



MODULE SPECIFICATION

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| Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification) | 2022-23 |
| Module Code | 3146 |
| Module Title | Basic Parasitology |
| Module Organiser(s) | Claire Rogers |
| Faculty | Infectious & Tropical Diseases |
| FHEQ Level | Level 7 |
| Credit Value | CATS: 15 ECTS: 7.5 |
| HECoS Code | 100265:100345 (1:1) |
| Term of Delivery | Term 2 |
| Mode of Delivery | For 2022-23 this module will be delivered by predominantly face-to-face teaching modes. Where specific teaching methods (lectures, seminars, discussion groups) are noted in this module specification these will be delivered by predominantly face-to-face sessions. There will be a combination of live and interactive activities (synchronous learning) as well as recorded or self-directed study (asynchronous learning), plus face-to-face laboratory classes. |
| Mode of Study | Full-time |
| Language of Study | English |
| Pre-Requisites | There are no formal prerequisites for this module and in particular no prior knowledge of parasitology is expected. In practice, most students choosing this module have some prior clinical laboratory experience but while useful this is not essential. |
| Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body | None |
| Module Cap (Indicative number of students) | 15-20 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing) |
| Target Audience | This module is designed for those with little or no knowledge of parasitic diseases. |
| Module Description | This is a practical module that introduces parasitology to students providing an overview of the biology, epidemiology, clinical significance and diagnosis of major human parasites. |



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| | Emphasis is given to practical skills in microscopy and students learn to recognise the parasites in clinical samples. |
| Duration | 5 weeks at 2.5 days per week |
| Timetabling slot | Slot D1 |
| Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved) | June 2022 |

| Programme(s) | Status |
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| This module is linked to the following programme(s) | |
| MSc Medical Microbiology | Recommended Option |

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

| Overall aim of the module |
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| <p>The overall module aim is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide students with basic knowledge of the major human parasite diseases, concentrating on diagnosis. |

| Module Intended Learning Outcomes |
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| <p>Upon successful completion of the module a student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate knowledge of the appearances, life cycles and modes of transmission of the major human helminth and protozoan parasites ; Diagnose microscopically those parasitic diseases for which this technique is appropriate; Demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of the medical importance and epidemiology of parasitic diseases; Demonstrate more detailed knowledge and understanding of selected parasitic diseases. |

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content

The module is expected to cover the following topics:

- Life-cycles, modes of transmission and appearance of the causative agents of the major parasitic infections including:
 - Malaria
 - Leishmaniasis
 - Trypanosomiasis
 - Amoebiasis
 - Giardiasis
 - Coccidial and Opportunistic parasitic infections by, e.g. *Toxoplasma*, *Cryptosporidium*, *Pneumocystis* and Microsporidial species
 - Soil transmitted helminths
 - Schistosomiasis
 - Filariasis
- Practical skills of microscopical diagnosis of blood, faecal and tissue parasites
- Approaches to Parasite Diagnosis, concentrating on those appropriate in low income countries
- A brief introduction to Medical Entomology and to the organisation of a diagnostic laboratory
- In addition students will, in small groups, research a parasitological topic in depth, prepare a poster and discuss it with the Module Organiser

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

| Type of Learning Time | Number of Hours | Expressed as Percentage (%) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Contact time | 32 | 21.33 |
| Directed self-study | 60 | 40 |
| Self-directed learning | 44 | 29.33 |
| Assessment, review and revision | 14 | 9.33 |
| Total | 150 | 100 |

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.

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

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| Teaching and Learning Strategy |
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| Online Lectures, and on-campus laboratory practicals and small group work. |
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Assessment

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| Assessment Strategy |
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| <p>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.</p> |
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| <p>The practical assessment for this module will be on-campus at LSHTM. Other assessments may be online.</p> |
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| <p>The assessment will consist of two components:</p> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the group poster presentation (which will result in a group grade) weighted 40%. • A practical test weighted 60%. |
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| <p>The grades for each assessment will be combined to give an overall GPA.</p> |
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| <p>Resit/deferred/new attempts - The tasks will be an essay covering the same points as the poster (but in less depth) and a practical exam in the same format as the original.</p> |
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Summative Assessment

| Assessment Type | Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes) | Weighting (%) | Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested |
|--------------------|--|---------------|--|
| Group Presentation | Poster presentation | 40 | 4 |
| Practical | Spots test – 1 hour | 60 | 1-3 |

Resitting assessment

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

For individual students resitting a group assessment there will be an approved alternative assessment as detailed below.

| Assessment being replaced | Approved Alternative Assessment Type | Approved Alternative Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes) |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Group Presentation | Coursework | The tasks will be an essay covering the same points as the poster (but in less depth) <i>The practical exam will be the same format as the original</i> |

Resources

n/a



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](#).