

# Programme Specification

## MSc Immunology of Infectious Diseases

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



For prospectus details about the programme, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/msiid.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/msiid.html)

### AWARD DETAILS

#### Title and name of final award(s)

Master of Science (MSc) Immunology of Infectious Diseases

Certificates awarded for the degree will state the following:

{Name}, having completed the approved course of study and passed the examinations has this day been admitted by *The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine* to the University of London Degree of MSc Immunology of Infectious Diseases.

#### Level of the programme

All modules and awards offered under the programme are at Level 7 (also known as 'M' Masters level) of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales & Northern Ireland (FHEQ).

For further information, please see

[www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/FHEQ08.pdf](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/FHEQ08.pdf)

#### Relevant QAA subject benchmark

Not applicable

For more information on subject benchmarking, please see

[www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/subject-guidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statements.aspx](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/subject-guidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statements.aspx)

#### Awarding body:

University of London

- **Registering body:** The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)
- **Examination body:** The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

For more information on LSHTM and the University of London, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk) and [www.lon.ac.uk](http://www.lon.ac.uk)

#### Accreditation by professional or statutory body (if applicable)

Not accredited by any other body

#### Language of study and assessment

English

Please see 'English language requirements' further below regarding the standard required for entry.

### ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

#### General entrance requirements

Applicants must normally satisfy LSHTM's general entrance requirements and additional programme-specific entrance requirements to be considered for admission. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the procedures and deadlines given in the web-based or printed prospectus.

- The normal **minimum** entrance qualification for registration is **at least** a second-class Honours degree of a UK university, or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard, or a registerable qualification in medicine, dentistry or veterinary studies appropriate to the programme. Applications with an appropriate technical qualification, or equivalent qualification and experience from overseas, are also welcomed.
- 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 [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/howto/applforstudy.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/howto/applforstudy.html)

### English language requirements

It is essential to have an excellent command of the English language to benefit from studying for the programme. All students will be required to obtain an acceptable score in an approved English language test if their first language is not English or if their studies at university have not been conducted wholly in the medium of English. Any English language tests must have been taken no more than two years before the date a student commences the programme. LSHTM may also request that an applicant take a test even if the above conditions have been met.

Acceptable tests and scores are as follows:

<u>Test</u>	<u>Minimum overall score</u>	<u>Minimum in written component</u>
IELTS General/Academic *	7.0	7.0
Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic)	68	68
TOEFL Computer	250	5.0
TOEFL Internet	100	24
TOEFL Written	600	5.0

\* Regarding IELTS: in addition to a minimum 7.0 in the written component of the test, students **must** achieve a minimum score of 5.5 in each of the other three components (listening, reading and speaking).

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/english.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/english.html)

### Financial requirements

All students are required to have sufficient funds to cover programme tuition fees, living expenses and any travel and project costs for the duration of their studies. Tuition fees are payable in full on registration. The School is not able to provide financial assistance to any student whose funds prove to be inadequate at any stage during the programme. Students offered admission will be required to sign a financial declaration form confirming that they understand this situation and will have sufficient financial support for the duration of their studies. Evidence of available funds may be required.

For up-to-date information on fees and costs, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus) and click on 'Tuition fees'.

### Students with disabilities (including dyslexia and mental health issues)

LSHTM welcomes applications from students with disabilities – which may include sensory impairment (visual/hearing), mobility or dexterity impairment, chronic medical conditions (e.g. diabetes, HIV, epilepsy, asthma) or chronic pain/fatigue, mental health difficulties, specific learning difficulties (e.g. dyslexia or dyspraxia), Aspergers Syndrome and other autism spectrum disorders, or any other condition which has a long-term and adverse effect on studying.

The School aims to offer as much appropriate assistance as possible to accommodate individual needs, and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that both the application procedure and the programme itself are organised and delivered to offer all students the opportunity to participate fully.

Applicants are encouraged to disclose any specific disability at the time of application (via the 'Equal

Opportunities' and 'Investigating Access' forms), and let the Registry know if anything further can be done to make the application and selection process as accessible as possible. This helps the School to ensure that applicants' specialist needs can be understood, and any obstacles minimised, throughout the application and admission process.

Once registered, the School can provide specific support to students with disabilities throughout their studies. Students are encouraged to disclose any disability from as early as possible; the Student Adviser can answer queries and provide confidential advice at any point. Any special arrangements, for example regarding examinations, may be made via the Student Adviser.

