

Study board for Public Health Science, Global Health and Health Informatics



MINUTES

20 MARCH 2025

Forum Meeting in the Study Board for Public Health Science,
Global Health and Health Informatics

STUDY BOARD AND EXAMS

Meeting held 17 March 2025

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Place CSS 7.0.01

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Minute taker Julie Yndal

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Present

PHS: Signe Smith Jervelund, Line Mathiesen, Long Nguyen, Torben Heien Nielsen (SAMF), Anna Aastrup Poole, Ester de Witte Vestergaard and Sita Khadka

GH: Jane Brandt Sørensen, Dan Wolf Meyrowitsch and Lena Skovgaard Andersen

HI: Henriette Langstrup, Iben Mundbjerg Gjødsbøl, Sarah Frances Homewood (DIKU), Cecilie Løisemos, Jashana Jani Balakumar and Nicola Saggi Hjarsø

Adm.: Krístrún Lind Helgadóttir and Julie Yndal (referent)

Absent

PHS: Clara Lundmark Appel

GH: Julia Anna Miller and Lisa Gawes

HI: Tariq Osman Andersen (DIKU)

Agenda

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1) Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

2) Approval of the minutes from the last meeting (Annex 1)

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

3) Introduction to the programs by the heads of studies

The heads of studies gave the study board a brief introduction to the programs.

4) PHS: Discussion and approval of evaluation results and ABC-categorizations. Discussion of pass rates for fall 2024 (Annex 2)

The study board discussed the evaluation results and categorized the courses from fall 2024. One course received the category C, which implies that the course will have a special monitoring from the study board. The study board discussed the pass rates in light of the standards from SUND.

Henriette Langstrup and Iben M. Gjødsbøl noted that HI categorizes the courses differently from PHS. PHS has reformulated the categorizations. They have chosen a ranking where an A-course is considered better than a B-course. GH uses the same interpretation.

5) GH: Discussion and approval of evaluation results and ABC-categorizations. Discussion of pass rates for fall 2024 (Annex 3)

The study board discussed the evaluation results and categorized a single course from fall 2024. The study board discussed the pass rates.

6) HI: Discussion and approval of evaluation results and ABC-categorizations. Discussion of pass rates for fall 2024 (Annex 4)

HI has survey-based evaluation. The questionnaires are answered by only a few students.

HI will discuss whether to adjust their categorization practice with inspiration from PHS at their next study specific meeting.

The study board discussed the evaluation results and categorized the courses from fall 2024. The study board discussed the pass rates. Henriette Langstrup noted that there is a particular point of attention regarding the pass rate for the thesis.

Henriette Langstrup and Signe S. Jervelund will meet with the course coordinators for *Human Biology* and *Human Diseases for Non-Clinicians*, which is offered to students from both HI and PHS. The course coordinators want to provide a high-quality course for the students but are somewhat distanced from the programs.

7) Discussion of future evaluation practice for PHS (Annex 5)

The study board will make a recommendation regarding evaluation to the course coordinators at PHS.

General comments:

- Students appreciate mid-term evaluations. It was mentioned that the mid-term evaluation can also be helpful in encouraging students to reflect on their own efforts.
- It is challenging for student representatives to elaborate on all the points raised in the evaluation. It is beneficial for all students to be present in order to clarify these points.
- It is important to allocate one hour for the evaluation.
- The dialogue is very important.

Recommendations for course coordinators in the first and second semesters:

- The course coordinators should lead the evaluation from the start. They will ask all the questions, then step out to allow the students to discuss among themselves. The course coordinators will return afterward.

Recommendations for course coordinators in the third semester and beyond:

- The student representatives should take the lead in the evaluation from the start. The course coordinators will then participate after the students have discussed.

Torben H. Nielsen mentioned that he sends his reflections to the student representatives before the evaluation. It has worked well that both parties have been able to prepare for the subsequent dialogue.

Signe S. Jervelund will summarize a document for the course coordinators with a recommendation on evaluation practices. It will be shared with the study board for approval.

8) Discussion of the thesis preparation course at PHS (Annex 6)

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The study board decided to postpone the item to a later meeting.

9) Students' input for elective courses in fall 2026 and spring 2027 (Annex 7)

The plan for the electives is that GH and HI will be prioritized in the fall semester, when they mainly have electives, while PHS will be prioritized in the spring semester. The electives must be approved by the department.

