



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2022-23
Module Code	IDM301
Module Title	Epidemiology and Control of Infectious Diseases
Module Organiser(s)	Claudia Hanson and Alicia Showering
Contact email	The LSHTM distance learning programmes and modules are run in collaboration with University of London Worldwide. Enquiries may be made via the Student Advice Centre . (Enquiries from face-to-face i.e. London-based the LSHTM MSc or research students regarding study of DL modules should be emailed to distance@lshtm.ac.uk .)
Faculty	Infectious & Tropical Diseases: The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/faculties/itd
FHEQ Level	Level 7
Credit Value	CATS: 15 ECTS: 7.5
HECoS Code	101317:100265 (1:1)
Mode of Delivery	Distance Learning
Mode of Study	Directed self-study, through provided and online materials
Language of Study	English
Pre-Requisites	Those who wish to study this module as an individual module or as part of another programme should have a prior knowledge of basic biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology and parasitology in order to be able to work through and benefit fully from this module.
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	None
Module Cap (Maximum number of students)	None
Target Audience	The module is aimed at clinical and non-clinical health professionals who are interested in, or working in, communicable diseases in lower income settings

Module Description	This module provides an overview of common communicable diseases and control programmes from an epidemiological viewpoint. The module specifically targets communicable disease in low- and middle-income countries (but not exclusively) and introduces students to ways of investigating communicable diseases including disease outbreaks using different epidemiological methods. Examples are provided which allow learning of common factors with a view to provide students with knowledge to critically appraise disease control programmes and their specific characteristics. Epidemiological methods include methods of investigation of communicable diseases in settings with limited diagnostic and laboratory capacities.
Duration	Distance learning module studies begin in early October. Students may start their studies at any time from receipt of study materials and work through the material until the start of the June examinations (although assessment submission deadlines which are earlier than this must be observed).
Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	March 2022

Programme(s)	Status
This module is linked to the following programme(s)	
PGDip/MSc Infectious Diseases (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
PGDip/MSc Clinical Trials (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
PGDip/MSc Epidemiology (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
PGDip/MSc Global Health Policy (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
PGDip Public Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health (General Stream) (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health: Environment and Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health: Health and Promotion (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health: Health Services Management (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

Overall aim of the module

The overall module aims are to:

- provide epidemiological methods useful for the investigation of communicable diseases,
- show how to use these methods to analyse a communicable disease,
- categorize control methods and evaluate their effectiveness,
- facilitate the setting-up of control programmes applicable to the type of communicable disease.

Module Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module a student will be able to:

1. analyse communicable diseases and apply appropriate control methods to contain them.
2. apply epidemiological methods in the analysis of a communicable disease,
3. understand the principles of control methods and know how to apply them,
4. set up a control programme and monitor progress.

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content

The module is expected to cover the following topics:

- **Section 1 Principles of control programmes with a focus on low- and middle-income countries**
The first section provides a general introduction to the epidemiology and control of communicable diseases.
- **Section 2 Examples of control programmes**
The second section uses example diseases as models and is made up of three sessions including a podcast, which is transcribed in an appendix to the module.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Directed self-study	75	50
Self-directed learning	25	17
Assessment, review and revision	50	33
Total	150	100

Teaching and Learning Strategy

Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Literature is provided to deepen learning and enhance critical thinking. The study guide provides a frame and guides the students through the learning objectives while encouraging critical appraisal. Students are provided with feedback after each short activity session. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted assignments.

Assessment

Assessment Strategy

The Assessed Assignment asks the student to apply the concepts and principles as introduced in the module material to a hypothetical scenario. They are encouraged to prepare a 2500-word report integrating epidemiological concepts, critically evaluate a disease control programme and to provide recommendations to enhance and further improve (30%).

The Exam requires students to demonstrate the ability to apply specific disease control principles, epidemiological concepts and methods. The Exam also provides the student with the opportunity to demonstrate critical appraisal and to integrate different concepts into a critical discussion. It is a two-hour unseen written paper examination with 15 minutes additional reading/planning time (70%)

Assessment submission deadlines

Assessed Assignment submission deadline **31st March**

Exam takes place in **June**

Summative assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Assessed Assignment	2500 words	30	1, 2 and 4
Exam	2 hours 15 minutes	70	1, 2, 3 and 4

Assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, no later than **31st March** and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System.

Unseen written examinations for DL modules are held once a year, in **June** (including resits). Exams will be held in accordance with annual UoL guidance. They will be conducted in the same format for all students either online or in international exam centres. There are over 650 examination centres worldwide. They are 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](#).

The Resit assessment will be the same assessment type as the first attempt (see previous table).

Resources

Indicative reading list

- World Health Organisation, *TB/HIV, A Clinical Manual*. 2nd Ed. World Health Organisation. ISBN: 978-9241546348.
- Heymann, D.L., (2014) *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*. 20th Edition. American Public Health Association, ISBN: 978-0875530185.
- Giesecke J, (2017). *Modern Infectious Disease Epidemiology*. 3rd Ed. Hodder Arnold. ISBN: 9781444180022.
- Webber R, *Communicable Diseases: A Global Perspective*. (2019) 6th Ed., Cabi. ISBN: 978-1786395245

Textbooks will be made available in e-format or hard copy (when not available in e-format) to registered students in early autumn.

Other resources

Study Guide: Paper version

Reader: Online reading list via the Virtual Learning Environment.

In addition to the materials above, students are given access to the **LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment, (VLE; Moodle)** where they can access the study guide, reading list, web-based discussion forums, assignments, supplementary materials and the **LSHTM online library resources**.

Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle provides students with access to the module learning materials, including a study guide (with accessible printable versions of sessions) and online reading list (containing essential readings, and textbooks if available), and additional resources including supplementary exercises. All materials posted up on Moodle areas, including computer-based sessions, have been made accessible where possible. 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. All students have access to "[SensusAccess](#)" software which allows conversion of files into alternative formats.

If you have specific, access requirements please contact the Inclusive Practice Manager via special.arrangements@london.ac.uk to request an alternative format of the study guide and for special exam arrangements.