



MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE
FACULTY OF MEDICINE * UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA
KUALA LUMPUR * MALAYSIA.

1984

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CONTENTS

	Page
I. Acts and Regulations, Master of Public Health	1
Act VII, Part 7	1
Regulation VII, Part 7	3
Act XIII 23A Examinations	5
II. Programme of Study	6
Course Work	6
Supervised Practical Field Work	7
Dissertation	8
III. Course Work	9
Statistics	
Statistical Methodology	9
Health Statistics	9
Community Research Methods	10
Epidemiology	
Epidemiology	10
Medical Microbiology	10
Parasitology	11
Social Sciences in relation to Public Health	
Medical Socio-anthropology	11
Social Psychology	11
Education and Communication in Public Health	11
Principles of Health Services Administration	
Management Studies	12
Organization of Health Care	12
Legal aspects of Public Health	12
Environmental Sciences	
Environmental sanitation	13
Occupational Health	13

				Page
	Family Health			
	Public Health Nutrition	...	...	13
	Maternal and Child Health	...	...	13
	Population Problems	...	...	14
IV.	Course Schedule, Address and Fellowships	...	...	15
	Course Schedule	...	...	15
	Address	...	...	15
	Fellowships	16
V.	MPH Class Rooms	17
	Map of Faculty of Medicine	17

I. ACTS AND REGULATIONS

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MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ACT VII, PART 7

1. For admission as a candidate to the degree of Master of Public Health, a person shall:
 - (a) have degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the University of Malaya or equivalent qualification approved by the Senate on the recommendation of the Faculty of Medicine;
 - (b) have had at least two years of general medical experience after full registration of which one year must have been spent in rural practice;
 - or have had at least two years of such alternative experience as is recommended by the Faculty of Medicine and approval by the Senate;
 - (c) be of adequate academic standing to undertake postgraduate studies as determined by the Faculty of Medicine.
2.
 - (a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, a candidate shall after admission pursue a full-time course of advanced study and training as prescribed in the Regulations under this Act to the satisfaction of the Faculty;
 - (b) The Senate may, on the recommendation of the Faculty, admit a full-time employee of the University who meets the requirements specified in Section 1, to the course. Such a candidate shall be admitted as a part-time candidate and shall after admission pursue a part-time course of advanced study and training as prescribed in the Regulations under this Act to the satisfaction of the Faculty.

3. A candidate shall be awarded the degree of Master of Public Health provided that he has:
 - (a) satisfactorily completed the prescribed course;
 - (b) satisfied the Board of Examiners at an examination for the degree of Master of Public Health, and
 - (c) paid all the prescribed fees.

Regulations VII, Part 7

1. A candidate for admission to the course leading to the degree of Master of Public Health shall submit in writing to the Registrar a detailed statement of his degrees, qualifications and relevant experience.
2. The course of advanced study and training shall extend over approximately twelve months for a full-time candidate or approximately twenty-four months for a part-time candidate.
3. The course shall include:
 - (i) studies of the following subjects:

Basic sciences applied to public health:

Medical Microbiology
Biochemistry
Genetics
Parasitology
Physiology
Statistical methodology

Social sciences applied to public health:

Communication
Education methods
Social psychology
Sociology

Public health studies:

Environmental health
Epidemiology (including survey methods)
and control of disease
Health statistics
Mental health
Nutritional health
Occupational health
Population studies
Veterinary health

Public health practice:

Administration and organization
Health services, functions and activities
Law
Training
Maternal and child health
Fertility control
Health education

- (ii) supervised practical field experience.
 - (iii) the preparation of a dissertation on an approved subject.
4. A candidate shall not absent himself from the course and shall carry out such assignments as are given to him unless he is ill or has been granted leave of absence by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.
 5. A candidate whose performance during the course is deemed by the Faculty of Medicine to be unsatisfactory may be required by the Senate to withdraw from the course.
 6. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination for the degree of Master of Public Health unless he has:
 - (i) satisfactorily completed the course;
 - (ii) submitted his dissertation by an appointed date; and
 - (iii) paid all the prescribed fees.
 7. A candidate who does not satisfactorily complete any part of the course and is not admitted to the examination at the end of the course may be permitted by Senate on the recommendation of the Faculty of Medicine to repeat such part or parts and may on satisfactory completion of such part or parts be admitted to a subsequent examination.

