



## **INMED Master's Degree in International Health Syllabus**

Program Director:

Nicholas Comninellis, MD, MPH, DIMPH  
[nicholas@inmed.us](mailto:nicholas@inmed.us), 816-520-6900

Learner Support:

Leda Rivera: [leda@inmed.us](mailto:leda@inmed.us), 816-444-6400

Overview:

The Master's Degree in International Health is a 32-credit hour graduate program designed for healthcare professionals and healthcare profession students to lead comprehensive disease intervention and health promotion efforts in low-resource and cross-cultural communities. Three specialty tracks are available: International Medicine, International Nursing, and International Public Health. MIH learners acquire advanced academic expertise and field experience in epidemiology, diseases of poverty, maternal newborn health, international public health, cross-cultural skills, disaster management, health leadership, healthcare education, research, and quality improvement.

Competency Objectives:

At the completion of the INMED Master's Degree in International Health learners will demonstrate through case studies, simulation, and actual practice **ADVANCED**:

- Application of epidemiological principles
- Management and prevention of leading diseases of poverty
- Care for the health of pregnant women and newborns
- Proficiency in clinical skills useful in low-resource settings
- Skill in community-wide health promotion and death/disability prevention
- Culturally appropriate healthcare
- Proficiency in disaster mitigation and response
- Design and implementation of team-lead healthcare interventions
- Transfer of healthcare skills to other personnel
- Research methodologies, interpretation, and quality improvement

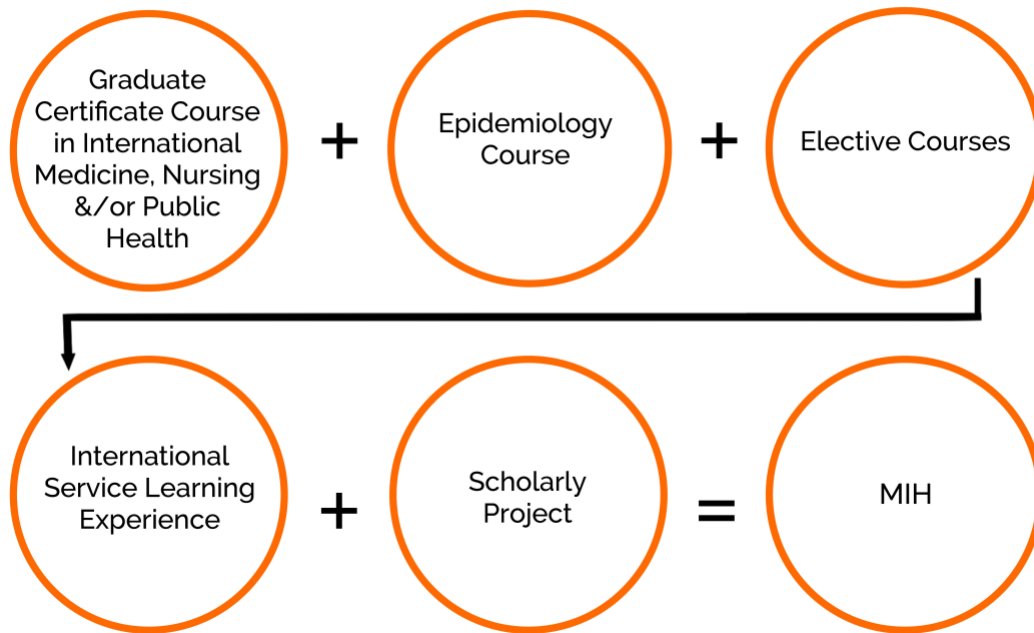
#### Admission Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution
- Curricula Vitae
- Letter of Recommendation from a faculty or supervisor
- Ability to read and write fluently in English. Students who self-identify as non-native English speakers will be required to submit, to INMED, either a TOEFL iBT® or MyBest® minimum score of 80 or an IELTS Band Score of 6.5 or higher. Admission will not be granted until after the test results are received.
- Submission of any undergraduate or graduate school diplomas already granted
- Submission of any professional certifications already granted
- Academic transcripts (for those whose undergraduate or graduate education is still in process)
- Applicants in a healthcare field which requires a license to practice must submit an active license

#### Educational Components:

Master's Degree in International Health candidates will achieve the program's learning objectives through the following educational components:

## Master's Degree in International Health



### 1. Epidemiology – 6 credit hours

This 8-week certificate is built around on-line learning, project completion, and examinations on the subjects of:

- Introduction to Epidemiology
- Measurement of Health and Disease
- Epidemiological Studies
- Basic biostatistics Concepts
- Causation in Epidemiology
- Epidemiology of Non-Communicable Diseases
- Epidemiology of Communicable Diseases
- Clinical Epidemiology
- Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology
- Health Policy, and Planning

For specific course offering dates, please refer to the Academic Calendar.

