

MBA in International Health Management (MBA IHM)

(Courses can also be taken as stand-alone Management Courses)

List of Courses & Dates 2024

Economic Evaluation in Health Care – EEHC (6 ECTS)

In health care decision-making, economic evaluation is used to varying degrees in different countries and for different purposes, depending on the country's dominant health system. In this course, students will learn how to appraise possible health interventions using economic evaluation tools and techniques to ensure cost-effectiveness, without losing sight of the demands and needs of populations.

Application deadline: 1 January 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 8 January – 2 February 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 5 – 9 February 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 12 February – 22 March 2024

Organisational Behaviour and Transformational Management – OBTM (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

“Organisations work the way human beings create them” (Peter M. Senge, 1996). In today's fast-paced world, change is a constant and increasingly complex element of organisational management. Every change starts with a conscious mind and awareness. In this course, participants will learn how adaptive organisational behaviour and transformational management fosters a common culture that promotes interdependence, strengthens cooperation, prevents interpersonal conflicts and promotes innovation. With case studies from different country and health management settings, this course compliments theory with practical tools, techniques and tried and true methods with an emphasis on the whole ecosystem.

Application deadline: 8 January 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 15 January – 9 February 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 12 – 16 February 2024

Post-phase (self-directed): 19 February – 29 March 2024

Foundations of International Health Management – FIHM (6 ECTS)

In this course, students get an overview of the building blocks of international and global health – components that they will explore in greater detail throughout the MBA-IHM programme. The importance of health systems and health systems thinking is introduced and students are trained to critically apply the basic concepts, methods and tools for collecting, analysing and interpreting qualitative and quantitative data. Students will work with case studies in diverse teams and consider how to lead, communicate and motivate across cultures and borders.

Application deadline: 5 February 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 12 February – 8 March 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 11 – 15 March 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 18 March – 26 April 2024

Leadership – LEAD (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

Leadership ought to set a good example, innovate and inspire, imbue the organisation with the desire to perform at a high level, on the one hand, and to safeguard core values, on the other. In this course, students gain insight into the leadership behaviour of others and of themselves and discuss what it takes to be considered the designer of an organisation or an organisational unit that others want to be part of. The course covers all topics linked to the challenge of combining the economic imperative for a competitive, highly productive work force with trust, empowerment and respect for the individual.

Application deadline: 12 February 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 19 February – 15 March 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 18 – 22 March 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 25 March – 3 May 2024

Strategic Planning for Health Intervention – SPHI (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

In this course, students use case studies and decision-analytic modelling approaches to design a health programme: conducting a situation analysis and setting priorities for interventions that are consistent with existing national health policies in resource-constrained countries. It covers salient topics such as analysing the problem, developing log frames, setting indicators and monitoring and evaluation.

Application deadline: 11 March 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 18 March – 12 April 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 15 – 19 April 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 22 April – 31 May 2024

Health Economics and Health Financing – HEHF (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

Based on the WHO health system performance framework, this course analyses public and private forms of health financing and payment as well as indicators to evaluate a country's health financing structure and level. Students explore how financing agents generate revenue from various sources; pool risk effectively; create appropriate incentives for quality service provision; and allocate resources to the most effective, efficient, and equitable interventions and services.

Efficiently managing these functions while minimising administrative costs, is also considered in the context of local, national and global reforms.

Application deadline: 18 March 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 25 March – 19 April 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 22 – 26 April 2024

Post Phase (self-directed): 29 April – 7 June 2024

Health Policy and Systems Analysis – HPSA (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

In this course, students analyse the relationships between global health strategies, national and local health policies and systems development. They critically assess alternatives for health system financing and frame-works, the roles and behaviour of institutions and stakeholders, innovative health service delivery initiatives, and how health systems are influenced by and respond to global changes and wider social determinants. Students examine key elements for measuring and monitoring health system performance, such as governance, information systems and human resources, and learn how they influence health system performance and expected outcomes.

Application deadline: 8 April 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 15 April – 10 May 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 13 – 17 May 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 20 May – 28 June 2024

Evidence-informed Writing and Reasoning – EWR (4 ECTS)

To achieve effective results, global health leaders need to integrate evidence into their decision-making processes. To do this, they should be able to apply basic analytical skills including science-informed information retrieval, analysis and the design and implementation of small and applied empirical research projects aimed at a specific, contextualized research questions. The skill set acquired in this course should assist global health practitioners in general and MBA students in the development of the Master thesis of the MBA programme in particular.