EXAMINATIONS

ACT XIII

23A

Degree of M.P.H.

- (a) The examination for the degree of Master of Public Health shall be taken as a whole at one and the same time.
- (b) The examination shall comprise at least two written papers to cover all branches of public health; at least one written paper, a practical paper, and a viva voce examination in general public health or in the branch of public health selected by the candidate, and such other tests as the Board of Examiners may decide.
- (c) The branch of public health selected by the candidate may include any one of the following:
 - epidemiology and biostatistics
 - nutrition
 - family health
 - environmental and occupational health
 - health planning and administration
- (d) There shall be at least five internal examiners and at least one external examiner.
- (e) In the assessment of a candidate, the Board of Examiners may take into consideration his dissertation and his work during the course.
- (f) A candidate who fails in the examination, shall on completion of such portion of the course as may be determined by the Faculty of Medicine, be re-examined after about six months and if he fails this, be re-examined after a further period of six months.

A candidate who fails this re-examination for the second time, shall not be permitted to repeat the course except in special circumstances and on the recommendation of the Faculty of Medicine.

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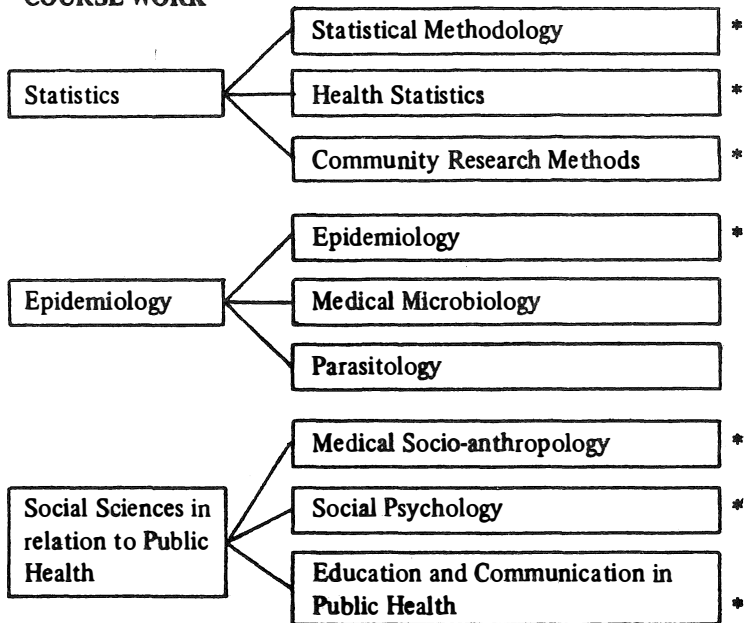
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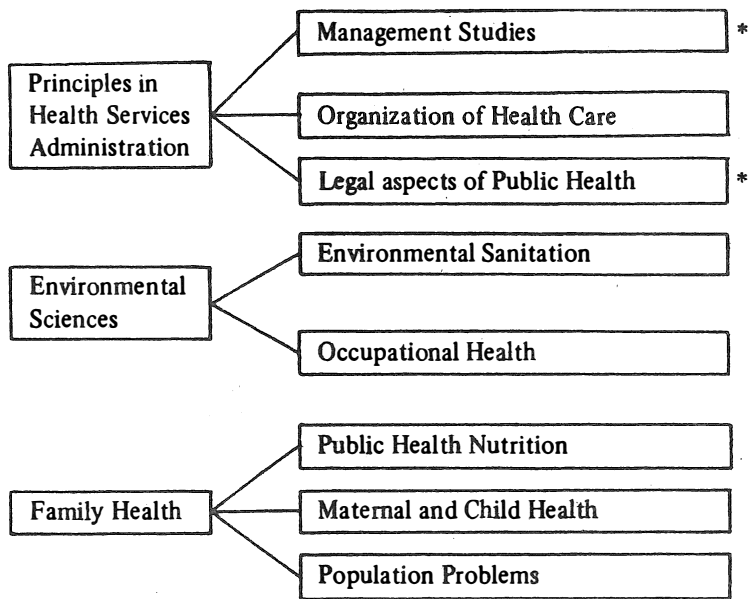
II. PROGRAMME OF STUDY

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The following notes indicate in broad terms the programme of study in relation to the course-work leading to the degree of Master of Public Health. The study programme shall include not only academic course work, which will cover six main areas of study, but shall also include supervised practical field work as well as the preparation of a dissertation on an approved subject.

