Institute of
SCIENCE
TOKYO

For course curriculum inquiries, please contact the JD&MPH Group at Email: jd@ml.tmd.ac.jp
For admission inquiries, please contact the Yushima Graduate Admissions Group at
E-mail: nyu-grad-02.adm@tmd.ac.jp

Science Tokyo was established on October 1, 2024, following the merger between Tokyo Medical and Dental University and Tokyo Institute of Technology. https://www.isct.ac.jp/en

Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) Course
https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmn/mphgh/

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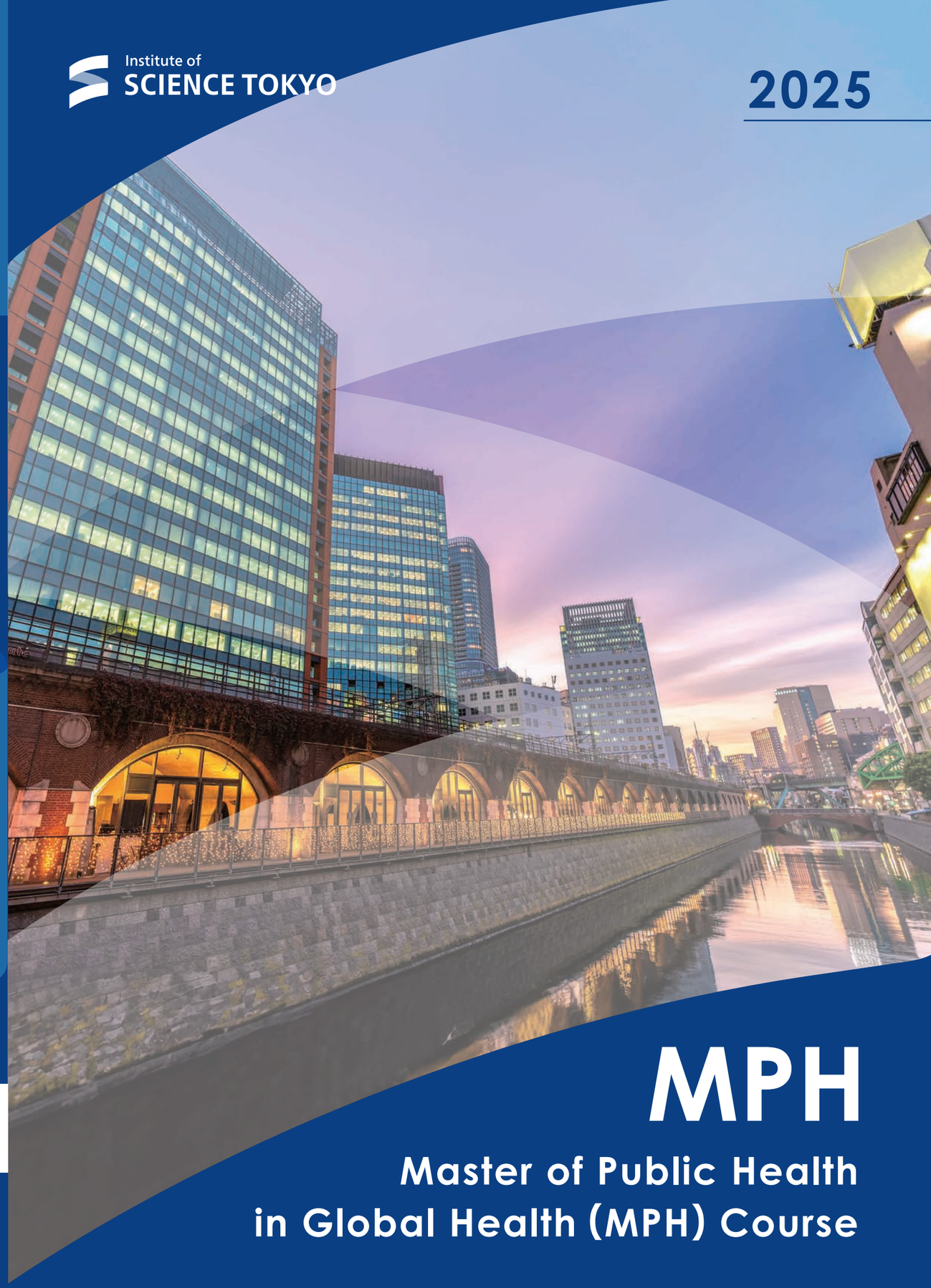
2025



MPH

Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) Course

Our Mission

Promoting Evidence-Based Global Public Health Action

Knowledge generated from scientific research is a strong tool for carrying out effective health policy and practice. There is a large gap, however, between scientific knowledge and practice in today's public health arena. The Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) course at Institute of Science Tokyo (Science Tokyo) was designed to educate individuals from around the world who want to be leaders in their fields; generating, translating and disseminating public health-related scientific evidence in the real world to make the world a healthier place. The Science Tokyo-MPH course offers ambitious people opportunities to gain the necessary knowledge and skills to become global public health leaders.

