



UNIVERSITY OF
Global Health
EQUITY

Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD)

One Health Option

Class of 2022

A Letter from the Dean



It is my pleasure to introduce you to the Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) Class of 2022. These students have successfully passed a rigorous and holistic admissions process and are now beginning a one-year, full-time program based at UGHE's Butaro Campus.

Learning will take place both inside and outside of the classroom, with a focus on real-world scenarios in the community. MGHD students will be trained as leaders and advocates, not only as individuals but also for entire health systems. From their first day at UGHE, faculty and staff will provide them with support and mentorship as they progress through the engaging and rigorous curriculum.

The academic program at UGHE will transform students into changemakers. It will equip them with the skills to investigate complex problems with a fresh lens, one that is multidisciplinary, open-minded, and empathetic yet critical. This will be key to addressing global health issues and concerns in a productive, effective and sustainable manner. I would also like to reaffirm our commitment to equity in education and health care, which our students will exemplify throughout the program and take into their careers.

We are confident that this class of Lions will serve as global health leaders for Africa and beyond, and we are here to support and accompany them through this exciting journey.

Warm Regards,

Abebe Bekele, MD, FCS, FACS
Dean of the School of Medicine
Deputy Vice Chancellor of Academic &
Research Affairs



QUICK STATS ABOUT

MGHD-ONE HEALTH OPTION CLASS OF 2022

- ▶ **158** Applicants
- ▶ **9.49%** Acceptance Rate
- ▶ **11** Students
- ▶ **7** Female
- ▶ **4** Male
- ▶ **4** Countries Represented
- ▶ **73.33%** 2+ years work experience

Mahlet Tadesse Admasu

Why do you want to become a global health leader?

There are so many disparities in health care which are hard to solve through clinical care. In my opinion, clinical care and education have room for improvement in their recognition of these disparities. As a global health leader, I would like to contribute to the advancement of an equitable health system and play my part in helping shape the coming generation of health care workforce, because I believe true change comes through education.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am quite excited to join the cohort that is diverse and from different walks of life. I look forward to learning from all the different individuals, students and faculty alike, who will be coming together at UGHE in the next months.



Mahlet is a medical doctor currently working on project management. Since graduation, she has been employed in a national non-governmental organization where she worked on various projects, particularly in the humanitarian wing. Her career path has recently led her into a digital health company where she manages projects and works as a domain expert. Mahlet enjoys hiking, Ted-talks and she is passionate about mental health, and she hopes to contribute to the realization and awareness of this neglected part of humanity.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to become a global health leader to collaborate with passionate people working for equity. I want to listen, learn, and work together to address, with humility, intersections between child development, migration, Indigenous health, environmental health, and food sovereignty. Global forces play roles in promoting and mitigating food apartheid, diseases, pollution, and conflicts in local settings; it will take a cadre of leaders to make positive, empathetic change in the world!

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to meeting incredible colleagues, friends, and UGHE lecturers/staff, so that we can listen and contribute to storytelling, solidarity, and bio-psycho-social-spiritual health approaches. I feel grateful for this opportunity to discover more about health equity. I am also looking forward to learning about how to apply One Health concepts, project management, and social movements to environmental justice work.

Evelyn studied Nursing at the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania and holds a MSc in Global Health from Maastricht University in The Netherlands. She wants to collaborate with children, families, and communities to improve human health, ecological health, social justice, and particularly migration justice. After her nursing education, she was a US-NL Fulbright Student at Maastricht University. Her thesis focused on stakeholders' perceptions about NYC community gardens and their contribution to food security (mainly food sovereignty) and other benefits.

Kirsten Beata Dodroe



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Exploring the natural world through outdoor recreation and academic studies, I have developed an immense appreciation for the environment. However, as the consequences of our exploitative actions become realized through the changing of the climate, with ramifications that are experienced most by resource-restricted communities, I am increasingly driven to pursue a career as a global health leader. I look forward to joining international collaborations to strengthen the formation of culturally competent and evidence-based health systems.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am extremely excited to join my classmates as we gather from around the world to support each other as we learn and grow as global health professionals. I look forward to applying the lessons from our classrooms to health experiences in the field school and practicum. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to pursue an education that is so deeply rooted in promoting the equitable delivery of comprehensive global health care.