1. COURSE WORK

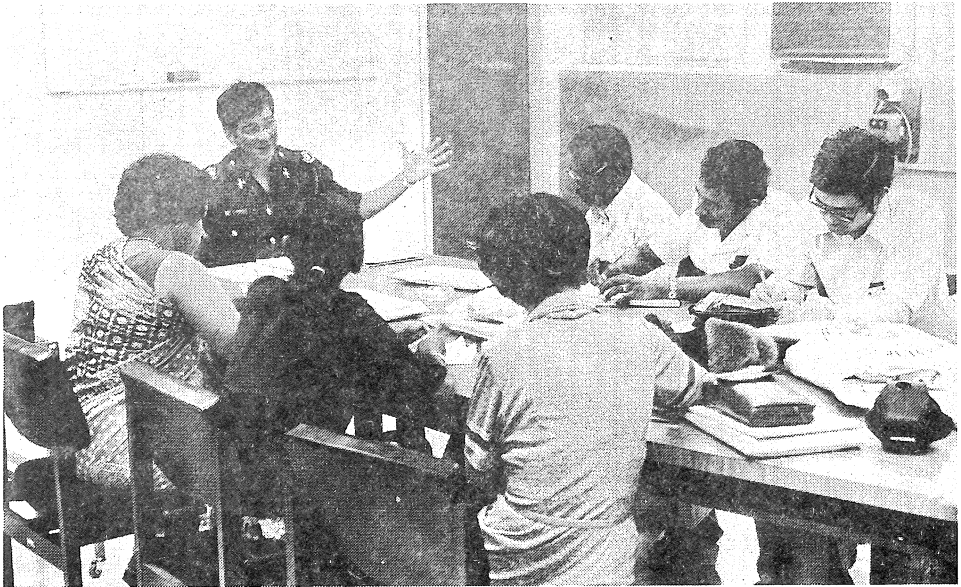




** Common core courses for all candidates irrespective of the branch he has selected to major in.*

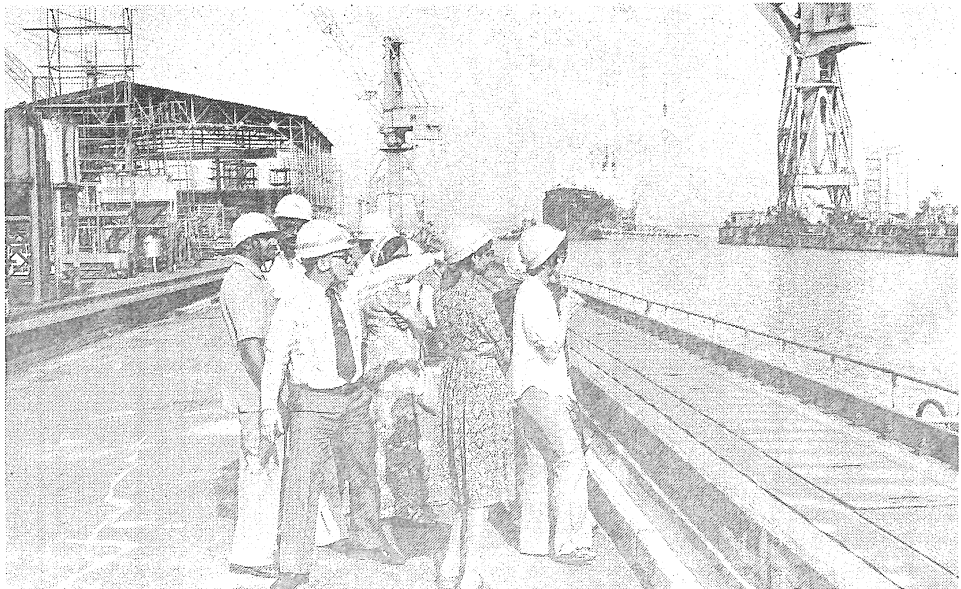
2. SUPERVISED PRACTICAL FIELD WORK

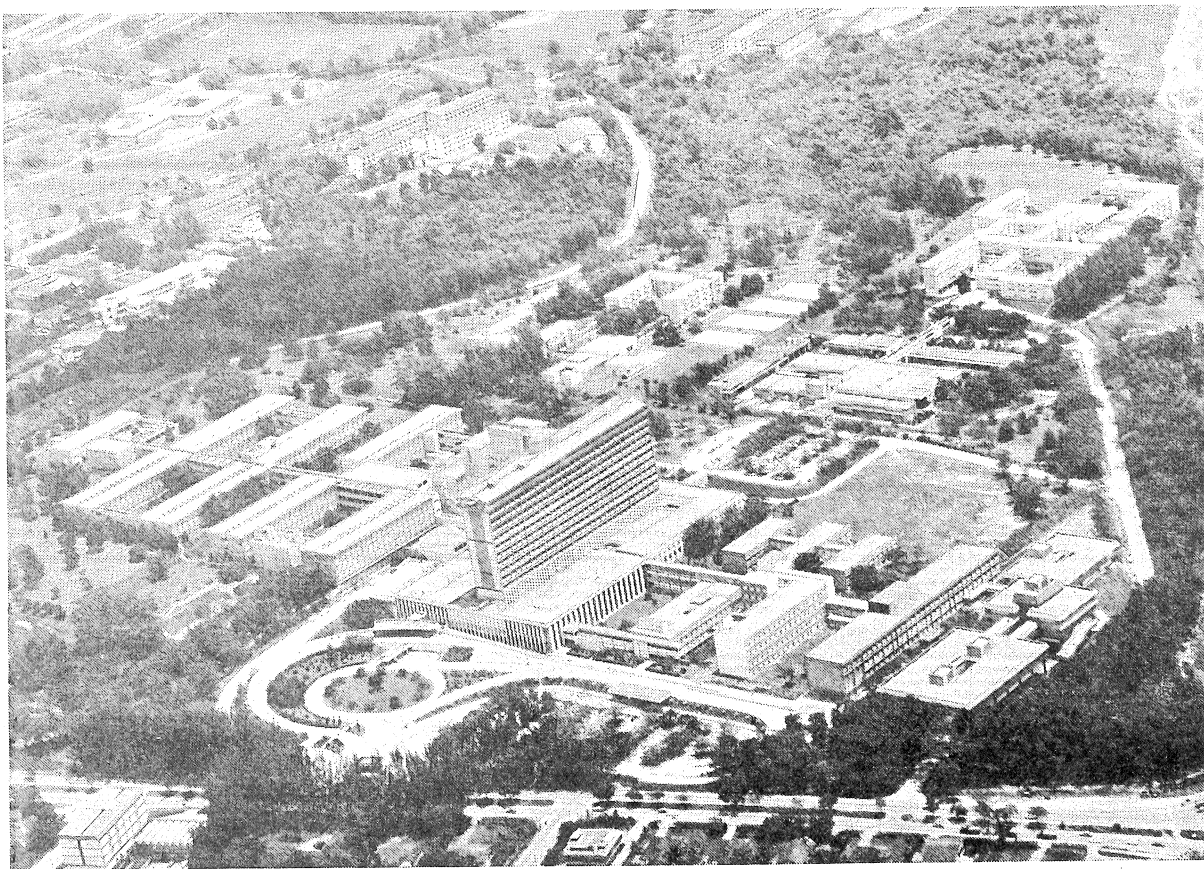
As an integral part of the programme of studies, candidates are required to perform supervised practical field work. The field work is primarily focussed on the Health Services and Programmes of Malaysia (at Federal, Regional, State, District and Local levels) but also includes a comparative study of the Health Services and Programmes of selected neighbouring countries.