Takeo Fujiwara

MD, PhD, MPH

MPH Course Director
Professor, Department of Public Health

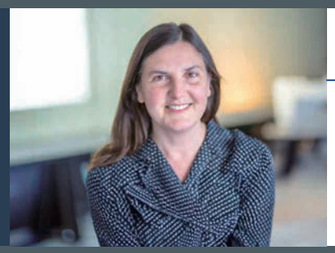
We aim to elucidate how the social environment may be improved to prevent disease and promote overall health throughout the lifecourse. Furthermore, based on accumulated evidence, we can develop practical health policies and programs to improve our society.

Jun Aida

DDS, MPH, PhD

MPH Course Deputy Director,
Professor, Department of Dental Public Health

Major environmental changes, such as pandemics, wars, disasters, and rising prices due to inflation, affect our health and lives as social determinants. Our MPH program will provide you with the insight to understand these conditions and the public health skills for your actions. Learn with faculty and classmates from various professions and specialties, and let's create a healthier tomorrow!



Pamela J. Surkan

ScD, PhD

Specially Appointed Professor, Department of Public Health
＊Primary affiliation
Professor, Department of International Health,
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

I have been truly impressed by the exceptional reputation and caliber of the MPH course at Science Tokyo. As a Professor in the Department of International Health at Johns Hopkins University, I am delighted to connect with such dedicated and promising scholars. I look forward to fruitful exchanges, shared learning opportunities and collaborations to advance global health together.

About Harvard & Johns Hopkins Lecture Series

Institute of Science Tokyo (Science Tokyo) collaborates with renowned professors from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH) and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH), two of the world's top schools of public health, and offers their MPH students the world's top class public health education in Tokyo.

Ichiro Kawachi

Professor of Social Epidemiology
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

S.V. Subramanian

Professor of Population Health and Geography
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Brian Schwartz

Professor,
Department of Environmental Health and Engineering
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

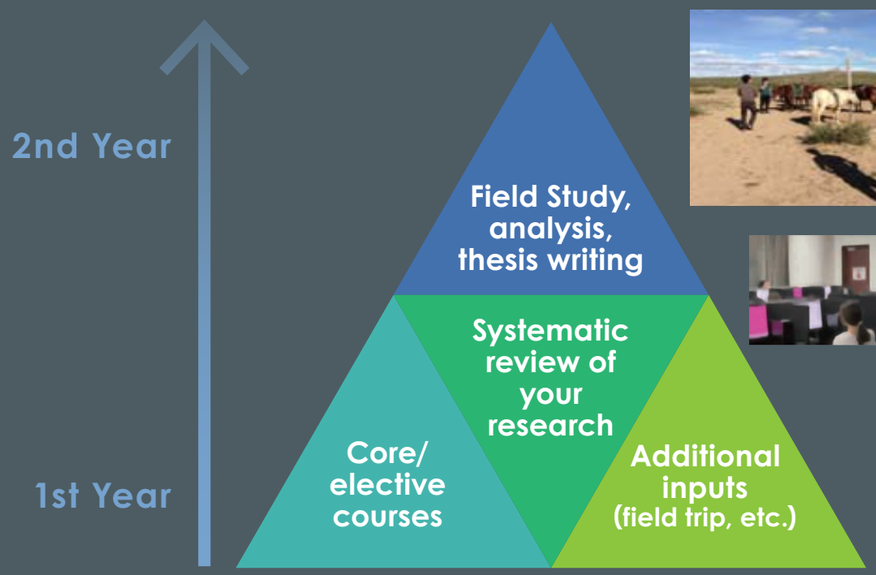
Pamela J. Surkan

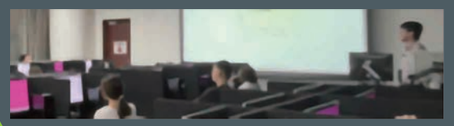
Specially Appointed Professor,
Department of Public Health
＊Primary affiliation
Professor, Department of International Health,
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