Applicants who have completed an epidemiology course within calendar four years prior to MIH application may submit the course syllabus and grade transcript. INMED will consider these for credit towards MIH requirements (Max of 6 credit hours for transfer). If transfer credit is accepted, payment of the Epidemiology Course tuition will be waived.

## 2. International Health – 10 credit hours

This 8-week Certificate course combines active on-line learning with virtual-classroom skill sessions, concluding with examinations on:

- Diseases of Poverty
- Maternal-Newborn Health
- Clinical Skills used in low-resource settings
- International Public Health
- Cross-Cultural Skills
- Disaster Management
- Health Leadership
- Healthcare Education

Three specialty tracts are available: International Medicine, International Nursing, and International Public Health. For specific course offering dates, please refer to the Academic Calendar.

## 3. Elective Courses – 6 credit hours

MIH learners will complement and focus their educational experience by selecting for elective credit from INMED courses relevant to their career aspirations. Some courses, such as Emergency Pandemic Control, are entirely online, while others, including Ultrasound for Primary Care, have both online and in-person sections. MIH elective credits must total at least 6 credit hours of elective courses. Options Currently include:

- Ultrasound for Primary Care (1-credit)
- Obstetrics Ultrasound (1-credit)
- Helping Mothers Survive (1-credit)
- Helping Babies Breathe (1-credit)
- Essential Care for Every Baby (1-credit)
- Hands-On Skills for Low-Resource Healthcare (1-credit)
- Emergency Pandemic Control (3-credits)
- International Refugee Care (3-credits)
- Healthcare Leadership & Management (3-credits)
- International Health Professions Education (3-credits)
- Healthcare for Marginalized Americans (3-credits)
- Self-Care for the Health Professional (3-credits)
- International Healthcare Ethics (3-credits)

Please visit the Academic Calendar for offering dates.

## 4. Service-Learning – 5 credit hours

INMED cooperates with health facilities around the world to provide INMED learners with exceptional educational experiences. Selection of INMED International Service-Learning Sites is made with attention to safety, accessibility, instructor credentials, ease of communications, and former learners' evaluations. On location, learners will be supervised by INMED faculty, and responsibilities may include health promotion projects, public health research, health system administration, medical and nursing education, and direct patient care.

Prerequisites: Completion of the Graduate Certificate Course in International Medicine, International Nursing, or International Public Health. Health profession students must also first complete their school's core clinical requirements prior to departure.

MIH International Service-Learning experience is a minimum of four weeks. Learners are encouraged to consider integrating their Scholarly Project with their International Service-Learning. Satisfactory completion of all International Service-Learning requirements (including on-site presentation, evaluation, and reflective essay) earns 5 credit hours.

#### *Service-Learning Via Equivalency*

INMED endeavors to recognize excellent international service-learning experiences provided by other institutions. MIH learners may apply for Service-Learning Via Equivalency for upcoming experience, or for Service-Learning Via Equivalency (Completed) for significant prior experience.

#### 5. Scholarly Project – 5 credit hours

MIH learners will select, design, and develop a scholarly project relevant to their career interests. An appropriate INMED faculty will be assigned to assist each learner with project selection and design, and to guide the learner through project completion. Scholarly projects may include:

- A literature review on a subject relevant to the learner's career
- A quality improvement plan related to the learner's career
- Original research suitable for publication

Prerequisites: Epidemiology course

Upon completion, learners will defend their scholarly project before a jury of INMED faculty, who may inquire regarding any component of the project or

of the MIH educational experience. Satisfactory completion of the Scholarly Project earns 5 credit hours.

### **Tracking Progress through the MIH**

Each MIH learner receives a login to the MIH Dashboard where they can view the MIH details, track their degree requirements, and see recorded their completed MIH components.

### Timetable

Learners may complete the degree requirements over a period of up to four years. However, continuous participation is preferred, and all components can be completed in as short as one year. Most MIH learners take one course at a time and complete the entire degree in about 18 months.

### Cost and Tuition

INMED is committed to quality, affordable education. Consistent with this value, many INMED faculty volunteer their service. Note: tuition is subject to change.

### *Cost Per Credit Hour*

Tuition per credit hour is currently: \$295.