Please see further information at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/disability](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/disability). Applicants should e-mail [registry@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:registry@lshtm.ac.uk) with any specific queries. Registered students should contact [disability@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:disability@lshtm.ac.uk)

### **Intake quota**

There is no specific intake quota for the programme, but numbers admitted each year are limited. Applications for places are reviewed and any offer letters are issued in the order in which they arrive. Prospective students are therefore encouraged to apply as early as possible, as admittance to the programme may close up to several months ahead of the start of each new academic year. Applicants wishing to be considered for School scholarships are advised to apply by no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of March for studies starting in September.

For information about sources of funding and scholarships, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/funding](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/funding)

## **PROGRAMME AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Educational aims of the programme**

The aim of the programme – consistent with LSHTM's mission to improve health worldwide – is to provide advanced theoretical knowledge and practical training in the immunology of infectious diseases through a comprehensive range of teaching and research methods. It equips students with the range of specialised knowledge and skills in applying scientific concepts, evaluating scientific data and carrying out modern immunological techniques.

By the end of the programme, students will be able to:

- (i) demonstrate specialist knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of host immunity to infection against the diverse range of pathogens which confront human populations;
- (ii) apply this specialist knowledge to a range of practical skills and techniques, in particular modern molecular and cellular techniques for assessing immune responses to pathogens;
- (iii) critically assess, select and apply appropriate research methods to investigate basic immunological mechanisms and applied issues in the immunology of infection;
- (iv) critically evaluate primary scientific data and the published scientific literature; and
- (v) integrate and present key immunological concepts at an advanced level, both verbally and in written form.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/msiid.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/msiid.html)

### **Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including: lectures, small group seminars, practicals, and groupwork with peers. All elements of the programme 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.

The programme is assessed through individual module assessments (which may include essays, other written coursework, short written exams, groupwork, presentations or other methods), formal summer exams, and a project report. Such tasks are designed to assess, via the most appropriate method, whether learning objectives have been met.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/qualitymanagement.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/qualitymanagement.html)

### Learning outcomes

By the end of the programme, students will be expected to achieve the following learning outcomes – drawing on material taught across different elements and assessed in a variety of ways.

<b><u>Learning outcome</u></b>	<b><u>Programme element</u></b>	<b><u>Assessment methods</u></b>	<b><u>Other points to note</u></b>
(i) demonstration of knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of host immunity to the diverse range of pathogens	Core Immunology of Infectious Diseases (3120) Advanced Immunology (3134)	No official assessment during course but 2 three hour written exams in June (short answer, essay and problem questions)	
(ii) Ability to understand, critically evaluate scientific data and current literature relating to immunology of infectious diseases	Advanced Immunology (3134) Extended Project Theory (3000)	Problem questions on data and interpretation and review essay Essay on research techniques	
(iii) demonstration of areas of specialist knowledge relating to the principles of host resistance to infectious diseases	Core Immunology of Infectious Diseases (3120) BSI Conference visit Immunology of Parasitic Infection; Principles (3177) and other modules	Written exams in June Written short answer test	
(iv) demonstration of understanding and principles behind the modern cellular and molecular techniques available to the immunologist studying the immune resistance to infection	Core Immunology of Infectious Diseases (3120) Advanced Immunology (3134) BSI conference visit Immunology of Parasitic Infection; Practice (3190) Advanced Training in Molecular Biology (3158) Extended Project Theory (3000)	Written exams; problem questions on data and interpretation and grant application  Experimental write up  Essay on research techniques	
(v) ability to assess, select and apply appropriate techniques appropriate to investigation of immunological mechanisms or applied issues in the immunology of infection	Advanced Immunology (3134) BSI conference visit Extended Project Theory (3000)	Problem questions and grant proposal  Essay on research techniques	
(vi) ability to understand how the immune system functions in the context of pathogenesis of disease	Molecular Cell Biology of Infection (3260) Clinical Immunology (3167) Advanced Training in Molecular Biology (3158) Clinical Infectious Diseases 3 and 4 (3138, 3139) Mycology (3130)	Problem questions  Multiple choice/case presentation Experimental write up in style of a paper Essay or poster presentations Essay and practical assessment	

For further information, please see the programme handbook.