J. Douglas Storey

Specially Appointed Professor, Department of Public Health
Former Director for Communication Science and Research, Center for Communication Programs (CCP), Johns Hopkins University

Program Components





Institute of Science Tokyo

MPH Application Terms and Conditions

The Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) course at Institute of Science Tokyo (Science Tokyo) was designed to educate individuals from around the world wanting to be leaders in their fields through generating, translating and disseminating real-world public health-related scientific evidence to make the world a healthier place. The Science Tokyo-MPH course offers ambitious people opportunities to gain the necessary knowledge and skills for becoming global public health leaders.

Enrollment Period April 2025 - March 2027, October 2025 - September 2027

Number of Slots Available 9

Average Time Required to Earn an MPH Degree

Two years are normally required: one in-class and one practicum to graduate. Upon successful completion of the course, you will be awarded a Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) degree.

Course Requirements

One year in-class course (8:50-16:10; E-learning option is available) at our Yushima campus, and one year practicum course, where students complete original public health research and a master's thesis [An academic advisor from Science Tokyo faculty specializing in public or global health will be assigned to each student based on his/her research interests].

Applicant Requirements

To qualify and apply to the Science Tokyo-MPH course, you need to have achieved or expect to obtain a bachelor's or higher degree by March 31, 2025 for spring enrollment and September 30, 2025 for autumn enrollment. In addition, all ESL applicants need to submit an official score report from either Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet Based Test (TOEFL iBT) with a minimum score of 80 or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum score of 6.5.

Who Should Apply

We welcome individuals with a bachelor's or higher degree that wish to go into public health academia and/or become a public health officer at international organizations such as WHO or UNICEF.

Career Prospects

Graduates of the programs are prepared to assume and advance to senior positions in international organizations such as WHO, NGOs, public health agencies, academic hospitals, universities/research institutes, private companies such as in the pharmaceutical arena or to become entrepreneurs.

Application Schedule

For April 2025 enrollment, the application period closes at the end of October 2024, and for October 2025 enrollment, it will close at the end of April 2025. As details may change, please check the details on our website below:

Please check our website for the latest information

https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmn/mphgh/admissions.html

Yushima Graduate Admissions Group, Admissions Division, Education Planning Department, Institute of Science Tokyo
1-5-45 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Postal code: 113-8510

Institute of Science Tokyo

MPH Curriculum Map

Institute of SCIENCE TOKYO

Year 1

	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb er	October	November	December	January	February	March
1w		Public Health Biology*	Biostatistics I				#Guidance and ceremony for Autumn cohort					
2w	#Guidance and ceremony for Spring cohort			Healthcare Business*			Biostatistics II*	Epidemiology II	Health System and Management			
3w		Environmental Planetary Health								Maternal and Child Health*		
4w	Public Health Biology*				Global Health		Behavioral Sciences					
5w			Epidemiology I									
TBA	Public Health Practice I											
	Public Health Practice II											

Year 2

	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb er	October	November	December	January	February	March
TBA	Public Health Practice I											
	Public Health Practice II											
			#Defense application for Autumn cohort	Dissertation Defense for Autumn cohort		#Commence ment for Autumn c ohort			#Defense application for Spring cohort	Dissertation Defense for Spring cohort		#Commencement for Spring cohort

01 Environmental Planetary Health

Environmental Planetary Health course covers the basics of environmental epidemiology, such as toxicology, and how larger global environmental changes such as climate change, biodiversity, and air/water/soil pollution affect human health.

02 Biostatistics I

Biostatistics is the application of statistical methods to data in biological, biomedical and health sciences. This course introduces the basic techniques important for analyzing data from epidemiologic, biomedical and other public health related research. Statistical reasoning will be emphasized through problem solving and practical applications.

03 Epidemiology I

Epidemiology is the study of the causes and distribution of health-related states or events in specified populations, and the application of this knowledge to control those health problems. This course introduces the principles and methods used in epidemiologic research with a focus on conceptual and practical issues in the design, conduct, and analysis of epidemiologic studies for description and causal inference.

04 Global Health

This course provides an overview of important health challenges facing the world today and discusses how these have changed over time, examines determinants of such changes, and future projections. We will review evidence, theory, and methods related to global health and approaches used to design, implement and evaluate policies to address global health problems.

