



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2024-25
Module Code	IDM501
Module Title	HIV
Module Organiser(s)	Victoria Johnston & Daniel McCartney
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	100265:101317 (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 and immunology 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	This module is intended for those who wish to understand HIV, the disease, and aspects of its prevention, treatment and control.

Module Description	The main aims of the module are to give you a broad understanding of the HIV epidemic, and to equip you to analyse the appropriateness of alternative therapeutic and preventive intervention strategies in different settings.
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 assessments (although assessment submission deadlines which are earlier than this must be observed).
Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	February 2024

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 aim is to:

- To give students a systematic understanding of the HIV epidemic, the challenges faced
- in ending the epidemic and the skill set to design prevention and treatment
- programmes tailored to the needs of the local population

Module Intended Learning Outcomes

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

By the end of this module students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key concepts related to the epidemiology, infection dynamics, and natural history of HIV;
2. Describe and critically appraise the different components of HIV services and how HIV programmes are designed and implemented to meet the needs of all people living with HIV;
3. Critically evaluate how political, social, economic and ethical contexts impact the HIV response; and
4. Integrate the aforementioned knowledge and skills to develop context-specific HIV prevention, testing and treatment programmes.

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content

The module has five themes:

1. Epidemiology of HIV and context

This theme focuses on understanding the global epidemiology of the HIV epidemic and the role of key populations, demographics and the broader social and political context in shaping regional epidemiology. Students will critically appraise the global response to HIV, including the contextual factors which have influenced our response to date; and learn about future strategies.

2. HIV testing and linkage to care

This theme focuses on all aspects of HIV testing, from basic science aspects of HIV testing through to laboratory tests, public health testing strategies and linkage to care; including barriers and facilitators to access and linkage to care.

3. Clinical aspects of HIV and treatment programmes

In this theme, students will learn how HIV and the host interact to produce disease, and how an understanding of basic science informs treatments and hopefully one day, cure. Students will learn about the wide spectrum of clinical disease seen in HIV, including common co-morbidities, and the clinical and programmatic aspects of delivering, monitoring and evaluating an antiretroviral treatment programme.

Session Content

4. Prevention of HIV and prevention programmes

This theme focuses on understanding the routes of transmission, the role key populations play in the epidemic and the evidence base for behavioural, biomedical and structural prevention strategies. Students will look at programming for priority populations, monitoring and evaluation of the prevention cascade and the challenges faced in developing a vaccine.

5. Programming

In this final theme students will look at the funding of programmes and global health initiatives, ways in which HIV programmes can be integrated with other health programmes (e.g. TB, sexual and reproductive health and non-communicable disease programmes) in order to ensure their sustainability, and the role of civil society and activism in shaping our response to the HIV epidemic.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Directed self-study	125	83
Self-directed learning	10	7
Assessment, review and revision	15	10
Total	150	100

Teaching and Learning Strategy

Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the module-specific discussion forums available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of the LSHTM online library resources. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted assignments.

Assessment

Assessment Strategy

Formal assessment of this module is an assessed assignment (100%). The assessed assignment comprises a 2500 word report.

Assessment submission deadlines

Assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, no later than **12th May** and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System

Summative assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Assessed Assignment	2500 words	30	1-4

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). (Note that for those resitting module assessments, a fee will be payable.)

- Prior to September 2023, students were required to sit an unseen written examination now termed a **Time-Limited Assessment (TLA)** (70% of module marks) and submit an assessed assignment (AA) (30% of module marks). Students who have been registered to this module prior to 1 September 2023 and have not submitted any element of the IDM501 assessment must move to the new mode of assessment.
- If a student registered for module IDM501 prior to 1 September 2023 and is required to sit the exam or needs to or wishes to resit the exam (TLA) the last opportunity to take the exam (TLA) will be **June 2025** after which all students requiring the exam will be transferred to the new mode of assessment and will be required to submit a new assessed assignment.
- If a student registered for module IDM501 prior to 1 September 2023 and either wishes or must resit the AA component, they must submit a resit AA. The last opportunity to take the resit AA will be **May 2025** after which all students requiring a resit will be transferred to the new mode of assessment and will be required to submit a new assessed assignment.
- If a student registered for module IDM501 prior to 1 September 2023 has obtained a pass in the exam prior to 1 September 2023 and have not submitted the AA they will still need to submit the AA.
- If a student has obtained a grade of between 1-1.99 for the AA it may be possible to compensate for this grade (note only one module grade of between 1.0-1.99 can be compensated for)

Resources

Indicative reading list

- Goering, R.V., Dockrell, H.M., Zuckerman, M. and Chiodini, P.L., (2024) *Mims' Medical Microbiology and Immunology*. 7th Ed. ISBN: 9780702071546.

Textbooks will be made available in e-format or hard copy to registered students in early autumn.

Other resources

Study Guide: Available online, and to download, via the virtual learning environment

Reader: Online reading list available 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, suggested relevant websites, audio and video recordings, activities 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), an online reading list (containing essential readings), textbooks in e-format 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.