## Distinctive features of the programme

The mission of the School is to contribute to the improvement of health worldwide through the pursuit of excellence in research, postgraduate teaching, advanced training and consultancy in international public health and tropical medicine. The School has been active at the highest level in this for many years and has one of the largest groups of epidemiologists in the world.

This is facilitated by the unique mix of interests in immunology, molecular biology, virology, bacteriology, parasitology, mycology and clinical medicine at the School. Infectious diseases represent an increasingly important cause of human morbidity and mortality throughout the world. Vaccine development is thus of great importance. In parallel with this growth, there has been a dramatic increase in studies to identify the innate, humoral or cellular immunological mechanisms which confer immunity to pathogenic viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites. As a result, increasing numbers of scientists, clinicians and veterinarians wish to develop their knowledge and skills in these areas.

The flexible nature of the course allows students to focus on attaining a broader understanding of infectious disease through attending taught units. Students can also undertake an extended research project within groups led by experienced team leaders. Such projects can involve basic investigations of immune mechanisms or applied field based studies.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/msiid.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/msiid.html)

## LEARNING TIME

### Modes of study and duration of study

The main part of the programme is taught 'face-to-face' at LSHTM in London.

After the end of formal teaching in May, the final part of the programme is a period of up to three months intensive project work. If appropriate, part or the whole of the project period may be spent away from the School, whether in the UK or abroad.

The programme may be taken on a full-time or split-study basis, as follows:

<u>Mode</u>	<u>Standard period of registration</u>	<u>Maximum period of registration</u>
<b>Full-time</b> ( <i>involves attending the School five days each week during term-time</i> )	49 weeks	2 academic years
<b>Split study*</b> ( <i>involves attending the School five days each week during term-time, with a one-year gap part-way through the programme</i> )	1 year 49 weeks	3 academic years

The standard period of registration is also the minimum. Any exemptions from this must be agreed on an individual basis.

\* Students taking the programme by split study over two years attend full-time for *part* of Year 1, then take a one-year break, and undertake the *remainder* of the programme in Year 2. The split can occur at any module or slot end-point between the end of Term 1 and the end of formal teaching in May, by prior arrangement with the Course Director. With split study, Paper 1 of the formal exams will normally be taken at the end of Year 2, but may be taken at the end of Year 1 **after discussion and agreement with the relevant Course Director**. Paper 2 must normally be taken at the end of Year 2, and the project report must normally be undertaken in Year 2.

Mode of study information is also given at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/mode\\_study.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/mode_study.html)

### Estimated number of study hours

The programme comprises a total of 1,800 notional learning hours (180 UK credits at Masters level), based on a mix of contact teaching time, directed study, and self-directed study time plus assessment.

- It is generally expected that full-time students will spend on average 35-40 hours a week on study,

including face-to-face sessions and private study. During term-time, each week will typically include 30 hours of contact time within the School and 10 hours of self-directed study.

- Split study is expected to require the same amount of study time as full-time study during periods of active registration at the School, but there is no required time commitment during the one-year break.

For further guidance on study patterns, please see the programme handbook.

## CREDIT AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

### Credit scheme

The programme operates a credit system which is consistent with the Higher Education Credit Framework for England, and compatible with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). LSHTM credits are awarded for successful completion of modules and the project – all of which are at Level 7, Masters level, of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England (FHEQ).

Award of the MSc degree is based on successfully obtaining 180 credits in total, equivalent to 90 ECTS credits. It is normally required that all credits be obtained from approved LSHTM modules.

Further information about the credit systems used by universities in the UK and Europe is available in:

- The Higher Education Credit Framework for England, [www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/creditframework.pdf](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/creditframework.pdf)
- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, [www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/FHEQ08.pdf](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/FHEQ08.pdf)
- The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, [http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc48\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc48_en.htm)

### Assessment

Assessment at LSHTM uses a Grade Point Average (GPA) scheme, running from 5 (excellent) to 0 (very poor fail) and with a pass threshold of 2 (satisfactory).

For students who have obtained sufficient credit and are hence due an award, degree classifications of Pass or Distinction are determined by combining grades from modules, exams and the project to calculate a degree GPA.