Kirsten holds a bachelor's degree in Public Health Science and Biology from Santa Clara University. Professionally, she has experience in bioethics, social impact bioengineering, climate change research, and health care access for foster youth. In 2020, Kirsten joined Kaiser Permanente's Division of Research where she examined the impacts of food equity, a COVID-19 medication, and chronic kidney disease on patients with chronic health conditions. This research affirmed her desire to address the social determinants of health through a career in global health delivery.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

The knowledge I will gain from the MGHD program, in addition to my background, will help me achieve my career objective of making equitable healthcare available to all, especially in marginalized societies in Africa. The vision of the African Union Agenda 2063 deeply resonates with my passion to help bridge the gaps between scientific, medical, and governmental communities to eradicate infectious diseases and design context-based policies to boost the health infrastructure for all individuals.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I chose to undertake this program as it is renowned for its pedigree in pathological research, clinical and laboratory practices, clinical decision-making and churning out notable alumni who have made great strides in low-resources settings. I intend to provide insights on how working in different countries has shaped my life into fitting into diverse communities like UGHE. I am also thrilled learn from the community health workers.

Jabir holds a bachelor's degree in Medicine and Surgery from the Gulf Medical University, United Arab Emirates and an MSc in Infectious Diseases from the University of Kent, United Kingdom. Jabir has worked across five countries including Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, United Kingdom, and Nigeria in capacities such as Medical Officer in Covid-19 Treatment Center, and HIV & AIDS Field Supervisor testing and counseling over 400 sex workers through Global Fund Project. He is passionate about eradicating infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Mental Health issue is the new burden that the world, particularly developing countries are facing today. Unfortunately, this issue is exacerbated by the inadequate living conditions that these countries have faced for decades. Coordinated and multisectoral interventions are the perfect response. As a global health leader who is passionate about nature, I want to build on the existing community connection to nature and contribute to improving their mental health through green initiatives.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I anticipate that the MGHD program will allow me to enhance my global health leadership skills so that I can be better positioned to create connections and attract resources for future projects. At UGHE, I will also interact with other global health leaders in my field. I am looking forward to deepening my skills as a scientist in the fields of human health, animal, and environment so that I can improve the lives of people meaningfully and sustainably.



Bonaventure holds a bachelor's degree in Biology, Biotechnology from the University of Rwanda. During his undergrad, he volunteered in different student-led organizations, whose mission and activities focused on improving the lives of people living in the villages. One notable organization was 'Rwanda Village Community Promoters (RVCP), where he served as the Deputy Director and the Director in 2016-2018. Through these organizations, he learned a lot about developing collaborative community projects from the grassroots level and acquired leadership skills.

Gisele Mujawamariya



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Covid-19 taught me that we live in a globalized world, and we must start with implementing innovative strategies to achieve and sustain equity in health delivery. This in return promotes a stronger economy, and productivity is positively impacted. Additionally, I am aware that addressing human health problems should not exclude animals and the environment's health. For me to contribute to this, I need leadership skills to focus on multi-organization, cross-sectoral collaboration, and strong clear communication.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to learning from the MGHD staff, my colleagues and the community. I hope to be equipped with skills to address the challenges of food insecurity our continent is facing especially in children. Children are the most vulnerable to chronic undernutrition and are put at a greater risk of dying from common infections, and delayed recovery. I anticipate using the knowledge I will gain to find solutions to efficiently deal with infectious diseases.



Gisele holds a bachelor's degree in Medicine Surgery and has clinical practice in the Kigali Teaching Hospital (CHUK). While rotating in CHUK she became passionate about working with children especially those coming from poor families. She currently works in Rwanda Biomedical Centre as a medical doctor in preparedness and response of Covid-19 where she assists the division manager in identifying emerging issues and trends relevant to Covid-19 response, developing mitigation strategies including adapting guidelines and processes, and regularly supporting vaccination coordination.

Hirwa Elise Musabimana

Why do you want to become a global health leader?

My goal is to become a health policymaker to create inclusive and effective health systems. Academically, I would like to earn a Ph.D. degree in the field of Global health to design health equity intervention programs that are effective, inclusive, efficient, and impactful. With the Ph.D., I will also transfer knowledge to younger generations seeking to advance global health. I will contribute to research in global health specifically those targeting Low- and Middle-Income countries.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I can't wait to navigate through all the courses, especially the ones related to research, see how the practicum is structured and be part of community outreaches in our One Health class. I am also excited to be at the campus. I saw it in pictures, so gorgeous! It will be an opportunity to network and visit Burera district (the only district in Rwanda I haven't been to).



