

Course Deatail
Master of Science Program in Occupational Medicine and Occupational Health

Course Title:	Master of Science Program in Occupational Medicine and Occupational Health
Master Degree:	Master of Science in Occupation Medicine and Occupational Health
Academic Institution:	Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Graduated School, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand
Duration:	2 years (June 2024 - May 2026)

Background and Rational:

Worker's health is an important issue to support productivities of the countries. Only a small proportion of the global workforce has access to occupational health services for primary prevention and control of diseases and injuries caused or aggravated by work. The 60th World Health Assembly endorsed a Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health for 2008-2017 and urged WHO member states to devise national policies and plans for its implementation. Only one third of countries cover more than 30 percent of their workers with occupational health services. Policy- and standard-setting ministries lack capacity for enforcement and monitoring. One third of countries has no ministry of health staff dedicated to workers' health. While most countries have some human resources for health, academic training needs to be scaled up. Although half the countries have national workers' health profiles with data on occupational diseases, injuries, and legislation, information about communicable and noncommunicable diseases among workers and about lifestyle risks are the least covered topics. Most countries have national institutions carrying out research and training, but the distribution of such entities is uneven across country groups. Awareness about workers' health problems remains low, both in the media and among the general public. Workers' health issues feature in policies concerning management of chemicals, emergency preparedness and response, employment strategies, and vocational training. However, workers' health is seldom considered in policies regarding climate change, trade, economic development, poverty reduction, and general education. Although most countries had some strategies, standards, and targets for coverage of occupational health services, only one third covered more than 30% of their workers with such services. While ministries of health are traditionally strong in legislation, policy and standard setting for occupational health services, in most countries these ministries lacked sufficient capacity to deal with workplace inspection and monitoring of workers' health trends.

Human resources in occupational health and occupational medicine are limited, ministries of health had no staff dedicated to workers' health. Most countries had some human resources for occupational health. However, academic training in occupational health needs to be scaled up at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. As expected, mostly those in the low income group, human resources for occupational medicine and occupational health were not at all sufficient. Several countries reported that occupational health was not included in undergraduate training in medicine (10%), nursing (16%), public health (10%), engineering (19%), and physical science (31%). In those countries where occupational health was included in undergraduate training, this training was usually rated as "insufficient." Only in the Western Pacific Region were satisfied with the level of inclusion of occupational health in undergraduate training in medicine.

The proportion of countries with occupational health degree programmes in medicine was highest in the European and American regions and lowest in the South-East Asian and African regions. As country incomes rose, so did the proportion of countries offering such programme. Therefore, several countries particularly, the developing countries need to build up occupational health and occupational medicine practice and that strengthening human resource capacity are a crucial issue.

Conducting postgraduate course –Master degree in Occupational Medicine and Occupational Health will fill a gap of lacking human resources particularly occupational physicians, occupational health doctors, some occupational health professions in developing countries.

To conduct this Master program will definitely gain experience for the academic department and faculties as well as the instructors. At the of the day, the reputation of the country. Following this, our department will be able to apply to be a collaborating center of some international agencies such as WHO.

Division of Occupational Medicine, Department of Community Medicine has incorporated well with various clinical specialties in the faculty and other public health and occupational health professions. There are 8 years of experience in conducting the Master degree in Occupational Medicine and the residency training programme in Preventive Medicine (Occupational Medicine). Together with 15 years of experience in running a short course in occupational health and safety management for hospital personnel. The course produced 3059 health workers (from 640 hospitals across Thailand). In addition, in 2002, we hosted the short course in Occupational Epidemiology supported by International Agency Research on Cancer (IARC/WHO, Lyon-France) and there were participants from 5 countries. In 2017, our division hosted the International Conference on Occupational Health for Health Workers, it was organized by Scientific Committee on Occupational Health for Health Worker under International Commission of Occupational Health (ICOH). For the facilities, the faculty is well equipped with classrooms, audiovisuals, telecommunication, e-learning and other learning materials. The division of Occupational Medicine has worked well with other departments such as the Dept of Medicine, Otolaryngology, Orthopaedics, Surgery, Psychiatry, Toxicology and etc. in both medical service, Master program and residency training. The department has three occupational medicine professions and one occupational health PhD degree together with PhD qualification in public health and epidemiology. Therefor our faculty and department contain several experts to run the Master program in Occupational Medicine and Occupational Health. In addition, such programs like this are very limited around Southeast of Asia and developing countries eve middle to upper middle developing countries.