Framework for the 2026/2027 academic year:

- Fall 2026: Five electives, in addition to the fixed ones (part of the SAMF agreement, DIKU agreement and *the Public health project planning* course)
- Spring 2027: Four electives, in addition to the fixed ones (part of the SAMF agreement, DIKU agreement and the *Public health project planning* course)
- A maximum of one elective may be taught externally.

Student input on electives for fall 2026:

- At PHS, there is a wish for epidemiology courses. Students from HI are uncertain whether HI students will be interested in the suggested course *Pharmacoepidemiology*.
- The *Mixed Methods* course is in demand at PHS.
- Students are interested in the course *Health and Human Rights*, which would be the external course.
- The AI course *Ethics of AI* is relevant for both HI and PHS students. HI students would like the option to take the AI course as BA students. The AI course is considered more relevant than the planned *Health Data Analytics* course.
- The students were not interested in the *Medical Science and Technology Studies – Analysis and Writing* course. However, they expressed interest in an English course on children and environment health.

Tentative list of electives for fall 2026:

- 1) *Folkesundhedsvidenskabeligt projektdesign (fixed) (Danish)*
- 2) *Pharmacoepidemiology*
- 3) *Mixed-Methods*
- 4) *Advanced Health Economics (SAMF)*
- 5) *Health and Human Rights (external)*
- 6) *Ethics of AI*
- 7) *Children and environmental health*

Student input on electives for spring 2027:

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- Hans Okkels Birk can no longer offer the course *Lægemiddeløkonomi og regulering*. It was suggested that the course could be taken over (and adapted) by Frederik Lyngse.

Tentative list of electives for spring 2027:

- 1) *Folkesundhedsvidenskabeligt projektdesign (fixed) (Danish)*
- 2) *Social inequality in health and disease*
- 3) *Socialt udsathed i et sociologisk perspektiv (SAMF) (Danish)*
- 4) *(Lægemiddeløkonomi og regulering with a new internal course coordinator?) (Danish)*
- 5) *Nutritional Epidemiology*
- 6) *Fertilitet og sundhed (Danish)*

The study board will approve the final electives for the 2026/2027 academic year at the study board meeting in May.

It was asked whether the SAMF courses could switch semesters, with the sociology course placed in the fall and the economics course placed in the spring. This is because the students from HI are more interested in the sociology course than the economics course.

[The timing for this is not ideal right now, so this will not apply to the elective course offering in the academic year 2026/2027]

The study board wishes that it will be possible for MA students from Health Informatics to take the DIKU BA electives NDAB24009U *Co-design af digital sundhed* and NDAB16014U *Udvikling af cloud-baserede sundheds-apps*. Depending on the technical skills required, the study board is also interested in that it can be taken by students from Public Health Science and Global Health. Henriette Langstrup will ask the course coordinators.

It was suggested that Lighthouse could offer an innovation course. Henriette Langstrup will contact Lighthouse.

10) Orientation from the students (PHS, GH and HI)

- PHS: The students gave an update on the mentoring program. Signe S. Jervelund offered to meet with the mentors and share her own experiences. Jane B. Sørensen mentioned that GH has a mentoring program and that she can share some materials with Signe S. Jervelund. The students will contact Signe if they wish her talk.
- GH: No orientation was made (no GH students attended the meeting)
- HI: The study council is holding an evening about electives on April 9th.

11) Orientation from the heads of studies (PHS, GH and HI)

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- Signe S. Jervelund (PHS): The open house event has been held at SUND with a record number of visitors.
- Jane B. Sørensen (GH): No orientation was made.
- Henriette Langstrup (HI): HI is in the UNI newspaper: [Sådan sælger forskellige KU-uddannelser sig selv](#)

12) AOB

No other business

Written orientations

- 13)** The Deanery has approved the changes to the course descriptions for the academic year 2025-2026. The approved course descriptions will be published on May 1st, 2025.
- 14)** Rector has approved the recommendation and has appointed Lena Skovgaard Andersen (VIP) as a member of the study board for the representation area Global Health for the rest of the election period.
- 15)** Rector has approved the recommendation and has appointed Sarah Frances Homewood (VIP) as an alternate member of the study board for the representation area Department of Computer Science (DIKU) for the rest of the election period.