Details of how degree GPA is calculated, and the GPA required to obtain a Distinction, are given in the detailed award scheme for the programme at [intra.lshtm.ac.uk/registry/regulations/taught\\_regulations/](http://intra.lshtm.ac.uk/registry/regulations/taught_regulations/)

### Programme components and requirements

The programme is split into 3 major assessed components:

<i>When</i>	<b><u>Term 1 (Oct-Dec) plus summer exams</u></b>	<b><u>Terms 2 &amp; 3 (Jan-May)</u></b>	<b><u>Term 3 (June-Sept)</u></b>
<i>What</i>	A range of taught modules of different sizes	5 individual taught modules	Research project
<i>Credits</i>	60 credits (awarded as a block)	75 credits (15 credits per module)	45 credits (a single piece of work)
<i>Assessment</i>	Unseen written exams in the summer (Papers 1 & 2)	In-course assessment for each module	Project report (max.10,000 words; or 12,000 words for an extended project report)
<i>Grades to be awarded credits</i>	Marks required: Papers combined = $\geq 2$ , with Paper 1 = $\geq 1$ and Paper 2 = $\geq 1$	A minimum mark of 2 is required for each module; one module with a mark of 1 to 1.99 can be compensated	A minimum mark of 2 is required.

provided the combined GPA for the 5 modules is  $\geq 2$

Further general information about MSc programme structures is given at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/masters.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/masters/masters.html)

## CALENDAR AND CURRICULUM

### Study calendar

The academic year is broken up into three terms. Students are also expected to continue their studies (through reading, revision etc.) during the breaks between terms.

**Term 1** (Autumn) runs from September to December (12 weeks total).

- There is a compulsory orientation and induction week for new students at the very beginning of the term.
- Formal module teaching then runs for 5 weeks, followed by a Reading Week in early November (which may include some specific programme-level sessions), then a further 5 weeks of module teaching.
- If the British Society of Immunology Congress occurs at an appropriate time each year then there is a compulsory 3 day residential field trip to this Congress (usually towards the end of Term 1).

**Term 2** (Spring) runs from January to March (11 weeks total).

- In the first 5 weeks, two modules are taken; one in the 'C1' slot running from Monday through to Wednesday morning, and one in the 'C2' slot running from Wednesday afternoon through to Friday. These are the compulsory Advanced Immunology modules.
- This is followed by a Reading Week in early February, which may include programme-level sessions.
- In the next 5 weeks, two more modules are taken; in the 'D1' slot running from Monday through to Wednesday morning, and in the 'D2' slot running from Wednesday afternoon through to Friday.

**Term 3** (Summer) runs from April to September (5 weeks teaching, 2 weeks run-up to examinations, plus approximately 11 further weeks intensive project work).

- In the first 5 weeks, a final module is taken in the 'E1' slot running from Monday through to Wednesday morning; the rest of each week is set aside for revision, programme-level sessions and project work.
- After teaching finishes, there is a short gap for final revision ahead of exams in late May or early June.
- After the exams, project work should take place in earnest over the period from June to August, with a project report hand-in date at approximately the beginning of September.

Specific term dates are available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/aboutus/termdates](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/aboutus/termdates) ; more detailed guidance and deadlines are given in the programme handbook.

### Modules

Modules are taken over all three terms. Those available through the programme are categorised as either compulsory (core modules), recommended (obvious choices highly relevant to the programme) or optional (alternative modules which may be more relevant to individual students' interests).

<i>Term</i>	<i>Compulsory modules</i>	<i>Recommended modules</i>	<i>Optional modules</i>
<b>Term 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis &amp; Design of Research Studies</li> <li>• Immunology of Infectious</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Molecular Biology</li> </ul>

	Diseases		
<b>Term 2, C1 slot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Immunology 1</li> </ul>		
<b>Term 2, C2 slot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Immunology 2</li> </ul>		
<b>Term 2, D1 slot</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended Project</li> <li>Advanced Training in Molecular Biology</li> <li>Clinical Immunology</li> <li>Molecular Cell Biology &amp; Infection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical Infectious Diseases 3: Bacterial &amp; Viral Diseases &amp; Community Health in Developing Countries</li> </ul>
<b>Term 2, D2 slot</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended Project</li> <li>Immunology of Parasitic Infection: Principles</li> <li>Molecular Biology Research Progress &amp; Applications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical Infectious Diseases 4: Parasitic Diseases &amp; Clinical Medicine</li> <li>Ethics, Public Health &amp; Human Rights</li> <li>Genetic Epidemiology</li> </ul>
<b>Term 3, E-slot</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended Project</li> <li>AIDS</li> <li>Antimicrobial Chemotherapy</li> <li>Immunology of Parasitic Infection: Practice</li> <li>Mycology</li> </ul>	

In addition:

- Training sessions covering areas like introduction to computing, basic maths skills, English for academic purposes, using library resources, study skills and more are offered during the programme of the year (most being available from early in Term 1).
- Students are encouraged to attend the Global Health Lecture Series which runs weekly during term-time in Terms 1 and 2.

