



UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)</b>     | 2020-21  |
| <b>Module Code</b>   | GHM103   |
| <b>Module Title</b>  | Environmental Change and Global Health Policy  |
| <b>Module Organiser(s)</b>   | Triantafyllos Pliakas  |
| <b>Faculty</b>   | Public Health & Policy: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine<br><a href="http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/php/">http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/php/</a>  |
| <b>FHEQ Level</b>  | Level 7  |
| <b>Credit Value</b>  | <b>CATS</b> 15<br><b>ECTS</b> 7.5  |
| <b>HECoS Code</b>  | 100648 : 101317 : 101048   |
| <b>Mode of Delivery</b>  | Distance Learning  |
| <b>Mode of Study</b>   | Directed self-study, through online materials via the Virtual Learning Environment   |
| <b>Language of Study</b>   | English  |
| <b>Pre-Requisites</b>  | None   |
| <b>Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body</b> | None   |
| <b>Module Cap (Maximum number of students)</b>                     | None   |
| <b>Target Audience</b>   | This module is compulsory for the PGCert/PGDip/MSc Global Health Policy by Distance Learning, and can also be taken as a standalone module. Practitioners and researchers wishing to understand the links between health and environment/climate and the role of policy processes and actors in the quest for sustainable development.   |
| <b>Module Description</b>  | Environmental changes may undermine some of the scientific, technological and social progress that led to a large increase in global life expectancy observed in the 20th century. In this module, we discuss the links between human health and policies to address environmental change. Recognizing and understanding the impact of the environment on people and that of people on the environment is crucial when developing actions and health policy responses at the local and global level. |



**UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON**

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Duration</b>                                  | Moodle is open to access from 1 <sup>st</sup> October each year. Students then plan their own studies between October and June. Examinations are held in the first three weeks of June. |
| <b>Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)</b> | May/2020  |

| <b>Programme(s)</b>  | <b>Status</b> |
|--|---------------|
| This module is linked to the following programme(s)  |               |
| PGCert/PGDip/MSc Global Health Policy (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide) | Compulsory    |
| PGDip/MSc Demography and Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)       | Elective      |

## Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

| <b>Overall aim of the module</b>  |
|---|
| <p>The overall module aim is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>introduce students to basic principles in environment, health and sustainable development and the importance of the interaction between them for global health policy.</li> </ul> |

| <b>Module Intended Learning Outcomes</b>  |
|---|
| <p>Upon successful completion of the module a student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>demonstrate the links between health, environment and sustainable development;</li> <li>explain equity and sustainability as central principles in environmental health;</li> <li>describe the different forms of risk transition and differences in the pattern of risk factors and diseases within and between countries and over time;</li> <li>identify the impact of environmental quality on health, including air, energy, urbanisation, and biodiversity;</li> <li>evaluate global environmental changes in terms of health impacts and causes;</li> <li>consider associated health policy responses and implications.</li> </ol> |



## Indicative Syllabus

### Session Content

The module is expected to cover the following topics:

#### Section 1

- The links between health, environment and sustainable development, and equity and sustainability as central principles in environmental change. This section introduces the concepts of:
  - Environment
  - Health
  - Sustainable development
  - Planetary health and global health policy

#### Section 2

- The different forms of risk transition and the impact of environmental quality on health, including:
  - How environmental quality affects health
  - How human activity impacts environmental quality, focusing on key topics including energy, biodiversity, the urban environment and outdoor air pollution.

#### Section 3

- Global environmental changes, planetary health and the context of sustainable development and global health policy implications, including:
  - The challenges of sustainable development and environmental health at global, national and local levels
  - The causes and impact of environmental issues
  - Analysis of the associated policy considerations.

## Teaching and Learning

### Notional Learning Hours

| Type of Learning Time           | Number of Hours | Expressed as Percentage (%) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Directed self-study             | 72              | 48                          |
| Self-directed learning          | 28              | 19                          |
| Assessment, review and revision | 50              | 33                          |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>150</b>      | <b>100</b>                  |



### Teaching and Learning Strategy

Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Module tutors provide asynchronous support for students by replying to students' questions in open online discussion forums and facilitating discussion. Students are also strongly encouraged to participate in live webinars available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of LSHTM online library resources. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted formative assignments.

