
Education profile for the Advanced Master in Public Health Methodology (MPHM)

- **Introduction:**

This education profile is based on the competence reference framework for the Advanced Master in Public Health Methodology, an inter-university advanced Master (ULB / UCL / UMONS). It meets the requirements for the new organisation of studies as referred to in the 'Landscape' decree defining higher education in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.

- **A few definitions¹:**

- A **skills-based approach** is a curriculum development method that builds on the notion of skills, using a strategic and integrative approach of learning objectives, goals, and resources, in terms of both results and processes.
- **Skills** refer to the ability to call upon and integrate relevant resources, whether internal or external, in order to solve problems or complex tasks related to an explicitly defined objective. This means knowing how to act in a given situation.
- **Abilities** ('CAP' in the tables below) can be seen as components of a skill, i.e. as the resources required to activate it. A number of abilities must often be combined in order to put a given skill into practice.

- The relevant skills, each of which covers a number of abilities, can be divided into four main complementary categories:

- Technical skills, which make up the professional identity of each trade. They include knowledge (theoretical, technical, environmental, and knowledge of the parties involved); methods through which knowledge is applied to professional situations; and know-how acquired from experience²
- Organisational skills, which refer to the abilities required for individuals to organise their own work (define priorities, plan actions, etc.) and to coordinate with teams members and other partners. These skills include self-organising, organising with others, and organising for others (management)³
- Rational and social skills, which refer to how an individual relates to their environment from a social perspective, how they interact with team members, subordinates, or third parties⁴
- Adaptation skills, which enable all professionals to adapt to a changing situation, to question their own knowledge, abilities, and know-how, and to evolve and improve their professional practices. Especially valuable skills are adaptation to the environment, self-adaptation, and adaptation to the industry's evolutions⁵

¹ These definitions are taken from the education profile of ULB's Master in Public Health, available on the School of Public Health's website: <http://www.ulb.ac.be/facs/esp/>

²Flück: 2001, p. 65-67; in *Profil d'enseignement du Master en sciences de la santé publique de l'ULB*, p. 13.

³Flück: 2001, p. 67-68; in *Profil d'enseignement du Master en sciences de la santé publique de l'ULB*, p. 17.

⁴Flück: 2001, p. 68; in *Profil d'enseignement du Master en sciences de la santé publique de l'ULB*, p. 19.

⁵Flück: 2001, p. 68; in *Profil d'enseignement du Master en sciences de la santé publique de l'ULB*, p. 21.