Elise holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Health Sciences from the University of Rwanda. Her passion is Public Health. She has worked with projects like CHOICE from the University of Rwanda that aimed to design and test key concepts to help youth assess trustworthiness of health information. She also worked with a team from UR and Rwanda Ministry of Health to write a WHO case study of COVID-19 preparedness and response in Rwanda from the perspective of Primary health care.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to contribute towards the betterment of global health. Today, global health is being challenged by emerging priorities, as if existing ones were not enough. I never experienced people dying massively, lockdowns, extreme economic instability because of a pandemic. There is a need for more hands contributing towards achieving sustainable equitable and healthier global health. I am ready to serve towards that goal. Through UGHE, I can see my dreams come true.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

In MGHD at UGHE, I am looking forward to developing skills that will sharpen my competence and enable me to better deliver towards global health needs. I look forward to being around and connecting with people from different backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and values to learn from their experiences and vice versa. This is a pathway to expose my full potential towards collaborative achievements in Global Health Delivery.

Egide holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Health Sciences from the University of Rwanda. He is currently working at Health Development Initiative as a Data Officer on projects focused on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV prevention among Key Populations in Rwanda. He was also actively engaged in different initiatives like content creation for the Edutainment Project at Rwanda Basic Education Board (REB), Co-founding the University of Rwanda Public Health Student Association and To The Waters (WASH-N Innovations).



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to be able to see health issues not stand-alone but through a system lens by looking at all social factors to get a deep understanding of contextualized social constructs and how they shape health systems from around the world. I want to become an expert in global health, and consult on research projects around the world. I will use that to leave a mark in this world, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

Research! I am naturally inquisitive and want to understand the world around me. By strengthening my research skills, I will confidently be able to answer questions like 'Why this and not that population is suffering from this and not that disease? What are the social risk factors?' Once I am able to address these, I am confident I will also be able to conjure the right responses. I can't wait to start!



Esther holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Health Sciences from the University of Rwanda and is a One Health Fellow from Tufts University. Esther is a Grant Project Officer for Kasha, an e-commerce company that delivers health and personal care products for women. Esther has had the opportunity to work with youth and women through projects such as partnership with Packard Foundation to subsidize SRH products and has an affiliation with refugee camps in Rwanda. Esther is passionate about working with vulnerable communities and directing projects.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I intend to use a global health approach to eliminate infectious diseases like Covid-19 in the region, improve universal health coverage in Rwanda and control strategies for health burdens prevalent in Rwanda, such as mental health and HIV/AIDS. As a global health leader, I will have the primary goal to improve the health of the community mostly in low-middle income countries through a participatory approach, in order to reach health equity and have a clear understanding of the need.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am looking forward to meeting my professors, UGHE staff, and my colleagues. I'm excited to go to the campus and explore and engage with the Butaro community. I also look forward to completing the different modules in the program that will improve my critical thinking skills. With the knowledge I will gain from UGHE, I will be able to conduct my own research in different health sectors with the main goal to reach global health equity!

Daniel holds a bachelor's degree in Medicine and Surgery from the University of Rwanda and is currently working as a general practitioner. As an Intern Doctor with different district hospitals, he delivered treatment and patient follow-up. He was later sent to South Sudan by the Ministry of Health for a UN Mission as a senior medical officer. He experienced firsthand inequalities and struggles to access healthcare. This experience motivated him to serve communities through global health practice and become a universal health coverage advocate.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Medical school had only trained me on curing diseases but had not taught me about the most important determinant of diseases, the social determinants of health. During my clinical rotations, I was introduced to social and community medicine. This introduction to global health opened my mind and revealed the behind-the-scenes reality for patients at the hospitals. I want to become a global health leader because I have learned that there is more to treating than just the disease.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

UGHE is a big family that hosts and respects diversity. I look forward to meeting different people from different backgrounds who I believe will challenge my thinking. In addition, I believe that at UGHE I will be able to engage with rural communities that UGHE serve and learn from. I look forward to journeying under the guidance and leadership of incredible global health leaders who have unmatched experience in global health.

Esther holds a bachelor's degree in Medicine and Surgery from the University of Rwanda. Post-graduation, she did clinical practice for 5 months under a new program that was introduced by the Rwanda Higher Education Council called Pre-Internship Practice Preparation. Afterward, she started her clinical professional internship where she did six months rotating in pediatric and gynecology and obstetrics, and another six months rotating in surgery, internal medicine and emergency departments. Currently, she works at Butaro District Hospital as a general practitioner.



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