

Innovative study approach

IN the face of technological advancement and the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the education of healthcare professionals requires innovative approaches for teaching and learning. The Health Professions Education programme offered by the International Medical University (IMU), Kuala Lumpur is designed to fulfil the needs of the 21st century health professional teacher.

Health professional teachers are those who have taken on roles as faculty teachers, administrators, curriculum developers, assessors, leaders and researchers in healthcare training.

As students of the postgraduate certificate and diploma courses in health professions education, educators have opportunities to develop an in-depth understanding of educational theories, principles and values underpinning contemporary curriculums, learning activities and assessment.

A master's degree in health professions education fosters research capability in educators, culminating in scholarly activities such as educational action research.

The Masters in Health Professions Education results in the formal output of a dissertation. The programme equips educators with enhanced knowledge and skills to pursue career opportunities in health professions education and carry out research for further development. This programme is designed to meet the needs of health professions educators in the



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region. It is offered as a mixed-mode programme, including both coursework and research training with a dissertation at the end.

Students can opt to pursue the programme in both full-time and part-time mode. The flexibility of the training is rendered by the weekend on-campus classes as well as online distance learning, which helps working adults complete the course without it interfering with their regular professional work.

A unique feature of the programme is that it is offered by national and international faculty. IMU leverages on its own expertise in undergraduate medical and health professional education as well as its international partnerships to ensure that educators enrolled in this course are taught by qualified experts who are able

to deliver the course based on their own rich experiences. Both the IMU and international faculty include experts who are directors of institutes, deans of medical schools and editors of high-impact journals.

IMU's extensive e-learning portal is available to all students of the programme. Through the portal they can retrieve and study the course materials at their own pace and time. Face-to-face sessions include seminars, workshops, flipped classroom sessions, journal clubs and case-based learning sessions. Adult learning principles are employed throughout the training.

On-site sessions are conducted on Saturdays and Sundays at IMU's Bukit Jalil campus, which is strategically located near the Sri Petaling and Bukit Jalil LRT stations.

The admissions policy enables the recruitment of students from diverse backgrounds with various experiences. This brings in varied talents and experiences to the programme, which fosters both an excellent learning culture and opportunities for cooperative learning with extensive peer support.

The nature of the training programme also enables the development of various skills, namely communication, information retrieval and management, along with improvement in their ability to give and receive feedback.

■ For details on this or IMU's other postgraduate programmes, visit www.imu.edu.my or email postgraduate@imu.edu.my or call 03-2731 7272.