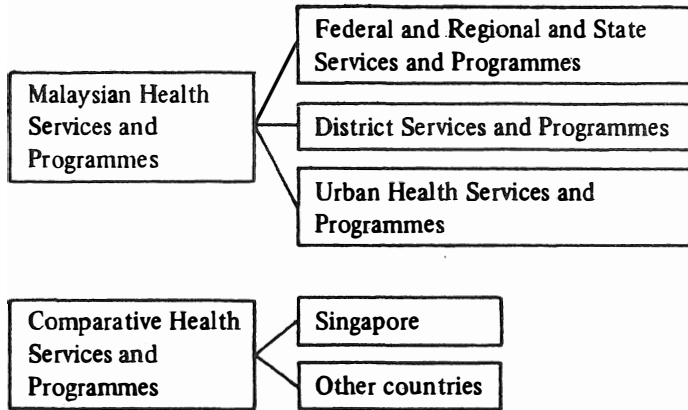
Top: Discussion on Marine Pollution.

Bottom: Field visit to study the occupational health services in a Shipyard.





Aerial view of the University of Malaya Medical Center



3. DISSERTATION

The dissertation is primarily an educational tool and should

- (i) represent the student's individual investigation although this will not preclude him from using available data;
- (ii) demonstrate his ability to
 - (a) define a problem
 - (b) choose appropriate methods for solving the problem, and
 - (c) present his results and conclusions fairly and clearly;
- (iii) include a review of the relevant literature.

III. COURSE WORK

.....

These notes outline in broad terms, the academic course-work that is an integral part of the general programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Public Health. The six main areas of study set out below and mentioned previously are not distinct entities and an understanding of their interrelationship and application to public health and community medicine is essential. Common core courses are indicated thus*. Details of the special course-work designed for those electing to major in any of the five branches of public health indicated in Act XIII, can be obtained on application.

1. STATISTICS

(i) Statistical Methodology*

This course covers both theoretical and practical aspects and aims to acquaint the student with the more important statistical methods employed in the health sciences. It includes a study of the nature and sources of data, the collection of data and how data can be presented. It also includes a study of descriptive and inferential statistics with particular emphasis on sampling, the estimation of parameters, hypothesis testing and the more important of the tests of significance.

(ii) Health Statistics*

The concepts and techniques associated with health statistics will not be covered as a separate course but are integrated into the epidemiology, management studies, population problems, and M.C.H. courses. As part of these four courses, the concepts and techniques in relation to the following are studied: population statistics, life tables and survivorship tables, fertility statistics, sources of epidemiological data, systems of health data collection, morbidity statistics, mortality statistics, and causes of death.

(iii) **Community Research Methods***

The aim is to provide the student with a "set" of research tools and techniques that will be of use in terms of community research. The opportunity is also taken to draw the student's attention to the more common pitfalls in community research.

The course thus includes a study of the general problems of measurement and data collection, data processing, analysis, presentation and interpretation as well as the problems that might be encountered during field work.

2. EPIDEMIOLOGY

(i) **Epidemiology***

The programme of study will include a study of the principles and methods of epidemiology including the concept of agent-host-environment process, and the principles of prevention and control of communicable diseases. In addition, the epidemiology of communicable diseases, such as enteric infections, respiratory infections, food-borne diseases, contact infections and arthropod-borne diseases, as well as the epidemiology of the more important non-communicable diseases will be studied. The course will also include a study of the application of methods of epidemiological surveillance to communicable diseases including the zoonoses. The measurement of disease in terms of morbidity and mortality is an important aspect of this course.

(ii) **Medical Microbiology**

This course will cover the theory, practice and interpretation of diagnostic procedures as applicable to the more common communicable diseases. It will thus include a study of the basic features of bacteriological, virological and serological diagnostic methods for the identification of the more common human and animal pathogens. The course will also include the study of simple bacteriological procedures in relation to the examination of water and foodstuffs.

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(iii) Parasitology

The course will include a study of the more important parasitic diseases with particular emphasis on the epidemiology and control of these diseases.

3. SOCIAL SCIENCES IN RELATION TO PUBLIC HEALTH

(i) Medical Socio-anthropology*

The aim is to provide the student with an understanding of a "set" of sociological and anthropological theories relevant to public health and community medicine. The course, therefore, includes a study of concepts of culture, culture patterning, culture integration, social disorganization, norms, attitudes, values, social control and deviation, social class, social mobility, group dynamics, the family, and socio-cultural change. It will also include a study of relevant aspects of local culture particularly in reference to the practice of medicine, maternal and child health and nutrition.