### Assessment

#### Assessment Strategy

This module has a combination of formative and summative assessments.

The formative assessment (FA) is in the form of an assignment that can be submitted only once annually, no later than 31 March and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System. The assignment aims to help students evaluate their ability to understand and analyse links between health, the environment and sustainable development in a theoretical, empirical and policy context covering most of the intended learning outcomes of the module. The assignment is graded and a detailed feedback is provided. Please note that this grade does not count towards the student's final grade.

Formal assessment of this module consists of a two-hour and fifteen-minutes unseen written paper examination which will account for 100% of the student's final grade.

#### Summative Assessment

| Assessment Type | Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes) | Weighting (%) | Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested |
|-----------------|--|---------------|--|
| Exam            | 2 hours and 15 minutes   | 100           | 1 – 6                                    |

Unseen written examinations for DL modules are held once a year, in June (including resits). Examinations are normally taken in a student's country of residence, in one of over 650 examination centres worldwide (arranged mainly through Ministries of Education or the British Council). A list of examination centres can be found at:

<https://london.ac.uk/current-students/examinations/examination-centres>

A local fee will be payable direct to the examination centre. This fee is in addition to the programme/module fee and is set by, and paid directly to, the individual examination centres. The level of local examination centre fees varies across the world and neither the University of London nor the LSHTM have any control over the fee amount.



## Resitting assessment

Resits will accord with the LSHTM's [Resits Policy](#)

## Resources

### Indicative reading list

1. Hutchinson E, Kovats S, eds. (2016) *Environment, Health and Sustainable Development*. Second edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press.
2. Walt G, Shiffman J, Schneider H, Murray S, Brugha R, Gilson L. (2008) "Doing" health policy analysis: methodological and conceptual reflections and challenges. *Health Policy Plan* 23(5): 308-317.
3. Rojas-Rueda D, de Nazelle A, Teixidó O, Nieuwenhuijsen MJ. (2012) Replacing car trips by increasing bike and public transport in the greater Barcelona metropolitan area: A health impact assessment study. *Environment International*. 49: 100-109.
4. Ezzati M, Webster CJ, Doyle YG, Rashid S, Owusu G, Leung GM. (2018) Cities for global health. *BMJ*. 363: k3794.
5. Pineo H, Zimmermann N, Cosgrave E, Aldridge RW, Acuto M, Rutter H. (2018) Promoting a healthy cities agenda through indicators: development of a global urban environment and health index. *Cities & Health*. 2(1): 27-45.
6. Franco M, Bilal U, Diez-Roux AV. (2015) Preventing non-communicable diseases through structural changes in urban environments. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. 69(6): 509.
7. Sandifer PA, Sutton-Grier AE, Ward BP. (2015) Exploring connections among nature, biodiversity, ecosystem services, and human health and well-being: Opportunities to enhance health and biodiversity conservation. *Ecosystem Services*. 12: 1-15.
8. Watts N, Adger WN, Agnolucci P, et al. (2015) Health and climate change: policy responses to protect public health. *The Lancet*. 386(10006): 1861-1914.
9. Waage J, Yap C, Bell S, et al. (2015) Governing the UN Sustainable Development Goals: interactions, infrastructures, and institutions. *The Lancet Global Health*. 3(5): e251-e252.
10. Lewis SL, Maslin MA (2015). Defining the Anthropocene. *Nature*. 519: 171-180.
11. Griggs D, Stafford-Smith M, Gaffney O, et al. (2013) Sustainable development goals for people and planet. *Nature*. 495: 305.
12. McMichael A. (2014) Population Health in the Anthropocene: Gains, Losses and Emerging Trends. *The Anthropocene Review*. 1(1): 44-56.

### Other resources

A full list of essential, recommended and further reading is given for each session.



**UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON**

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



## Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The LSHTM Moodle has been made accessible to the widest possible audience, using a VLE that allows for up to 300% zoom, permits navigation via keyboard and use of speech recognition software, and that allows listening through a screen reader.

For students with special needs, reasonable adjustments and support can be arranged – details and how to request support can be found on the University of London Worldwide website at <https://london.ac.uk/applications/how-it-works/inclusive-practice-access-arrangements>