

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2024-25
Module Code	PHM106
Module Title	Environment, Health and Sustainable Development
Module Organiser(s)	Emma Hutchinson
Contact email	<p>The LSHTM distance learning programmes and modules are run in collaboration with the University of London. Enquiries may be made via the: Student Advice Centre.</p> <p>(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).</p>
Faculty	<p>Public Health & Policy: The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine</p> <p>Faculty of Public Health and Policy Faculties and MRC units LSHTM</p>
FHEQ Level	Level 7
Credit Value	CATS: 10 ECTS: 5
HECoS Code	101317
Mode of Delivery	Distance Learning
Mode of Study	Directed self-study, through online materials (Virtual Learning Environment)
Language of Study	English
Pre-Requisites	None
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	None
Module Cap (Maximum number of students)	None
Target Audience	<p>This module is available to students registered for the DL PG Certificate/PG Diploma/MSc in Public Health programmes. This module is compulsory for those choosing to study the Environment and Health stream of the MSc Public Health.</p>

	It forms a suitable introduction to the modules: Environmental Health Policy (PHM206) and Environmental Epidemiology (PHM205). Alternatively, it can also be taken as an individual module.
Module Description	This module provides students with an introduction to the basic concepts of how health, environment and sustainable development are related, and helps students understand environmental issues in public health policy and practice. Environmental health is the branch of public health concerned with assessing and understanding the impact of the environment on people and their health, the impact of human actions on the environment, the effect of this impact, and the public health and policy actions necessary to address these.
Duration	Studies for distance learning modules begin in early October. At this time, module materials will be made available on Moodle once fees have been paid. Students may start their studies at any time from the beginning of October and work through the material until the start of the June assessments. However, students are encouraged to commence their studies in October and work steadily through the materials over the course of the academic year and must adhere to other assessment submission deadlines.
Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	April 2024

Programme(s)	Status
This module is linked to the following programme(s)	
MSc Public Health: Environment and Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Compulsory
MSc Public Health (General stream) (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective
MSc Public Health: Health Promotion (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective
MSc Public Health: Health Services Management (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective
MSc Public Health: Health Economics (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective
PGCert and PGDip Public Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

Overall aim of the module

This module aims to

- improve students' ability to critically assess fundamental interactions between the environment, sustainable development and public health.

Module Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Explain and demonstrate the links between health, environment and sustainable development;
2. Explain equity and sustainability as central principles in environmental health risk management;
3. Identify and explain the changing pressures on the environment and health over time;
4. Explain the range of environmental hazards that damage health and their interactions, including: chemical hazards, water and sanitation, inadequate housing, air pollution, transport, waste, and disasters;
5. Evaluate how environmental issues are addressed in current public health practice, and to identify and explain mechanisms for policy action.

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content

The module is expected to cover the following topics:

- Assessing and understanding the impact of the environment on people and their health, and the impact of human actions on the environment, and the effect of this impact;
- An introduction to the concepts of environment, health and sustainable development;
- An introduction to the frameworks used to assess how environment, health and sustainable development relate to each other;
- An exploration of the environmental hazards that affect health (chemicals, water and sanitation, air pollution, transport, waste, the built environment, disasters, climate change, and the natural environment);
- An introduction to policy actions to address environmental hazards that affect health.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Directed self-study	70	70
Self-directed learning	0	0

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Assessment, review and revision	30	30
Total	100	100

Teaching and Learning Strategy

Learning is via directed self-study against a detailed set of learning objectives identified at the start of each chapter of the module textbook.

A guide to studying the module is provided, together with access to a range of study resources, discussion forums, and online webinar discussion sessions. The textbook that supports this module provides a detailed set of learning objectives at the start of each chapter, and also offers focused reading and various learning activities. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the module-specific discussions and online webinar discussion sessions to obtain tutor support, and to make use of the LSHTM on-line library resources. Written feedback is provided on submitted assignments.

Students are directed to use the various online electronic resources and to read and work through activities in specific sections of the module book, *Environment, Health and Sustainable Development* (second edition 2016).

Student support is available from the module tutors through the web-based discussion forums and occasionally scheduled 1-hour 'live-chat' sessions on specific topics, including exam revision. Module tutors provide asynchronous feedback for all students on the web-based discussion forum and offer detailed individual written feedback on a formative (non-assessed) assignment submitted by the student.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the module-specific discussions and real-time sessions available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of LSHTM online library resources.

Assessment

Assessment Strategy

A formative assessment (FA) is offered to encourage students to test their new knowledge and receive individual feedback. The formative assessment is optional and will not count towards a student's final grade, although completion is strongly encouraged in order to identify areas of secure understanding and those where potential input is required. The FA deadline is 31 March.

The summative assessment of this module is by a time-limited assessment (100%).

Summative assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Time-limited assessment	TBC	100	All

Time-limited assessments for DL modules are held once a year, usually in June (including resits).

Assessments are held in accordance with University of London's annual guidance but in 2024-25 they are likely to be held online.

Please note that a separate assessment fee may be payable in addition to the module fee. Further details will be communicated as soon as the final decisions are known.

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

The following materials are provided to students after registration and fee payment for this module in October:

- A brief guide to studying the module;
- The main textbook *Environment, Health and Sustainable Development* (2016, 2nd Ed). Edited by Emma Hutchinson and Sari Kovats;
- A reading list including details of both required and optional (recommended) reading and links to selected papers;
- A list of useful websites;
- Access to the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) - Moodle, where students can access a range of materials including all those listed above, participate in module-specific discussion forums and occasional live lecture and revision sessions, and access the LSHTM online library resources.

All materials are provided in e-format and may be accessed via the LSHTM VLE – Moodle.

Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle provides students with access to the majority of the module learning materials, including a study guide and online reading list (detailing both essential and recommended readings), and additional resources including optional lecture recordings. In some cases, module materials include a textbook that is made available to students in e-format. 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.

For students with special needs, reasonable adjustments and support can be arranged – details and how to request support can be found on the University of London Worldwide website at: [Inclusive practice and Access arrangements | University of London](#)