



Master of Philosophy (Public Mental Health)

The Alan J. Flisher Centre for Public Mental Health (CPMH), a joint initiative of the Department of Psychology at Stellenbosch University and the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health at the University of Cape Town, is an independent inter-disciplinary academic research and teaching centre for public mental health promotion and service development in Africa. CPMH has offered the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Public Mental Health programme since 2012, drawing students from across Africa and other low- and middle-income countries.



The MPhil programme is a two-year dissertation-only degree and commences with a three-week orientation block in January/February every year (face-to-face or online). During the programme, MPhil students are supported remotely by their supervisors and the course convenor as they finalise their protocols, gain ethical approval, conduct their research in their home countries and complete their dissertations. They attend a six-week online academic writing course and attend monthly webinars to support their academic development. Students often align their research with research needs at their place of employment or in their communities.

Since 2012, 43 students have graduated from the programme. A number of our alumni have gone on to further postgraduate studies, leadership positions in ministries of health, and clinical, academic and non-profit organisation settings. Many of them are also involved in teaching and postgraduate supervision. Our alumni form part of a vibrant African public mental health network which has formed through cross-country research collaborations and capacity building efforts on the continent,

