

Conflict & Catastrophe Medicine





Empowering the next generation of humanitarian medics

The diploma course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine (CCM) provides postgraduate medics, nurses and allied health professionals with the relevant knowledge and practical skills to work effectively in the disaster environment.

Topics range from aspects of medical and clinical care, public and environmental health to wider contextual issues such as bridging humanitarian health and health development, and the changing direction of humanitarian aid.



45+ unique sessions delivered by **30+** lecturers, military and humanitarian leaders in their field



2 years' access to lectures, recordings, slides and e-learning resources



50+ hours of teaching, including **20+** delivered remotely via Zoom



Exclusive access to a networking community of key contacts in the field of Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine

Preparing you to embark on your humanitarian career

For more than 20 years, the course has supported and promoted the humanitarian health community through innovative education, professional development, and research skills in the field of Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine.

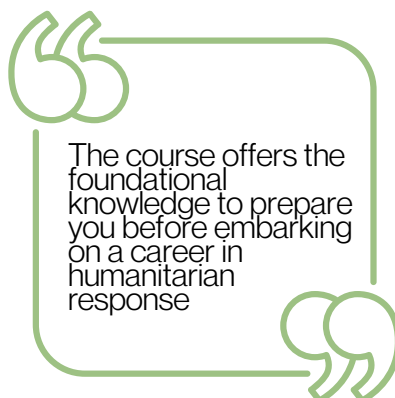


What our students and lecturers say



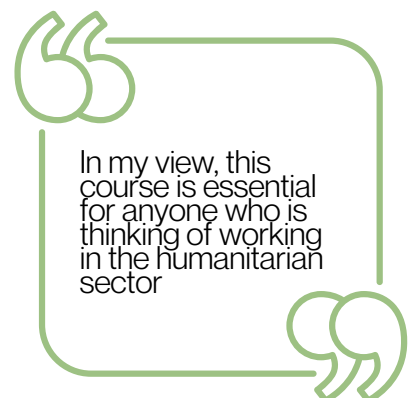
The first-hand accounts from practitioners in the field across a wide range of issues, topics and themes. It is most invaluable

Student Survey
2024



The course offers the foundational knowledge to prepare you before embarking on a career in humanitarian response

Dr Kiran Attridge
Course Director



In my view, this course is essential for anyone who is thinking of working in the humanitarian sector

David Ross
Dean, Current Course Lecturer



Why is this for me?

Taught at postgraduate level, the course aims to equip students with the knowledge to work effectively in disaster environments and humanitarian emergencies.

The course is open to postgraduate medics, nurses, pharmacists or allied health professionals looking to take the next step in their career, whether it be towards deployment work in humanitarian emergencies or in response to domestic disasters or acts of terrorism.

The course is designed to augment your qualifications and expertise with the relevant core skills required to support interventions such as a needs assessment, surveillance and reporting systems, and common health and disease issues.

From the point of enrolment, students are engaged in an active community of likeminded health professionals to foster social and intellectual connections with peers and recent alumni, committed to your professional development, to access mentorship opportunities and career advice.



Dr Kiran Attridge
FFPH

Course Director

Course summary

With 50-60 hours of dedicated study, the Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine course is delivered through a varied and non-sequential programme of engaging discussions, tabletop simulation exercises, practical examples and relevant case studies with an emphasis on promoting applied, self-directed learning.

The content is continually updated in response to changing needs and priorities of low/middle-income countries, new developments in intelligence and technology, and the changing roles of international health professionals in such contexts.

Experts from NGOs and various humanitarian, military, and academic institutions will be on hand to deliver a range of sessions both in-person and online, providing unique insights from their first-hand experience of delivering aid in conflict and disaster settings.

Participants also have access to course materials through our learning platform. Not just a clinical course, students will grapple with a range of sectoral, non-medical and conceptual factors, public health including epidemiology, and also nutrition, mental health and moral injury, maternal and child health, and wider contextual issues. They will gain an appreciation of the importance of not only knowing 'what' to do, but 'how' to go about the work.

Participants will gain an understanding of essential concepts such as the principles of humanitarianism, localisation in humanitarian health, sustainability, governance, accountability and safeguarding; learning how to adapt this knowledge to respond to acute medical emergencies in conflict and climate disasters. Whether you are new to the subject area or a seasoned humanitarian worker looking to deepen your understanding, the Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine course has something for you.



Course timetable

The course takes place on 11 Saturdays from January to December 2025, delivered both on line and in-person at Apothecaries' Hall in London. Please note, the order of sessions is subject to change at short notice due to lecturers' international commitments.

January and February

- Welcome to the Course and the Faculty
- Key Stakeholders and Definitions
- Needs Assessments
- Refugee and humanitarian law and ethics: implications for humanitarian health personnel
- The 'Flowerland' Scenario: Part 1
- Nutrition in Conflict and Catastrophe

March and April

- Epidemiology of Disasters
- Factors affecting Humanitarian Aid and its Effectiveness
- Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Waste Management in Crises Contexts
- The 'Flowerland' Scenario: Part 2
- Communicable Disease risks
- Control and Surveillance
- Child Health
- Key Issues about Non-communicable Diseases

May

- Panel Discussion: Working with NGOs in Conflicts and Catastrophes
- Mass Casualties – triage in a resource poor setting
- Principles of pain management in a resource poor setting
- Mid-course Appraisal

June

- Maternal and Neonatal Health: Opportunities and Challenges
- The 'Flowerland' Scenario: Part 3
- Challenges to Vaccination Programmes: Opportunities and Solutions
- Reflections on the Experiences of Humanitarian Response

July

- Medical Concerns during the Mass Evacuation of Kabul Airport
- Supply of Medicines: What quantities? From where? And why?
- Mass gatherings: Implications for Public Health and Planning
- The Effects of War on Health Systems and how these are changing over time

September

- Preparing for the DMCC – SAQ Paper and OSCPHE Exams
- Protecting responders in conflict and crisis zones
- STI
- Hazardous chemicals, biological warfare agents, nuclear radiation and their clinical effects
- Distress and Disorders: People's Psychosocial Needs after Emergencies, Major Incidents, High Consequence Infectious Diseases and Terrorism

October

- The future threat of cyber warfare and the challenge of new weapons: what role can medical and humanitarian assistance play?
- Psychosocial care for professionals working in conflicts and catastrophes
- Climate Change and Humanitarianism
- Rwanda: 30 Years On
- Syria

November and December

- Gender and Sexual-based Violence
- Clinical Session on Providing care for GSBV victims
- Disability as part of an inclusive humanitarian response: crucial factors
- Safeguarding in Conflict
- Rescue, triage and onward care of boat people in the RNLI
- Ukraine & Turkey
- Leadership and Resilience
- Dealing with the Media
- Final Quiz



Application process and fees

Applications for 2025 are now open and are rolling until 30 April 2025, providing 2 years of access to course materials from your date of enrolment.

Payment is made online via our website. You will then gain access to our online learning platform to complete your application form and view your learning materials.

Book your place now to take advantage of a price freeze during our early bird window until **midnight 31 December**.

Email us for more details. Terms and Conditions apply.

Matt Scudder
Academic Training Officer

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£1,075

Full
Price

£100

Drop-In
Price

Contact us

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