Programme Specification for

MSc Environmental Health

1. Programme title	MSc Environmental Health
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
5. Final qualification	MSc Environmental Health
6. Year of validation **Year of amendment**	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time/ Part-time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Evidence that have capacity to work at Level 4+ for example:

- Good honours degree, 2.2 or above or equivalent qualification in a relevant branch of science e.g. food science and technology, environmental science, safety engineering or chemistry, physics or biology;
- Professional Diploma e.g. NEBOSH diploma together with professional experience;
- Equivalent work based experience may be considered at the discretion of the programme team and may require submission of a piece of work.

Overseas candidates are required to attain the minimum of IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 5.75.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to provide students with the ability to:

- identify stressors which impact on health through appropriate use of knowledge based on wide ranging evidence;

- analyse, synthesise and evaluate the inter plays between separate environmental factors, developing a holistic approach that develops a greater understanding than a sum of its individual parts;
- display professional competence, in subjects related to environmental health, through development of skills based on scientific, legislative, technical and managerial knowledge;
- critically appraise risk in a variety of environs and design and implement private and public sector management solutions to reduce risk;
- effectively communicate in writing and orally, technical information in a clear, concise and persuasive style to appeal to a particular audience, often senior executives and non-specialist decision makers;
- work and learn with others in a range of situations and is likely to challenge or develop the practices and/or beliefs of others;
- self appraise/reflect on practice will lead to significant insights which are likely to make a lasting impact upon personal and professional understanding;
- develop an ethical understanding of the context of their place as a student and later as a practitioner.

The MSc programme aims to build on the above by:

- specialising in 2 of the topic areas developing a deeper level of knowledge of the subject area, seeking out and using the appropriate professional and legal frameworks and guidelines;
- undertaking a major piece of research at master's level involving the design, planning, implementation and critical evaluation of an area of environmental health using appropriate methodologies, data collection and evaluation.

11. Programme outcomes	
A. Knowledge and understanding On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of : 1. The scientific, technological, legislative and managerial knowledge to effect interventions in environmental health practice. 2. The principal environmental and occupational stressors and their implications for health.	**Teaching/learning methods** Students gain knowledge and understanding through: • attendance in lectures, participatory seminars, laboratory and practical sessions; • variety of directed and self-directed learning activities e.g. Group projects, case study analysis, laboratory based learning, and portfolio development. **Assessment methods** Students' knowledge and understanding is

3. The vectors of diseases, their spread, control and management. 4. Hazard analysis, risk assessment techniques used in environmental health management. 5. Risk management and communication and application within practice.	assessed by: • laboratory reports; • written assignments; • in-course tests; • presentations; • oral and written examinations; • summative and formative assessments.
B. Cognitive (thinking) skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Appraise good practice in environmental health. 2. Critically analyse issues influencing environmental health and public health and safety. 3. Evaluate the design and results of audit and the application of tools and methods in formulating action plans. 4. Reflect on own practice and select from a range of options a suitable approach to influence others to achieve best practice. 5. Solve problems at both an individual problem level and within the context of a range of problems, and prioritise a range of options and select appropriate communication formats to convey solutions.	**Teaching/learning methods** Students learn cognitive skills through: • case study analysis; • laboratory based exercises; • experiments; • group and mini seminars and workshops. **Assessment methods** Students' cognitive skills are assessed by: • essay; • written and oral examination; • laboratory reports; • development of a post graduate article for publication.
C. Practical skills On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Critically appraise guidance, legislation, policies and complex data and communicate their implications to	**Teaching/learning methods** Students learn practical skills through: • a wide range of information from numerous sources e.g. legislation, guidance, technical and government reports;

a wide audience. 2. Work with teams to problem solve and be able to act in the roles of team leader, facilitator and expert/specialist adviser. 3. Select, manage, analyse and interpret information in relation to environmental health. 4. Undertake safe laboratory practice. 5. To make recommendations and articulate solutions to senior executives in a professional manner. 6. Undertake a substantial academic investigation and articulate the findings.	• interactive participation in modules; • laboratory exercises; • formative assessment; • practice and group work. **Assessment methods** Students' practical skills are assessed by: • laboratory reports; • oral and written examinations.
D. Post-graduate skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Communicate effectively both written and verbally. 2. Team work in a professional manner with fellow students to solve problems. 3. Effective learning through independent study. 4. Use the range of information technology on offer to search for peer reviewed, legislative and professional guidance literature. 5. Demonstrate personal and career development in a professional capacity. 6. Effectively manage their time throughout the course of study.	**Teaching/learning methods** Students acquire post-graduate skills through: • participation in all elements in the programme, in particular group work, exercises. **Assessment methods** Students' graduate skills are assessed by: Post-graduate skills are integrated into all forms of assessment.

