



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Overview

Academic Year (student cohorts covered by specification)	2020-21
Programme Title	Tropical Nursing
Programme Directors	Claire Bertschinger and Claire Rogers
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Faculty	Infectious and Tropical Diseases
Length of Programme (months)	Professional Diploma – Part time = One day a week for 19 weeks
Entry Routes	Professional Diploma
Exit Routes	Professional Diploma
Award Titles	Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	N/A
Relevant PGT QAA Benchmark Statement and/or other external/internal reference points	No relevant PGT QAA benchmark
Level of programme within the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)	Level 7

Total Credits	CATS:	N/A (not credit bearing)	ECTS:	N/A (not credit bearing)
HECoS	Not applicable			
Mode of Delivery	For 2020/21 the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing will be delivered online only, with a combination of synchronous (live and interactive) and asynchronous (recordings, independent study, individual exercises, etc) activities.			
Mode and Period of Study	Part time / one day a week over 19 weeks			
Cohort Entry Points	Twice a year from Around second week in October to first week in March and Around late March to early August			
Language of Study	English			
Re-sit Policy	https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-08a.pdf			
Extenuating Circumstances Policy	https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf			
Programme Description	<p>The LSHTM's Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing has proven an outstanding success in preparing nurses to work in low and middle income settings and make significant contributions to world health. It has now grown to 130 students a year, the vast majority of whom are self-funded, working across the UK and beyond and studying one day a week with the LSHTM.</p> <p>Distinctive features of the course</p> <p>The course is directed by the highly experienced and world-renowned nurse and field worker Dame Claire Bertschinger. The majority of the teaching staff have substantial experience working in resource-poor settings.</p>			

	The Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing is recommended by Médecins Sans Frontières, Save the Children, Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO), the International Committee of the Red Cross and many other international agencies.
Date of Introduction of Programme (month/year)	September 1996
Date of production / revision of this programme specification (month/year)	Extraordinary revisions made in August 2020 in response to Covid-19 mitigation planning

2. Programme Aims & Learning Outcomes

Educational aims of the programme
<p>The aim of the course – consistent with the LSHTM’s mission to improve health worldwide – is to prepare nurses, midwives, paramedics and allied medical professionals to work in tropical and resource poor situations by developing knowledge and understanding of the causes, prevention and treatment of major tropical diseases and the cultural, structural and organisational aspects of working in tropical and resource poor situations.</p> <p>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and evaluate key issues affecting primary health care in low to middle income countries (LMIC) and resource poor situations; • Aim to be able to maximize care in practice with minimum resources; • Demonstrate the importance of promoting health through prevention rather than cure.
Programme Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of the course, students will be expected to achieve the following learning outcomes – drawing on material taught across different elements and assessed in a variety of ways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Demonstrate capability to plan, implement and evaluate primary care interventions in tropical and resource poor contexts; ii) Development of a nuanced understanding of the issues involved in caring for people of differing cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds;

- iii) Application and understanding of laboratory methods available at local and district level clinics in resource poor countries, for the diagnosis of infectious diseases and other medical conditions, and for managing patient care based on analysis of the laboratory results;
- iv) Develop effective cross cultural communication skills in challenging situations and around sensitive topics such as mother and child health issues;
- v) Management of major tropical diseases and other complex nursing care for example diarrhoea and vomiting outbreaks in a resource poor setting;
- vi) Develop increased resilience and the ability to manage and improvise provision of care in resource poor or complex emergency settings;
- vii) Develop skills and approach to lifelong learning and continuing professional development that is grounded in current research.

Teaching and Learning Strategy

The course is taught chiefly through online lectures and digital laboratory practicals using a variety of synchronous (live and interactive) and asynchronous (recordings, independent study, individual exercises, etc) teaching methods. All lectures and laboratory practicals have specific learning objectives, with content designed to help students achieve these outcomes. Students are expected to learn through both directed and self-directed study.

Assessment Strategy

The course is assessed through a digital laboratory practical exam, an online multiple-choice exam and an academic research-based essay, which offers an opportunity to study a single topic in depth and use critical reading and writing skills. Such tasks are designed to assess, via the most appropriate method, whether learning objectives have been met. Candidates must pass all three components. Both the practical exam and the multiple-choice exam will be undertaken remotely.

3. Programme Structure and features, modules, credit assignment and award requirements:

The course is not divided into modules but comprises a total of 285 notional learning hours, based on a mix of online learning time, and self-directed study time plus assessment. It is generally expected that students will spend on average 15 hours a week on study, including synchronous and asynchronous sessions as well as private study. Each week of the course will typically include 7 hours of online learning and 8 hours of self-directed study.

<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/changes-courses>

4: Entry Requirements

Criteria for admission
Applications must be submitted in accordance with the procedures and deadlines given in the web based or printed prospectus. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The course is open to candidates with a degree who are currently registered as nurses, midwives, paramedics and allied medical professionals. It is recommended that they have two years' post-registration experience by the start of the course applied for;• Candidates must be computer literate and have a good standard of written and spoken English and of English comprehension;• Any prospective student who does not meet the above minimum entry requirement, but who has relevant professional experience, may still be eligible for admission. The Registry can advise on eligibility to apply in such cases.
For further information, please see https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/applications/applying-short-courses-modules

English language entry requirements
Band B It is essential that all students have a good command of the English language to benefit from their studies at the LSHTM. As part of the application process, applicants are required to demonstrate how they meet the LSHTM's minimum English language requirements.

Additionally, the LSHTM asks applicants to have minimum English language proficiency levels that are necessary for our academic programmes/courses. These levels are higher than the CEFR B2 minimum level and also apply to EU applicants, although these will not normally require a Tier 4 Student visa.

The academic English language requirements for each of the LSHTM's programmes/courses are categorised into one of three profiles A, B or C. For information on these three profiles, please refer to the LSHTM English Language Requirement Policy:

https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/english_language_requirements_policy.pdf