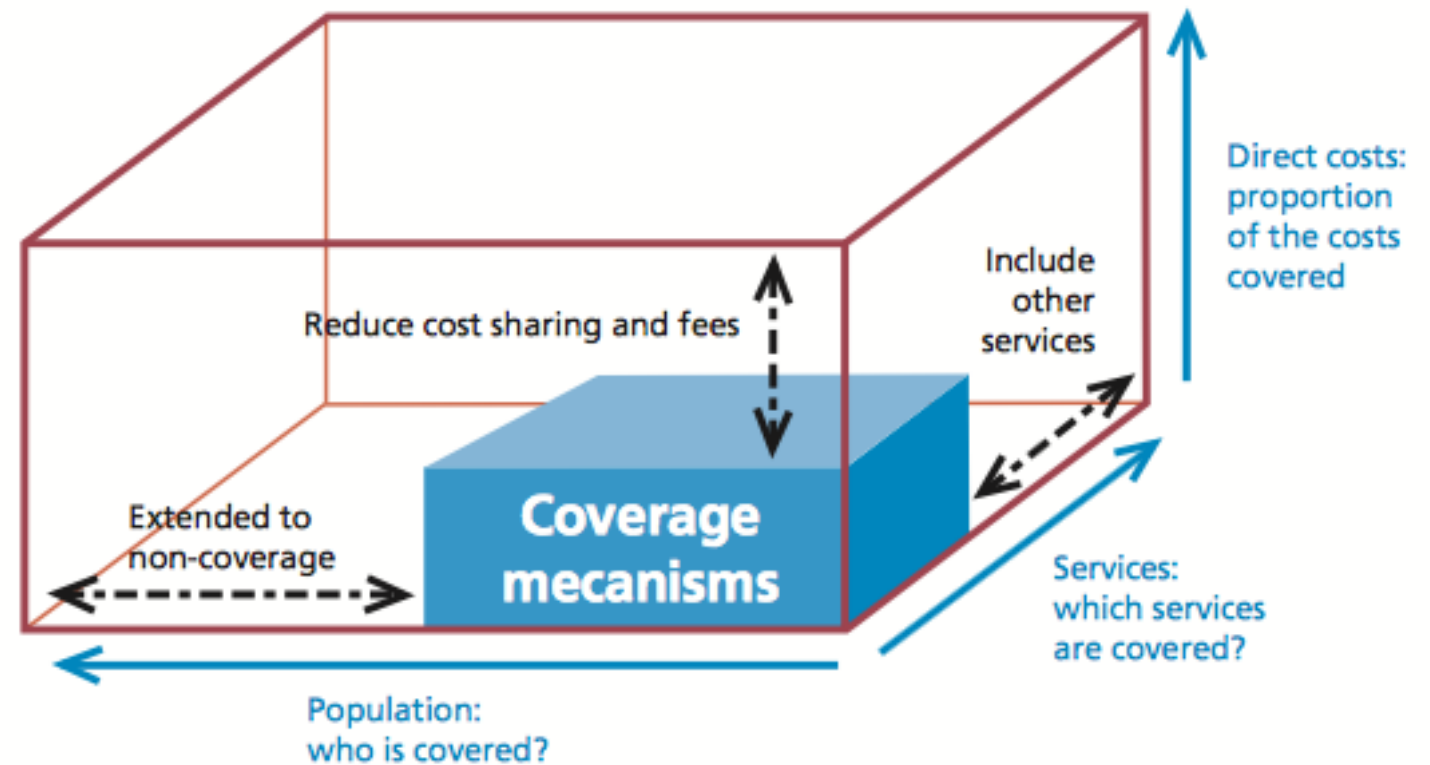Understanding the forces that shape population health and health inequalities

- Social
- Commercial
- Political
- Environmental

Core Programme Concepts: Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

The WHO defines UHC as:

"All people have access to the health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. It includes the full range of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care."

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SDH, vulnerability, and policy

- **Pre-pandemic:** SDH associated with poor access to care and poorly controlled chronic (and other) diseases => greater vulnerability to complications of COVID-19.

- **During the pandemic:** SDH impacted access to treatment <u>for</u> Covid-19 AND vulnerability to mitigation measures.

- **Currently:** The economic impact of the pandemic means more people facing economic hardship, making them more vulnerable to disease – including but not limited to Covid-19.

Highlighting the clear need for both UHC and equity in the forces that generate health

MSc Global health policy:
The day-to-day learning experience

Diverse learning experiences

- Lectures
- Interactive seminars
- Online discussion forums
- Assessment: essays, blogs, policy briefs, conference-style presentations, and more

Extensive student support

- Programme Director
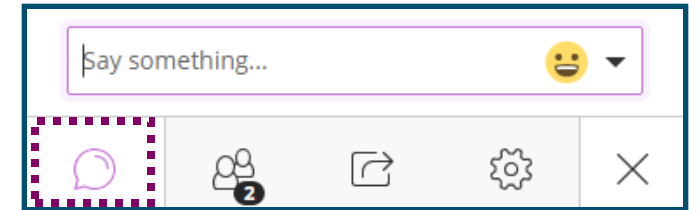- Student Support Officer
- Peer support