(ii) Social Psychology*

Here, the objective is to provide the student, firstly, with an understanding of normal human behaviour and human behaviour in the work situation, and secondly, with knowledge of the common psychiatric disorders seen in Malaysia and the services available to manage psychiatric problems.

(iii) Education and Communication in Public Health*

The programme of study aims at providing the student with background knowledge and methods with which he can adequately plan, execute and evaluate health education programmes, and thus includes a study of the following: planning for change, communication of innovations, change agents, rate of adoption and adopter categories, personal influence and team approach, target populations, programme planning, instructional development, educational objectives, evaluation procedures, teaching/learning methods, educational technology and specific applications via selection procedures.

4. PRINCIPLES OF HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

(i) Management Studies*

The student will be presented with a “set” of management concepts, tools and techniques which can be of use to him in the management of health organizations.

To achieve this end, the course will include a study of the multi-dimensional aspects of health care, the concepts of systems, organizations, decision-making and planning, and will also include a study of health economics and budgetting including PPB, health information systems, personnel management, management of supplies, evaluation and control. Wherever possible emphasis will be placed on the application of these concepts, tools and techniques to problems associated with the management of health organizations.

(ii) Organization of Health Care

The aim is to provide the student with an appreciation of the problems associated with the organization of health care in developing countries, particularly in Malaysia and knowledge of theories of health care organization particularly in relation to the management of problems related to health care organization. To this end a series of seminars and workshop sessions on health care organization are held in conjunction with this course.

(iii) Legal aspects of Public Health*

It is expected that every student should understand the political processes, scope and intention of legislation relating to health and the public health services.

The course thus includes a study of the historical background and nature of laws in Malaysia; how laws are made and where they can be found; professional negligence; evidence; and system of courts in Malaysia. It also includes a study of specific health legislation such as the laws pertaining to food and drugs, quarantine and the prevention of disease, control of vectors, town board ordinances and relevant international sanitary regulations.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

(i) Environmental Sanitation

The course will include a study of the major environmental problems related to the atmosphere, water, food, and soil, with particular reference to waste disposal, water supplies and food sanitation. The emphasis will be on how environmental pollution can be prevented and controlled. It will include a study of the Environmental Quality Act and its related regulations.

(ii) Occupational Health

In the course, the physical, chemical and biological factors in relation to the work environment as well as the principles relating to the prevention of industrial accidents and injuries will be studied. It will also include a study of the enactments relating to workmen's compensation.

6. FAMILY HEALTH

(i) Public Health Nutrition

This course will focus on the commoner nutritional problems seen in the developing world, the multiple ecological factors that contribute to the causation of these nutritional problems and the measures, such as Applied Nutritional Programmes, that can be adopted to prevent the commoner nutritional problems. It will also examine how the nutritional status of a community can be assessed, and focus on the various indices, such as clinical, anthropometric, biochemical, mortality and ecological, that are used in the assessment of nutritional status.

(ii) Maternal and Child Health

There are within the community certain specially vulnerable groups such as mothers and children who need special care.

This course will focus on the disease patterns affecting this vulnerable group, the prevention of the commoner disease problems, and the organization of services for mothers and children.

(iii) Population Problems

This course will begin with a study of human ecology, emphasis being placed on the place of man in the ecosystem and the manner in which he has contributed to its alteration. It will also include a study of the structure of the population, demography, measures of fertility, demographic changes and the effects of population growth on development, the economy, resources, health, education and other factors. Population control measures including the techniques of contraception will also be discussed.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, ADDRESS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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1. COURSE SCHEDULE

The course is a full-time course of 12-months duration and begins each year on the first Monday of September, and is divided into four quarters with the examinations scheduled for August in the following year. Applications are normally received in March.

2. ADDRESS

(i) General Enquires

Enquires can be directed to:

Professor Paul C.Y. Chen
Department of Social and Preventive Medicine
Faculty of Medicine
University of Malaya
Kuala Lumpur 22-11.