Further details about modules are given in the programme handbook and in the LSHTM-wide module handbook available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/msc\\_module\\_handbook](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/msc_module_handbook)

### Formal summer examinations

The formal examinations held in Term 3 consist of two unseen written examinations, known as Papers 1 and 2. Each exam lasts three hours. Paper 1 primarily examines specific content from Term 1 teaching, while Paper 2 tests the ability to integrate knowledge acquired from across the whole of the programme.

Further details about summer exams are given in the programme handbook.

### Project report

As the last major component of the programme, students undertake a research project on a relevant topic – assessed through a written-up report. The project should be an independent piece of work, appropriately guided and supported by a supervisor and other relevant staff. The topic should be selected and a project proposal drawn up by the end of Term 2 (earlier for extended projects), for approval by the supervisor or personal tutor. Substantive work, including any travel or fieldwork, should start after the exams in the summer. Some of these projects may take place with collaborating scientists overseas or in other colleges or institutes in the UK. The final report, to be submitted at the beginning of September, should be between 7,000 and 10,000 words long, or 12,000 words for extended projects.

Criteria and further details about projects are given in the project handbook for the programme.

## STUDENT SUPPORT, GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES

### Student charter

LSHTM has a student charter which summarises the standards of service the School expects and aspires to offer students, as well as the standards of conduct which students should expect and aspire to follow in turn. Students and prospective students are encouraged to read this.

The LSHTM student charter is available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/student\\_charter.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/student_charter.pdf) A general summary of support and services offered to students is given at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/servsupp.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/servsupp.html)

### The student community

All students on the programme are members of the LSHTM Student Representative Council (SRC). The SRC provides a focus for student opinion and identity across LSHTM, through representation on committees and by acting as a link between staff and students. In addition, the SRC organises LSHTM-wide social and sporting events. Students are also able to use the facilities of the University of London Union (ULU).

Students on the programme elect representatives to liaise with staff and help communicate student views, as well as to help arrange social activities.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/src](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/src) and [www.ulucol.ac.uk](http://www.ulucol.ac.uk)

### Personal tutors

Students on the programme are allocated a personal tutor who can provide both academic guidance and more general support or pastoral care. The personal tutor relationship is not about direct teaching – although tutors can recommend or arrange for their tutee to see other specific members of staff regarding specific academic matters. Personal tutors mainly act as a point of contact to discuss practical issues or questions regarding the programme, such as module choices or project selection, or as a first-line sympathetic ear for personal problems.

Further details about personal tutoring arrangements are given in the programme handbook.

### Student advice and counselling

The Student Advice & Counselling Service offers advice and support for any practical or emotional issues students may experience during their time at LSHTM. The Student Adviser can offer impartial advice on a range of issues including accommodation, financial concerns and immigration. The Counsellor is available to talk to any student who is experiencing anxiety or stress, study-related or otherwise.

All appointments with the Student Adviser or Counsellor are strictly confidential, and no information volunteered by a student will be passed on to anyone else without permission.

For further information, please see <http://intra.lshtm.ac.uk/studentadvice>

### Healthcare

LSHTM students can register with the Health Centre at 20 Gower Street (next to the main building), which offers an NHS GP (general practitioner) medical service and also a counselling service. Students who are not registered as patients can also access the services of the Health Centre during normal working hours.

For further information, please see [www.gowerstreetpractice.org.uk](http://www.gowerstreetpractice.org.uk)

### Learning resources and facilities

Students on the programme have access to comprehensive library and IT (computing) resources and facilities, as well as many other standard facilities such as the Refectory, common rooms, etc.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/library](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/library) (Library) and [www.lshtm.ac.uk/its](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/its) (IT Services)

### **English language support**

While all students are required to demonstrate English language proficiency in line with the School's minimum requirements in order to be accepted on the programme, LSHTM provides free 'English for Academic Purposes' classes aimed at students whose first language is not English and who would like further support in adjusting to the demanding standards of postgraduate university study in Britain.