05 Behavioral Sciences

This course has been designed to provide students with a conceptual grounding in theoretical approaches to health behavior change. The emphasis is on psychosocial theories and social determinants of health.

06 Epidemiology II

This course applies epidemiological methodologies to explore the health effects of major social variables, including social class, race, gender, poverty, income distribution, social networks/support, community cohesion, work and neighborhood environment. We will explore the health consequences of social and economic policies, and the potential role of specific social interventions. Prerequisite: Epidemiology I or the equivalent

07 Health System and Management

This course provides an overview of health systems and approaches to improving their efficiency, equity, and performance; focusing on frameworks, tools, skills, and strategies to understand, influence, and evaluate health systems, including technical and political aspects of a policy cycle.

08 Public Health Practice I

Students develop a practicum project focusing on evidence-based public health, including systematic reviews and critical evaluation of various published research, while assessing design options by conducting epidemiologic studies and implementing public health programs.

09 Public Health Practice II

All students are required to complete a research practicum either in Japan or an international public health setting. This will include research design, data collection and analysis, and writing a master thesis. Arrangement must be made with individual faculty members.

Optional Course*

Biostatistics II* This course covers advanced statistical procedures used in current empirical research including but not limited to multilevel models, propensity score analysis, instrumental variables, multiple imputation, and survival analysis. Prerequisite: Biostatistics I or the equivalent.

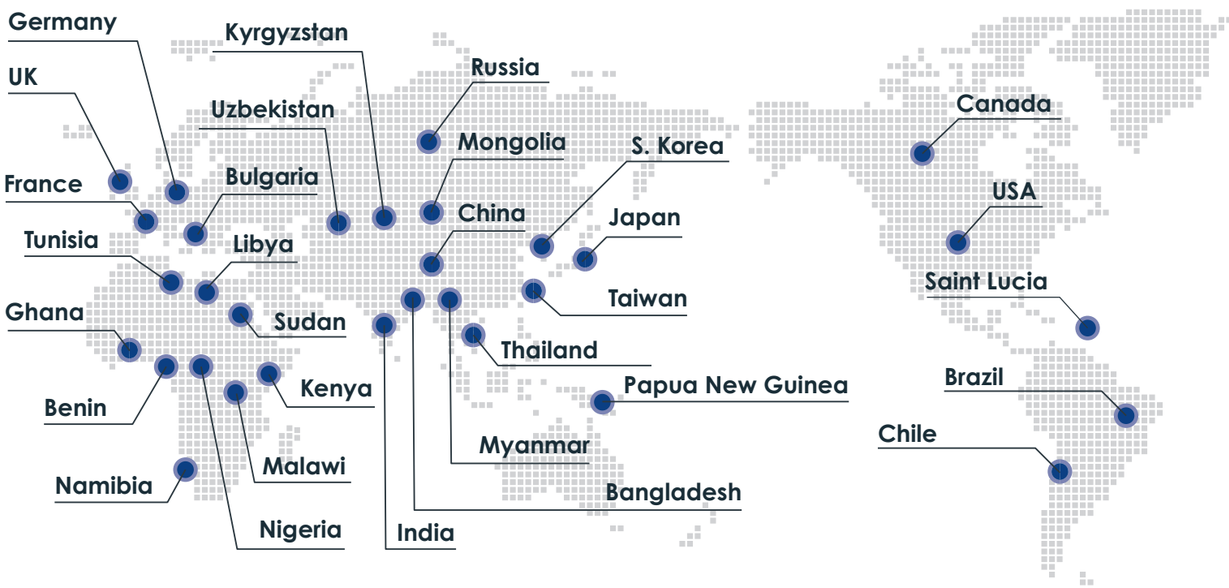
Healthcare Business* This course introduces the practical approach on healthcare business and provides the opportunity to learn how to start healthcare business, focusing on design and information and communication technology.

Public Health Biology* This course offers molecular and biological perspectives on public health problems. We will explore the underlying principles of population and medical genetics, molecular and cellular biology, and immunology and their effect on public health issues.

Maternal and Child Health* This course focuses on health problems and diseases affecting both pregnant women and children, and presents programs appropriate for the populations of prenatal, early and late childhood, adolescence, and early adulthood. The impact of various common health problems at different stages of the life cycle and their functional outcomes in terms of morbidity, mortality, psychological wellbeing, reproduction and growth will be highlighted.