Objectives:

Main objectives

(1) Thoroughly understanding of the principle of occupational medicine and occupational health, and applying the knowledge to research or working in advance professional.

(2) Understanding of the principle and the theory of occupational medicine and occupational health as a multidisciplinary.

(3) Having the skill of occupational medicine and occupational health management and service, analyzing the working-age health problems research.

(4) Having positive attitude toward the prevention of health problems on the treatment and attitude to be the leader of occupational medicine and occupational health with the skill to diagnose work-related or occupational diseases.

(5) Having an good interpersonal skill especially with the multidisciplinary professionals and having the professional responsibility

Minor objectives

(1) Having an ability to do the research or innovative academic project in occupational medicine and occupational health.

(2) Having an ability of analyzing, synthesizing, communicating, using the computer and information technology, and operating a modern management which lead to widespread knowledge development and application.

(3) Being an ethically academic professional and having leadership of promoting good manner in an academic and professional role.

Course Synopsis and Methodology:

Study plan

Academic term: 2 semesters per year

Course credits: Total 36 credits

Course Content

Subjects	Credits
1) Compulsory	18
2) Optional	6
3) Thesis	12

Subjects lists

Compulsory

- Clinical Occupational Medicine
- Occupational Epidemiology
- Occupational Hygiene and Risk Assessment
- Seminar in Occupational Medicine and Occupation Health I
- Occupational Medicine in Occupational Health Service
- Research Methodology and Statistics in Occupational Health
- Occupational Toxicology
- Occupational Health and Safety Management
- Seminar in Occupational Medicine and Occupation Health II

Optional

- Integration of Occupational Health for Health Worker and Quality of Health Care Service
- Field Practice in Occupational Hygiene
- Direct reading and Personal sampling
- Occupational Ergonomics
- Clinical Preventive Medicine
- Application of Health Economics in Health Care Services
- Standard and Legal Aspects in Occupational Health
- Occupational Mental Health

Graduation Conditions:

Full thesis and one thesis publication to Thailand citation index at level TCI rank 2

Applicant Qualifications

- 1) Graduation bachelor degree in nursing science, occupational health and safety, Doctor of Medicine or other fields associated with GPA not less than 3.00
- 2) Already qualified to study in this course at the date of applying scholarship
- 3) Age not over 35 years old at the date of applying scholarship
- 4) At least 1 year professional working experience
- 5) Adequate English proficiency at least
 - TOEFL (IBT) 60
 - TOEFL (CBT) 173
 - TOEFL (paper) 500
 - IELTS 5.5
 - CU-TEP 60

6) For students who have commitment working in the company or organization after graduation would be first priority

Document Required

- TIPP application form (Download at: <https://tica-thaigov.mfa.go.th/en/page/75500-tipp-application-form?menu=605b13dbb6f1b76ed31778b3>)
- Medical Report (If candidates had submitted other health certificates without the TICA medical report form, their application will not be accepted for consideration)
- Transcript of Bachelor's degree (to show the courses that you have learnt throughout Bachelor's degree)
- Certificate of Bachelor's degree
- English test score (e.g. TOEFL (Paper based test 500) (Internet based test 60) or IELTS (5.5))
- Recommendation Letter (At least 3 people)

Contact:

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***The application procedure will complete when TICA has received the hard copy of the application form and other related documents through the Royal Thai Embassy/Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations/Royal Thai Consulate – General accredited to eligible countries/territories.