Individualised Dissertation Topics

DISSERTATION TOPIC	AREA
Japanese Governance, Emergency Preparedness, and Disaster Response Policies: After the Fukushima Disaster	Risk, governance
Unpaid informal social care provision in the Netherlands: A critical analysis of government policies.	Health systems, social care
US Media Coverage of the WHO's Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic	Media analysis, discourse
An assessment of the impact of South Africa's response to Covid-19 on the health and wellbeing of migrants	Health and human rights
The challenges in addressing population ageing and policy progress and enforcement in relation to healthy aging strategy (Literature Review)	Health systems, ageing
Capacity/ attributes fragile states need to strengthen their health systems and response to outbreaks: Sierra Leone	Health systems, infectious disease
The implication and evaluation of WHO's Urban Health Equity Assessment and Response Tool (Urban HEART)'	Social determinants of health
Implications of Inaccessibility: A Literature Review of the Impact of Restrictive Abortion Policies in the United States on Women's Mental and Physical Health	Gender, Health and human rights
Racial Health Inequity in the United States: An Appraisal of The Sickle Cell Disease and Other Heritable Blood Disorders Research, Surveillance, Prevention, and Treatment Act of 2018 (S. 2465)	Social determinants of health
Holding Canada accountable to its treatment of refugees	Health and human rights
The Facilitators and Barriers to HIV testing for IDUs	Infectious disease
Barriers to accessing Sexual Reproductive Healthcare Services among LGBT population in South Africa	Social determinants of health
Alcohol Marketing and its Engagement with Gender	Commercial determinants of health
Breastfeeding Policy and Practices in Nigeria: The rights of working mothers may have been comprised	Gender
Evidence appraisal of Hepatitis C care interventions targeting injecting drug users in Scotland	Infectious disease
The Politics and Controversy of HPV Vaccination in India: A Critical Discourse Analysis	Discourse, political contestation
Indigenous participation in Arctic Council governance and food (in)security policy implications	Health and human rights, social determinants of health
How abortion stigma is framed and perpetuated through U.S. reproductive health policy	Discourse, gender

Asking questions (Collaborate)

- Please hold all questions until the end of the formal presentation

- Always use the 'hand raise icon' to queue up your question

- When called upon to ask your question, type it into the "Text chat area"

- Once your question is answered, please lower your hand

Next steps…

https://virtualvisits.ed.ac.uk/pg

https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg
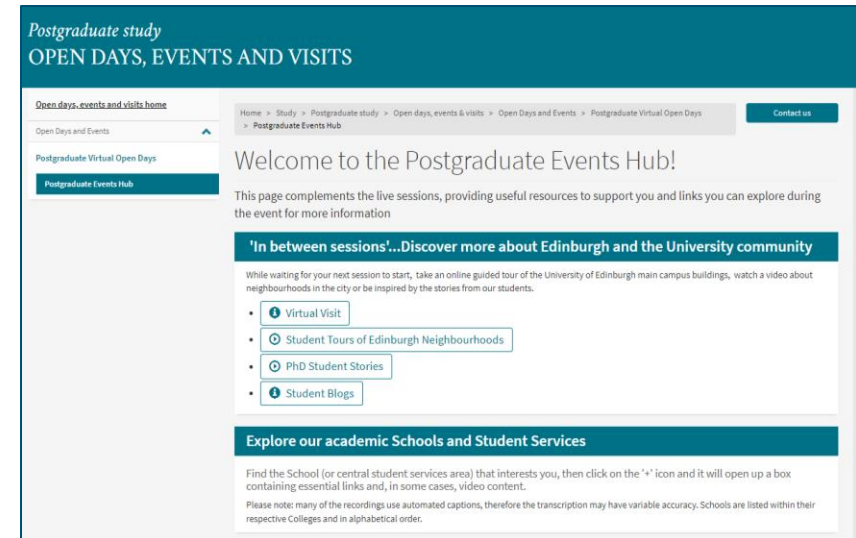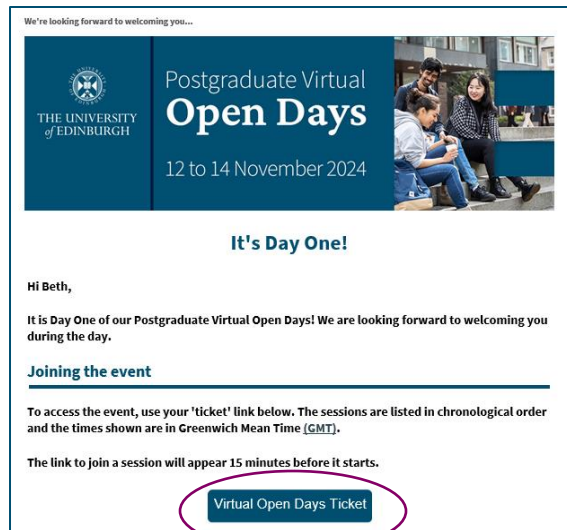
Contact details for follow-up questions

- We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, please email: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

Thank you – click 'Leave' when the session ends

- Return to your 'e-ticket' to find and attend other sessions you've booked – by clicking on the button in the email we sent you…

- …and visit the events hub:

- https://edin.ac/4gZuP3G

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Thank you

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