Information
about Students and Graduates

Birthplace



Number of people

Date	Students	Graduates	Participating Countries
2024.10	20	42	31

Career path after graduation

- NGO
- Private company
- Medical doctor
- PhD etc.
- Government institution

Diversity. Our strength.

MPH Student Focus Interview

Prof. FUJIWARA What did you find about MPH at Science Tokyo that you would recommend to other students?

Naoki I like the mixture of theoretical learning, and theoretical basis, but also being able to think about and implement your own ideas. Especially that we often use group work in the seminars. I like that point of being encouraged to think about and develop your own ideas and having assistance from the lecturers and professors. Because they have the experience of doing this kind of stuff in reality. Not only having the idea but also seeing that it can be realistic. This kind of mixture is really great.

Prof. FUJIWARA That's the reason why I try to bring individuals who are doing something in the real world. How about professors coming from the Johns Hopkins and Harvard?

Naoki I think it's really great to have different influences such as professors from Science Tokyo and those universities as well, so I think it is really great mixture.

Prof. FUJIWARA Do you find any differences from great teachers in Germany?

Naoki Based on my experience, there might be a difference between the clinical and public health fields, but I feel that professors in clinical fields in Germany keep more distance from students compared to professors in the MPH course. They are more likely to teach their ideas and their opinions, which you follow. And here I have the feeling it's more like a discussion, especially in the group work. For example, when we do group work, they often join our group. I can explain my ideas, and maybe they will give their opinion, but they will not criticize just because it is different from what they said in their lectures.

Prof. FUJIWARA How about diversity from the students.

Naoki It's also great. Like in Germany, I think we have a very multicultural society. But maybe it's not in every part of society. Looking back at the medical field at university, it was not that diverse. And even if it's multi-cultural most of us are brought up in Germany and have the same culture to some extent, but here it's people from all around the world. I really enjoy working with different people from different cultures.

Prof. FUJIWARA What do you want to be afterward after graduation?

Naoki That's a very difficult question and I'm not sure yet. The reason why I entered this course is because maybe I was not satisfied with only having the clinical perspective. I definitely want to do some clinical work as well and I like getting some experience in that and having the interaction with patients. So, I'm not quite sure what it will be at the end.

Prof. FUJIWARA Do you feel like you have changed something before and after entering the MPH course?

Naoki I think yes. Especially working in groups and exchanging ideas. I think that's really changed my perspective on a lot of things.

Prof. FUJIWARA How do you find most of our courses starting and ending in one or two weeks?

Naoki If I have lectures only every Tuesday for a longer period, the idea may not develop as much as in one week every day. Having this very compact schedule encourages the idea very thoroughly. I wouldn't say that the concept would be better, but sometimes it would be nice to be able to continue working on it afterward as well.

MPH Graduates Conversation

We invited Aiperi and Floret who completed the MPH course in 2023 and are currently involved in cross-border projects to discuss their experiences with the MPH course.

Aiperi It was a big thing for me to get accepted to the course. I was really happy and I expected to learn at one of the best universities in Japan, becoming a better specialist in my field and learning how to do research, how to be a researcher. It kind of turned true because I met a lot of wonderful specialists from all around the world. The faculty staff were very eager to teach, and we could do our own research in the fields that we were concerned and excited about. I think my expectations were fulfilled.

Floret That's inspiring! When I entered the MPH course, my expectation was to gain skills in public health that I could apply when I go back to Ghana. After the course started, I thought my expectations were more than fulfilled. Not only did we study public health issues in Japan and other countries, but we also had the opportunity to learn from WHO experts and professors from Harvard University and Johns Hopkins University, which was amazing.
During this course, we got to work on various projects, and it was great to bond with classmates from all over the world. The professors at the University and the experiences gained were beyond what I expected, and I have no regrets.

Aiperi It's incredible how much we've both grown through this experience. I am involved in several projects. One of them is a project on air pollution in the Kyrgyz Republic. We are planning to study the air pollution situation in Kyrgyzstan, and analyze the adverse effects on health, and also to increase the human capacity of the local researchers in Kyrgyzstan. I hope that we will succeed.
My other project is to investigate the prevalence of kidney diseases in Kyrgyzstan and associated factors that can lead to increase the diseases prevalence in specific regions of Kyrgyzstan. For example, in the southern region, it can be the dehydration and low access to the safe drinking water. So, I'm planning to conduct a field study in the remote areas where there is no access to the safe drinking water and to see if it's really correlated with a prevalence of kidney disease or other factors that are not studied yet. This is my other project for PhD.