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)
12. 1 Overall structure of the programme
The programme is normally studied over 1 calendar year full-time or 2 years part-time. The programme is modular with the modules being of 15 credits point value. Each credit represents approximately 10 hours of student learning, endeavour and assessment. In order to obtain the Masters award a student will need to have studied 8 15 credit modules with a total credit of 120 credits plus a 60 credit dissertation module, an additional 10 credits is required to complete the Practical Food Inspection element.

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: **BIO4500** *15 credits* **BIO4501** *15 credits* **PRS4504** *15 credits* **PRS4505** *15 credits* **PRS4899** **PRS4799** *60 credits*	Students must complete a specialist pathway, specialist pathways are bundled into 2 x 15 credit modules: <u>Pathway 1- Health & Safety:</u> **BIO4210** *15 credits* **BIO4211** *15 credits* <u>Pathway 2 – Food:</u> **BIO4400** *15 credits* **BIO4402** *15 credits* **BIO4800** *10 credits*	

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	**Module code**
Level 7	BIO4500, BIO4501, PRS4504, PRS4505, PRS4899, BIO4210, BIO4211, BIO4400, BIO4402, BIO4601, BIO4602, BIO4800, PRS4799

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

The regulations applying to the programme are those common to the University, except that where modules are multiply assessed all elements need to be passed at a minimum grade of 16 on the University 20 Point Scale.

Self-deferral is not permitted.

Where a practical session is not attended, students cannot submit a laboratory report applicable to this session. A register of all laboratory sessions will be kept.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

N/A

16. Future careers (if applicable)

The Masters in Environmental Health produces post graduates with a wide range of professional, graduate and transferable skills. Within the programme students are able to direct their learning to all aspects of professional practice so that on completion of the award they are able to offer employers broad underpinning knowledge and skills and specialist knowledge in two key areas from pollution control, food safety and health and safety at work.

The award has been matched to the needs of a variety of stakeholders and in particular in relation to the strategic management and operational practice of future environmental and public health agencies. Successful students will be able to complete professional qualifications pathways that qualify them as Environmental Health General Practitioners

and meet one or more competence frameworks (Food safety and/or Health and Safety at work).

Students also have the opportunity to return to study on one of the expanding range of doctoral opportunities both work based and PhDs.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

- Facilities at Hendon include Microbiology Laboratory, Science Laboratories, Pestology materials.
- Use of specialist external lecturers.
- Range of case studies based upon real practice scenarios, professionally accredited staff, e-learning medium, simulations.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	B910
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Health Studies Bio-sciences Earth Science Environmental Science Environmental Studies

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

- Relevant multi-disciplinary subject benchmarks: Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Studies (2000) and Health Sciences (2000)
- Middlesex University (2006) Learning Framework Document
- Middlesex University (2009-10) Guide and Regulations
- School of Health and Social Sciences . Learning, Teaching and Assessment Policy and Strategy (2008)
- School of Health and Social Sciences (2004). Assuring Academic Quality and Standards
- Chartered Institute of Environmental Health core curriculum 2010

21. Other information

This programme is designed to provide graduates in related fields with the additional knowledge and skills necessary to analyse and evaluate environmental health problems in scientific, technical and managerial terms.

The programmes are designed to produce high quality graduates whose skills profile ensures that they can be efficiently and effectively employed in a variety of contexts. Graduates will have received a coherent body of theoretical and applied knowledge, transferable skill development, and a fundamental competency in the fields of environmental health, that incorporates the ethical dimension of practice.

The teaching team has sought to create a programme that is directly relevant to environmental health professionals working in, or aspiring to work, in a wide variety of contexts and locations but which fosters the development of an informed, critical and imaginative attitude. This has entailed the development of a programme that concentrates on the acquisition of knowledge, together with the skills to appraise and evaluate such theoretical knowledge in a practical context.

The programme offers a balanced approach to managing environmental health in a range of settings and is designed to meet the changing face of professional practice internationally

Appendix 2: Curriculum Map

Curriculum map for *[title of Programme]*

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1		C1	
A2		C2	
A3		C3	
A4		C4	
A5		C5	
A6		C6	
A7		C7	
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1		D1	
B2		D2	
B3		D3	
B4		D4	
B5		D5	
B6		D6	
B7		D7	

Programme outcomes																							
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7
Highest level achieved by all graduates																									

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes																									
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7