Further information
For further information about the course please call 02 9657 0361 or email injurycourses@georgeinstitute.org.au
Unit code: PUBH5419
OR visit the School of Public Health website: www.health.usyd.edu.au

To enrol in the unit:
Postgraduate public health students at the University of Sydney are to enrol via the university enrolment procedures.
Postgraduate public health students from another university may be able to arrange a cross-institutional enrolment should they wish to undertake the unit. To arrange a cross-institutional enrolment, please liaise with the institution through which you are enrolled.
Students not currently enrolled in postgraduate studies are able to enrol and can also earn course credit. This credit can be accrued towards a possible future enrolment in an approved course of study at the University of Sydney. If you are not currently enrolled in postgraduate studies but would like to enrol in this unit, please contact us via the contact details above.

Please note: there is a limit of 20 places available so please book early.

Requirements for students
Students will need access to a computer (Win 95 / Mac OS 7.5 or above) with ideally Internet broadband. The lecture materials are presented in standard Microsoft Office programs.
For further details on computer specifications see: http://www.usyd.edu.au/webct/student/getstart/requirements.shtml
Students will also require Adobe reader which is available as freeware at http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

About The George Institute
The George Institute for Global Health is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to help reduce the global burden of non-communicable diseases and injuries through high quality research, evidence-based policy development and a range of capacity development programs. Research at the George Institute has a major focus on the Asia-Pacific region.
The Institute is made up of several divisions and programs, which oversee numerous large-scale international and regional projects.
The Injury Division conducts high quality research into the causes, prevention and treatment options for various kinds of injury.
For more information on The George Institute and the other courses offered by the Injury Division, please visit www.georgeinstitute.org.au

Falls prevention for the older person
MPH ELECTIVE PUBH5419 (4CP)
Lectures commence: Monday 28th July
Semester break: 29th Sept till 3rd October
Lectures conclude: Friday 31st October

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What the unit will cover
This one semester online unit will teach students about the principles of falls prevention and falls injury prevention in the older person with a focus on the practical application of these principles. The unit will cover the following topics:
• Aetiology of falls
• Burden and economic implications of falls in older people
• Evidence-based falls prevention strategies
• Falls program development, implementation and evaluation

Additional features
Content materials developed by leaders in the field of falls prevention; Interactive online discussions, moderated by an expert in the field; Practical case studies to promote learning
The website will contain:
• A unit overview and website guide
• Weekly lecture and revision materials
• An e-reference library for interested students

Unit objectives
• Gain an understanding of risk factors for falls and the impact of falls
• Be familiar with falls prevention interventions and the results of studies testing their effectiveness
• Understand the key considerations in priority setting and policy development
• Have a framework for considering program planning, implementation and evaluation to enhance the likelihood of a program’s success and sustainability

Why study falls prevention?
The prevention of falls and falls injury in the older person is a major public health issue as it is the leading cause of disability, declining quality of life and death amongst this age group.
Developing and implementing effective falls prevention and falls injury prevention programs is crucial to reduce the burden of falls-related injury in the older person. The unit is designed to provide students with an understanding of how this can be achieved.

Teaching Faculty
The coordinators for this unit are Associate Professor Cathie Sherrington and Dr Anne Tiedeman of The George Institute for Global Health. The unit will be moderated by staff from The George Institute, The University of Sydney and experts in the field.
The materials have been developed by a number of experts in falls prevention including academics, senior government staff and falls prevention practitioners.

Who should attend?
The unit is designed for postgraduate public health students, public health trainees, health professionals and individuals with an interest in falls prevention in the older person.
Students undertaking postgraduate public health degrees will be awarded four credit points.

Course Feedback:
‘The calibre of the lecturers was impressive and the lecture material and readings extremely relevant’
‘Enjoyed the course and found it stimulating and entirely relevant to my work’
‘I felt that this mode of learning has been great for full time health workers with busy schedules’

How much will it cost?
The fee per participant is as follows:
• Local award students: AUD $2125
• External students $2125
• International students: AUD $3258

Recommended Text

Assessment
The assessment for this unit is based on:
Submission of a written assignment
Participation in moderated online discussions scheduled during the semester

Pre-requisites for students
Students should be familiar with the use of the Internet and e-mail and have an undergraduate degree.

Acknowledgements
The development of this unit was assisted by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing’s Public Health Education and Research Program.