For further information, please see [intra.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/taughtcourses/studentresources/english.html](http://intra.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/taughtcourses/studentresources/english.html)

### **Further learning support**

In addition to programme-level activities and academic support from personal tutors and teaching staff, LSHTM offers specific training sessions in areas such as basic maths skills and introductory-level computing. A series of study skills workshops are held throughout the year on topics such as effective reading and coping with exams. Students with disabilities such as dyslexia should contact the Student Adviser for appropriate guidance and support.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/studyskills.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/studyskills.html) . Please also see earlier sub-section on 'Students with disabilities' regarding disability support.

### **Careers advice and resources**

The School's Careers Service can provide confidential advice and guidance appropriate to the diverse needs of students at the School, from those with established careers who wish to change direction to those who have come from their first degree and are looking to establish a career. Advisers can assist on an individual basis (including help with career planning, CV writing and interview technique), in small groups, or through School-wide events (arranging regular careers fairs and forums, talks by speakers from relevant organisations, and workshops on essential career skills).

The on-site Careers Centre offers a central reference point for job vacancies, careers information and literature and employer information. The LSHTM Careers Service is also part of the Specialist Institutions' Careers Service (SICS) of the University of London Careers Group, and students can access their even more extensive resources.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers) and [www.careers.lon.ac.uk](http://www.careers.lon.ac.uk)

## **PROGRAMME QUALITY**

### **Quality evaluation and enhancement**

The programme is subject to LSHTM's rigorous quality assurance processes, including both standard annual monitoring and an extensive special review every five years.

As students reach the end of the programme, they are asked to give specific feedback both via class discussion sessions and an end-of-programme survey. Feedback on other topics, including the content of specific modules as well as more general issues like Library facilities, will also be sought at intervals throughout the period of study. Such feedback is anonymised, analysed, discussed and followed up by appropriate committees and functions within the School.

Operation of the programme itself is overseen by a dedicated committee. A range of further LSHTM committees and functions are responsible for identifying and resolving any problems, improving programme quality and enhancing the student experience on an ongoing basis.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance)

## **AFTER GRADUATION**

### **Possible routes to further study**

Successful completion of the programme may serve as excellent preparation for students who wish to go on to take a higher degree, such as a PhD, DrPH or MPhil – whether to be undertaken at LSHTM or elsewhere.

For further information on research degrees at LSHTM, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/research](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/research)

### **Possible graduate employment routes**

The programme is suitable for those wishing to go into research positions in academia and industry and for clinicians wishing to specialise in infectious disease and immunology.

It may be noted that LSHTM has links with the World Health Organisation (WHO Collaborating Centre), UK Department of Health, UK National Health Service and NHS Graduate Scheme, UN High Commission on Refugees, International Committee of the Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières, Oxfam, GOAL, Merlin, International SOS, Save the Children, Malaria Consortium, Action Against Hunger, International Medical Corps, DOCS International, Emergency, Medair, Médecins Du Monde, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Clinton Foundation HIV/Aids Initiative, the UK Health Protection Agency, UK National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence, UK Office for National Statistics, Public Health Resource Unit, UK Civil Service Fast Stream, and amongst many other organisations.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers/resources/graduate\\_destinations.doc](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers/resources/graduate_destinations.doc)

### **The Alumni Association**

Membership of the LSHTM Alumni Association is free and open to all former students of LSHTM. This is a diverse community of over 15,000 alumni in more than 180 countries, including local chapters, and with regular events, communications and opportunities to meet fellow alumni in many different parts of the world. The Association aims to provide past students with lifelong links to the School and each other, and is keen to foster a vibrant and active alumni community. All alumni are encouraged to register their details and participate further.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/alumni) or email [alumni@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@lshtm.ac.uk)

## **ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT**

**This programme specification applies for the academic year 2011-2012**

**Last revised 23/07/2011 by Gregory Bancroft.**

This Programme Specification has been developed in line with the nationally agreed reference points for assuring the quality and standards of higher education in the United Kingdom, known as the Academic Infrastructure. For further information, please see [www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/Pages/default.aspx)