Applications deadline: 15. April 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 22 April – 17 May 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 21 – 24 May 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 27 May – 23 June 2024

Supply Chain Management in Health Care – SCMHC (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

Many problems related to healthcare quality and safety are the consequences of poorly managed medicines and medical supplies. This course introduces all elements of the supply chain cycle for medicines and other health commodities, including selection of medicines, procurement, distribution and use. Central to this is the management of the whole supply chain system, which comprises quality assurance, human resources, financing, relevant policies and regulations, and monitoring and evaluation. The course emphasizes the importance of integrating supply chain activities into overall health system management.

Application deadline: 29 April 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 6 – 31 May 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 3 – 7 June 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 10 June – 19 July 2024

Communication, Marketing and Social Media – CMSM (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

Many of the significant challenges health professionals and managers face in public health involve convincing individuals to change and adopt behaviours and decision-making processes. The mere dissemination of information is often insufficient to convince people to take action. In addition, the growing spread of misinformation, disinformation, conspiracy theories, and rumours through online platforms has become a major challenge in public health activities. The course will introduce participants to social and behavioural communication and change principles, as well as to social marketing approaches in LMICs in practice. Aspects of health communication in classic media and in digital and social media will be discussed.

Application deadline: 6 May 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 13 May – 7 June 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 10 – 14 June 2024

Post-phase (self-directed): 17 June – 26 July 2024

Financial Budgeting, Accounting and Reporting – FBAR (6 ECTS) tropEd accredited

In most organisations, financial management skills tend to be concentrated in a small core of financial experts. In many small organizations and in the public sector, employees are given responsibilities in financial management for which they have not been trained. This course addresses the basics of the financial cycle from budgeting, implementing and recording, through to financial reporting. Students will get an in-depth look at the workings of bookkeeping, reporting, internal controlling, financial management of physical assets and stocks, and auditing. They will also learn to extract and use relevant information from the financial management system to make key decisions.

Application deadline: 31 July 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 5 – 30 August 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 2 – 6 September 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 9 September – 18 October 2024

Digital Health Management – DHM (6 ECTS)

Digital technologies are fundamentally and rapidly changing the delivery of healthcare services. The Digital Health Management course provides an introduction to the field and shows participants ways to navigate the evolving landscape of healthcare technology and digital solutions, including AI applications. Participants will explore the intersection of healthcare, information technology and business management, gain an understanding of the challenges and opportunities, immerse themselves in concrete cases and domains, and learn about selective management approaches and practices for planning and implementing information systems.

Application deadline: 5 August 2024

Preparation phase (self-directed): 12 August– 6 September 2024

Hybrid face-to-face week: 9 – 13 September 2024

Post phase (self-directed): 16 September 2024 – 25 October 2024

New MBA courses

In 2024, there are two new courses: Digital Health Management (DHM, 6 ECTS) and Evidence-informed Writing and Reasoning (EWR, 4 ECTS). The DHM course replaces the Praxis-oriented Project course (POP, 10 ECTS). In addition, the TPMT workshop (previously optional), which prepared students for the Master's thesis, has been expanded into the Evidence-informed Writing and Reasoning course (EWR) and is now an integral part of the programme worth 4 ECTS.

Application Procedure

We accept applications for the programme throughout the year.

Tuition Fees for MBA IHM Management Courses 2024	Fee for MBA IHM students*	Fee for Management Course students
FIHM, HPSA, HEHF, OBTM, SCMHC, CMSM, EEHC, FBAR, LEAD, SPHI, DHM (all 6 ECTS)	CHF 2,450 per course	CHF 2,850 per course
EWR (4 ECTS)	CHF 1,550	

*Same fee for tropEd students and students enrolled in a SSPH+ professional postgraduate Master or PhD programme.

Prospective students should also factor in costs related to: travel to and from the Basel area; accommodation, food and transportation in the Basel area during face-to-face week; related insurances.

For more information, please contact courses@swisstph.ch