



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

<b>Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)</b>	2021-22
<b>Module Code</b>	1606
<b>Module Title</b>	Health Decision Science
<b>Module Organiser(s)</b>	Mark Jit and Kiesha Prem
<b>Faculty</b>	Public Health & Policy
<b>FHEQ Level</b>	Level 7
<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>CATS:</b> 15 <b>ECTS:</b> 7.5
<b>HECoS Code</b>	100404 : 101317 : 100091
<b>Term of Delivery</b>	Term 2
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	For 2021-22 this module is intended to be delivered through a mixture of face-to-face and online sessions. Online sessions will likely comprise a combination of live and interactive activities (synchronous learning) as well as recorded or self-directed study (asynchronous learning).
<b>Mode of Study</b>	Full-time
<b>Language of Study</b>	English
<b>Pre-Requisites</b>	Students who undertake this module are expected to be familiar with Excel, and be capable of carrying out basic functions using Excel software (drawing box and arrow diagrams, inserting formulae into cells, producing simple charts and tables etc.). Some of the worked examples do contain some complex formulae and students will benefit from more advanced Excel knowledge if they wish to fully explore these. However, this is not a requirement of the course. Students should be reasonably numerate and feel confident in basic mathematics (primarily arithmetic) and simple logic.  Students who are not confident in use of Excel should attend the Computing Workshops provided in Term 1. Workshops on formulae, functions and formatting, and on graphs and charts are particularly relevant. These can be found on Moodle, under "IT Training (MSc)".
<b>Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body</b>	None



<b>Module Cap (Indicative number of students)</b>	40-50
<b>Target Audience</b>	This module will be of interest primarily to students who are interested in decision making in public and global health. An interest in quantitative analysis will be useful since many of the techniques in this field are quantitative.
<b>Module Description</b>	<p>Leaders around the world – leaders of families, schools, workplaces, hospitals, governments, and multinational organisations - have to make incredibly tough decisions that affect the lives of billions of people. Should we close schools during a pandemic? Should we fund an expensive new drug that will save lives? This module will equip you to support people in making optimal choices in a world with scarce resources, limited information, and lives and economies at stake. We will take a look at a diverse range of subjects that contribute to this field: from statistics to sociology, and from economics to ethics. Many examples will be drawn from the world of infectious diseases, but the approaches are applicable across public health.</p> <p>Note: Decision science is an interdisciplinary and integrative approach. This course aims to train students to understand, interpret and integrate evidence across different fields to support decision making. It does not provide expert-level training in any of the individual fields (e.g. mathematical modelling, health economics, qualitative methods).</p>
<b>Duration</b>	5 weeks at 2.5 days per week
<b>Timetabling slot</b>	D2
<b>Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)</b>	October 2021

<b>Programme(s)</b>	<b>Status</b>
This module is linked to the following programme(s)	
MSc Public Health	Recommended
MSc Health Policy, Planning & Finance	Recommended
MSc Public Health (Health Economics)	Recommended
MSc Public Health (Health Services and Management)	Recommended



## Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

### Overall aim of the module

The overall module aim is to:

- This module aims to equip students in some of the techniques needed to support decision makers in making key decisions in health that can affect the lives of people around the world.

### Module Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

- understand key elements of the health decision-making process;
- describe the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to health decision-making;
- choose health decision-making approaches that are appropriate to specific health situations; and,
- apply health decision-making approaches to real-world or hypothetical health situations.

## Indicative Syllabus

### Session Content

The lectures will cover the following topics:

- introduction to health decision science;
- engaging stakeholders;
- disease modelling;
- health service planning;
- health economics;
- uncertainty;
- multi-criteria decision analysis; and,
- communication.

## Teaching and Learning

### Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Contact time	40	27%
Directed self-study	35	23%
Self-directed learning	40	27%
Assessment, review and revision	35	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100%</b>

Student contact time refers to the tutor-mediated time allocated to teaching, provision of guidance and feedback to students. This time includes activities that take place in face-to-face contexts such as lectures, seminars, demonstrations, tutorials, supervised laboratory workshops, practical classes, project supervision as well as where tutors are available for one-to-one discussions and interaction by email. Student contact time also includes tutor-mediated activities that take place in online environments, which may be synchronous (using real-time digital tools such as Zoom or Blackboard Collaborate Ultra) or asynchronous (using digital tools such as tutor-moderated discussion forums or blogs often delivered through the School's virtual learning environment, Moodle).

The division of notional learning hours listed above is indicative and is designed to inform students as to the relative split between interactive (online or on-campus) and self-directed study.

### Teaching and Learning Strategy

The main method used is exposition interspersed with discussion, followed by practical exercises. This is combined with private study.

## Assessment

### Assessment Strategy

The assessment for this module has been designed to measure student learning against the module intended learning outcomes (ILOs) as listed above. Formative assessment methods may be used to measure students' progress. The grade for summative assessment(s) only will go towards the overall award GPA.

The assessment for this module will be online.

Formal assessment of this module includes an assessed assignment (100%) to be submitted at the end of the module. The assignment will be a written report.



### Summative Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes)	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Coursework	2000	100%	All

### Resitting assessment

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

The resit will be a written assessment on an assignment question.



## Resources

### Indicative reading list

The module has no required reading.

## Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle gives students access to lecture notes and copies of the slides used during the lecture. Where appropriate, lectures are recorded and made available on Moodle. All materials posted on Moodle, including computer-based sessions, have been made accessible where possible.

LSHTM Moodle is accessible to the widest possible audience, regardless of specific needs or disabilities. More detail can be found in the [Moodle Accessibility Statement](#) which can also be found within the footer of the Moodle pages. All students have access to "SensusAccess" software which allows conversion of files into alternative formats.

Student Support Services can arrange learning or assessment adjustments for students where needed. Details and how to request support can be found on the [LSHTM Disability Support pages](#).