Telephone 03-574422 ext. 120 Cable Address: UNIVSEL
03-564422 Telex : MA 37453

(ii) Applications for Admission

Applications for forms and for admissions should be directed to:

The Registrar
University of Malaya
Kuala Lumpur 22-11.

Telephone 560022 Cable Address: UNIVSEL
571644 Telex : MA 37453

Applicants who are in the service of the Government of Malaysia, must submit their applications through their respective departments to reach the Registrar before the closing date.

3. FELLOWSHIP

(i) Government of Malaysia

Confirmed staff in government service are normally sponsored by the Government of Malaysia and may apply through their respective departments to the Public Services Department for study awards.

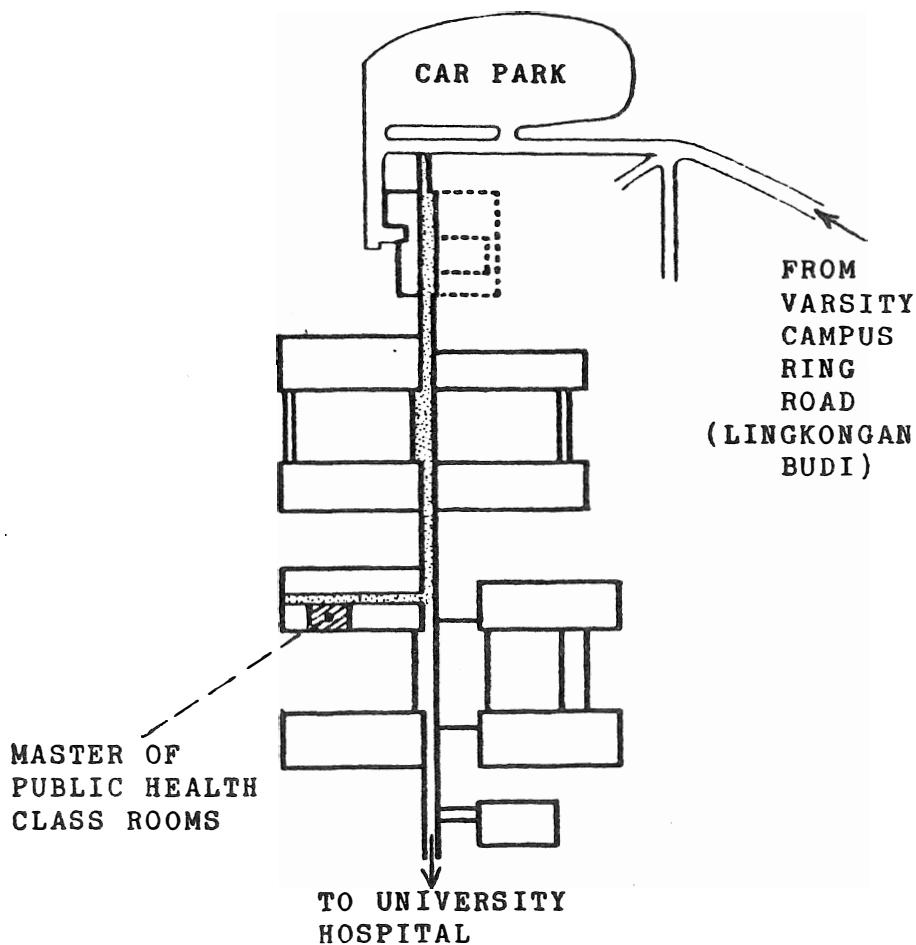
(ii) World Health Organization

Confirmed staff in government service can also apply through their respective departments for W.H.O. Fellowships. The MPH Course accepts W.H.O. Fellows from Malaysia and elsewhere in the region.

(iii) China Medical Board Fellowship

Private candidates who are otherwise unsponsored can apply for a China Medical Board Fellowship which covers all fees and provides a subsistence allowance of M\$1200 per month. Applications should be made at the time when the candidate is seeking admission to the course, and is made to the Registrar, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. Subject to negotiations, China Medical Board Fellowships are available from time to time.

V. FACULTY OF MEDICINE:UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA (CAR PARK LEVEL)



1. TO GET TO MPH CLASS ROOMS FOLLOW SHADED ROUTE.
2. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE IS ONE FLOOR ABOVE THE MPH CLASSROOMS