### *Cost Elements*

- Master's degree in International Health Application Fee: \$100, refundable. All payments made to INMED must be in US dollars
- Tuition for the Epidemiology Course – 6 Credit Hours: \$1,770.
- Tuition for the Professional Certificate Course in International Medicine, International Nursing, or & International Public Health – 10 Credit Hours: \$2,950.
- Elective Courses – 6 Credit Hours: \$1,770
- Tuition for the International Service-Learning – 5 Credit Hours: \$1,475. Other expenses associated with the International Service-Learning experience are the responsibility of the learner. These normally include airfare, passport, visa, housing and meals at the Service-Learning Site.
- Scholarly Project – 5 Credit Hours: \$1,475

### *Cost Summary*

- Application fee: \$100

- 32-credit hour tuition at \$295/credit hour = \$9,440. No additional fees.
- Notes: Service-Learning travel expenses are not included. Tuition and fees are subject to change

Grading:

Letter grades of A, B, C, D, and F are used. Temporary grade of IN (Incomplete) is treated as an F until removed.

Grade points are assigned as follows:

A = 4.0

B = 3.0

C = 2.0

D = 1.0

F = 0.0

A	90-100%	4.00
B	80-89%	3.00
C	70-79%	2.00
D	60-69%	1.00
F	0-59%	0.00

### *Grade Definitions*

Following are definitions used for the assignment of grades.

A = Mastery of course objectives is at the highest level of expected achievement.

B = Adequate performance in attaining the course objectives has been achievement.

C = An inadequate level of course objective attainment has been achievement.

D = Only marginal inadequate performance towards the course objectives have been achieved.

F = Grossly inadequate performance has been demonstrated.

IN = Incomplete status. This is a temporary grade indicating that the learner has been given and the opportunity to submit outstanding requirements. IN

automatically converts to F at the end of eight weeks following the close of a term.

W = Withdrawal from a course without credit.

### *Service-Learning Experience*

Graded as pass/fail. Successful pass requires:

- Satisfactory evaluation by Service-Learning Site supervisor
- Satisfactory group presentation
- Satisfactory reflective essay composition
- Completion of course evaluation at the course conclusion.

### *Scholarly Project*

Graded as pass/fail. Successful pass requires:

Upon completion, learners will sit for a defense of their scholarly project before a jury of INMED faculty, who may inquire regarding any component of the project or of the MIH educational experience

Successful Completion of the MIH Degree:

1. Earn  $\geq 80\%$  in all course work.
2. Earn an accumulative grade of  $\geq 80\%$  in the program.
3. Earn a "Passing" grade for the skills lab, simulations, and service-learning rotation.
4. Earn a "Passing" grade in the scholarly project.

Certification and Graduation:

Participants who complete the above education components and achieve the competency objectives will be granted the Master's Degree in International Health (MIH). Verification of the educational experience will be provided to any learner's affiliated institution. Graduates are entitled to include with their name and signature the initials MIH.

Remediation:

If a learner does not complete any component and achieve the required competencies, the faculty may require the learner to 1) remediate the component(s) that the learner did not satisfactorily complete, or 2) repeat the entire component within one year of the start date of the original course.



The learner will be offered only one opportunity to repeat the component without requiring repeat payment of tuition.

#### Academic Integrity:

Honesty is a fundamental necessity of life. This is a professional-level learning experience. All students are expected to be self-motivated, to perform with excellence, and to be thoroughly honest throughout their process of learning. If any INMED faculty suspects a student has engaged in Academic Dishonesty, the INMED faculty may initiate the posted Academic Integrity Policy and Process.

#### Withdrawal and Refund Policy:

Please refer to the posted Withdrawal and Refund Policy.

#### Program Director:

Nicholas Comninellis, MD, MPH, DIMPH

Nicholas Comninellis is President and Professor of INMED, the Institute for International Medicine. He is also faculty at Research Medical Center Family Medicine Residency. Over two years Dr. Comninellis served inner-city citizens at Shanghai Charity Hospital. Over another two years, he led a healthcare ministry in the war-besieged nation of Angola in southern Africa. Dr. Comninellis next served for six years in the Kansas City public hospital before launching INMED in 2003. He graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) School of Medicine and Saint Louis University School of Public Health and was a family medicine resident at John Peter Smith Hospital. Dr. Comninellis also earned a professional diploma in tropical medicine from the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and became board certified in both public health and family medicine. Among his authored books are *Shanghai Doctor*, *Where Do I Go from Here*, and *INMED International Medicine & Public Health*. Dr. Comninellis is a classical guitarist and faculty coadvisor for UMKC Cru. He was recognized as the 2009 United Nations Association of the United States World Citizen and the 2015 University of Missouri-Kansas City Alumni of the Year.