Floret That sounds like a significant project! I'm preparing for a collaborative study between Science Tokyo, University of Ghana and Johns Hopkins University. We're focusing on the multi-level factors responsible for the development of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Ghana, including environmental, genetic, and social factors.
I've also analyzed some data from Professor Fujiwara's A-Child Study which is a longitudinal study focusing on childhood poverty and health outcomes in Adachi City in Japan.

Aiperi It's amazing how we can apply what we learned during MPH program here in different contexts. I remember a practical experience during my consultancy work for a German International cooperation agency (GIZ) after graduating from MPH program here. BACKUP Health program, which I worked for, facilitated Global Funds' financing programs for the local organizations fighting HIV and Tuberculosis. One of the tasks I had to perform was to assess the quality of the study that was conducted by the local organization and a list of recommendations to improve it. The skills I learned in the MPH course, such as writing comprehensive scientific papers (background, methods, conclusion, discussion), and technical preparedness helped me very much during this assessment.

Floret Absolutely! Prof. Ichiro Kawachi from Harvard taught us social epidemiology, which I'm currently applying to my project on social epidemiology and the development of non-communicable diseases. Learning qualitative data analysis from Professor Pamela Surkan from Johns Hopkins University has also been helpful, especially in the process of publishing my paper. The reviewers asked us various questions, and I noticed that my responses were based on what I learned in the MPH program.

Aiperi I can relate to that! Prof. Ichiro's and Prof. Surkan's lectures really helped during preparation period for the SATREPS project and we are still doing the qualitative study preparation. The health communication class with Prof. Douglas Storey was one of the highlights for me. We're now implementing health communication strategies as part of our project objectives. I really hope we can learn from this practical application.

Floret I would encourage anyone who is considering to apply for the MPH course in Science Tokyo not to hesitate. This program equips you with everything you need for a future in public health, and in any career path you choose. There's something for everyone in this program. The learning environment is very conducive and the professors are supportive and dedicated to teaching. If you are thinking about applying, don't miss this opportunity.

Aiperi I agree! My message to the students who are planning to apply is not to be afraid of the new country, new culture and new language, just apply. Use this chance because you never know your limits so just try. It's not only learning new skills, but also learning new language, and new culture. You learn a lot about Japan and Japanese people and this is the kind of thing that broadens your perspectives.

FAQs

Q. Do I need to get prior permission when filling out a supervisor on my application?
No, that is not necessary. Please feel free to choose and prioritize from each faculty member's website or publication.

Q. Does Science Tokyo offer financial aid?
We offer tuition fee exemption to both local and international students based on their academic performance and financial status. You can apply to the waiver program after the school year begins but still need to cover the entrance examination fees, enrollment fees, first half year's tuition, and daily living expenses. You are also encouraged to apply for private and government scholarships.

Q. What types of housing are available at Science Tokyo?
Science Tokyo has several types of housing available: International House, International Student House, student dormitories, as well as housing arranged by the Japan Student Services Organization, JASSO (5,900-86,500 yen/month). Private accommodations such as apartments are also possible near campus.

Q. Are online learning programs offered?
In general, the Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) Course is a classroom course requiring in-person participation. However, Science Tokyo offers an e-learning study option which requires watching video-recorded lectures, completion of assignments for each course, and three days of schooling at Science Tokyo in summer for students under exceptional circumstances*. *Exceptional circumstance is defined as "living in a remote area and having difficulty to attend classes or being a full-time employee." In order to prove that your condition meets the exceptional circumstance, please submit "Certificate of Employment (including job description)" (for a full-time employee) and a letter of permission from your MPH course supervisor.

Q. Can I complete the MPH course all in English?
Yes, the MPH course will be held in English. However, knowing some Japanese will help in your daily life, and Science Tokyo offers free Japanese classes to students who are interested.

Q. Can I change my academic advisor after enrollment?
Yes, you can change after entering the MPH course.

Q. How much do I need to live in Tokyo during the course?
According to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the estimated living cost for a single person in Tokyo is approximately ¥144,000 per month.

Fees required at the time of enrollment (as of 2024)

Students must make arrangements to cover the following

Entrance exam fee	JPY 36,000
Enrolment fee	JPY 282,000
Tuition fee	JPY 535,800

Tuition fees may be exempted based on student's academic performance and financial status. Please note that you can apply to this waiver program only after the school year begins and all students are required to pay the enrollment fee and the first semester's tuition fee at time of enrollment.