

4.1.2 Degree Requirements

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfil the following minimum admission requirements:

(1) Academic Qualifications:

PROGRAMME	MINIMUM ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS
Master of Science (MSc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bachelor's Degree with good Honours (at least 2nd Upper Class) or its equivalent in a relevant discipline OR• MBBS or its equivalent OR• Bachelor of Dental Surgery or its equivalent
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good Master's Degree in a relevant discipline OR• Bachelor's Degree with good Honours (at least 2nd Upper Class) or its equivalent in a relevant discipline OR• MBBS or its equivalent OR• Bachelor of Dental Surgery or its equivalent

(2) Standardised Tests (required for both MSc and PhD applicants)

a) English Language Requirements for International Applicants*

**Excludes applicants whose undergraduate or graduate degrees are from NUS, NTU, SIT, SMU, SUSS or SUTD or from English-medium institutions in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States*

International applicants must submit test scores for the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English Language Testing System) and meet the following minimum scores:

- 587 on the TOEFL paper-based test,
- 240 on the TOEFL computer-based test
- 94 on the TOEFL internet-based test
- 7.0 on the IELTS test

Test scores for the TOEFL and IELTS are valid for 2 years. TOEFL and IELTS scores that are no longer valid will not be accepted.

For more information about the TOEFL or IELTS, please visit www.ets.org/toefl (for TOEFL) and www.ielts.org (for IELTS).

b) GRE® General Test

Applicants (except NUS, NTU, SMU & SUTD graduates from relevant disciplines) must submit test scores for the GRE® General Test. For applicants who took the GRE on or after 1 August 2011, a minimum total GRE score of 320 for both Verbal and Quantitative under the new scoring system and a minimum of 3.5 for Analytical Writing are recommended.

Please note that GRE scores are valid for 5 years from the test date. GRE scores that are no longer valid will not be accepted.

For more information on the GRE® General Test, please visit www.ets.org/gre

Curriculum structure and requirements:

Overview of the programme structure:

Year 1 to 2	<p>From Year 1, both MSc and PhD students will embark on their research projects, complete core modules and choose from a range of elective modules that cater to individual research interests. In Year 2, MSc students will start writing their thesis, while PhD students will complete a PhD Qualifying Examination (PQE) which assesses their ability to complete PhD requirements based on their academic progress and the quality of their research.</p> <p>MSc students who wish to transfer to the PhD programme need to complete the PhD coursework requirements, and pass the PQE within 2 years.</p>
Year 3 to 5	<p>PhD students will execute the rest of their research plans and submit and defend their thesis.</p>

Coursework Requirements:

MSc students are required to complete 24 MCs of coursework, while PhD students are required to complete 28 MCs of coursework.

Coursework Requirements for students who enrol in AY2019/2020:

CORE MODULES	<u>Master of Science (MSc)</u>	<u>Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPH5002 Public Health Research Methods (8 MCs) • SPH6770 Graduate Research Seminar in Public Health (4 MCs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPH5002 Public Health Research Methods (8 MCs) • SPH6770 Graduate Research Seminar in Public Health (4 MCs)

<p style="text-align: center;">ELECTIVE MODULES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Elective Modules (12 MCs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 8 MCs of electives must be modules offered by SSHSPH (this excludes Independent Study Modules [ISM]) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Elective Modules (16 MCs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 8 MCs of electives must be modules offered by SSHSPH (this excludes Independent Study Modules [ISM]) - At least 8 MCs of electives must be level-6000 modules
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For more information on the coursework requirements, please see [here](#).

Credit Transfer and Exemption:

Students who have completed relevant modules with comparable content and level of sophistication, and done so within 10 years before date of admission to the MSc/PhD programmes may be allowed to receive exemption, credit or grade transfer according to prevailing NUS regulations. This is subject to approval by the student’s supervisor and the School’s Programme Management Committee. Students who wish to apply for credit transfer and/or exemption should submit their application within the first month of their candidature.

English Language Requirement:

New students who are required to sit for the Diagnostic English Test (DET) may need to enrol for Graduate English Courses depending on the results of the DET. Please see [here](#) for more information.

PhD Qualifying Examination (PQE)

All PhD students have to pass the PhD Qualifying Examination (PQE) within 24 months from the date of admission to be confirmed as PhD candidates. The PQE comprises both a written and an oral component. Students may take up to 2 attempts to complete each component of the PQE. If students are unable to complete their PQE within 24 months of their candidature or if they fail to pass the PQE after 2 attempts, they will be asked to transfer to the MSc programme where eligible. Please see [here](#) for more information.

Thesis Examination

The thesis must demonstrate scholarship and the student’s ability to perform original, independent research, and represent the student’s work and significant contribution to the knowledge in the specific domain of research. The thesis should contain a substantial body of work that has been published or is publishable in international peer-reviewed journals.

The Master’s thesis should not exceed 60,000 words while the Doctoral thesis should not exceed 80,000 words. Students have to submit their theses by the maximum period of candidature. Please see [here](#) for more information.

Residency Requirements and Candidature:

The University's minimum residency and maximum candidature requirements for graduate research programmes shall apply to both MSc and PhD students.

TYPE OF PROGRAMME	MINIMUM RESIDENCY	MAXIMUM CANDIDATURE
MSc	6 months	36 months*
PhD	18 months	60 months*

*The maximum candidature for research programmes is the same for both full-time and part-time students.

The residency requirement is per the [existing guidelines](#) and residency requires payment of fees, satisfying all curricular requirements of the programme of study and satisfying other departmental requirements such as teaching assistance.

Continuation and Graduation Requirements:

Continuation Requirements:

The University's prevailing continuation requirements will apply to the MSc and PhD students.

Graduation Requirements (for students who enrol in AY2019/2020):

MSc:

- Completed coursework requirements with minimum CAP of 3.0
- Pass in the MSc thesis (word limit of 60,000)
- Satisfactory grade (at least Grade C+) in all the required Graduate English Courses for students who do not qualify for waiver of English Language requirement

PhD

- Completed coursework requirements with minimum CAP of 3.5
- Minimum grade of 'C+' in SPH5002 Public Health Research Methods
- Pass in PhD Qualifying Examination
- Pass in PhD thesis (word limit of 80,000) and Oral Examination.
- Satisfactory grade (at least grade C+) in all the Graduate English Courses, for students who do not qualify for waiver of English Language requirement

Leave of Absence

The University's prevailing policies on Leave of Absence shall apply to the MSc and PhD students

