

Module Specification (Distance Learning)

In collaboration with University of London International Programmes



1. Title:	Principles of Public Health, Biostatistics and Epidemiology
2. Module code:	IDM101
3. Institution:	Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine Keppel Street London WC1E 7HT http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/itd/
4. Module Organiser:	Dr Spencer Polley
5. Mode of study:	Distance Learning
6. Type:	Core module
7. Duration and dates:	<p>Deadlines if taken as part of a formal award:</p> <p>Application deadline: 30 June each year</p> <p>Registration deadline: 31 August each year</p> <p>Course registration duration: Up to 5 years</p> <p>Course starts: 1 October each year</p> <p>Examination takes place: Usually June each year (date to be confirmed)</p> <p>Deadlines if taken as an individual module (i.e. not registered for formal award):</p> <p>Application deadline: 31 August each year</p> <p>Registration deadline: 30 November each year</p> <p>Registration duration: 2 years</p> <p>Module study starts: 1 October each year</p> <p>Examination takes place: Usually June each year (date to be confirmed)</p>
8. Credit points:	15 credit points will be awarded on successful completion of this module at Masters level (Level 7).
9. Notional Learning Hours (NLH):	On average the module should take about 150 hours to complete, consisting of the following: Directed self study: 100 hours Self-directed Learning: 15 hours Assessment, review and revision: 35 hours.
10. Aim:	This module will provide students with a solid introduction to epidemiology, statistics and public health upon which further Infectious Diseases modules will build.
11. Learning objectives:	On completing this module, students will have an enhanced appreciation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ways in which to look at health and health problems • the role of different professions in the field of infectious diseases.
12. Content:	<p>This module consists of four sections:</p> <p>Section 1: An Introduction to Public Health - is divided into four blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Block 1 asks students to undertake a survey of their local environment 'through public health eyes'. • Block 2 introduces the three levels of prevention • Block 3 introduces the issue of resources – how are public health interventions funded, and how is a cost effectiveness analysis carried out? • In Block 4, these concepts are brought together; there are two case

	<p>studies – one of the decline of infectious diseases in England, and the other looking at the continuing interaction of health and poverty in the developing world.</p> <p>Section 2: An Introduction to Biostatistics – the interpretation and use of numerical data in medicine and health.</p> <p>Section 3: An Introduction to Epidemiology. A key science of public health; it is quantitatively underpinned by the biostatistics and analysis you study in Section 2.</p> <p>Section 4: The future of Public Health. It considers the achievements and prospects of public health, current directions of research, the international environment and leadership on public health, and public health education.</p>
13. Learning methods:	<p>Learning is self-directed against a set of learning objectives, using the materials provided.</p> <p>Student support is available from the module tutors via a web-based discussion forum in which students are encouraged to participate.</p> <p>In addition, module tutors provide written feedback on optional formative assignments.</p>
14. Study resources provided:	<p>Study Guide: Paper version.</p> <p>Reader (folder containing associated journal articles).</p> <p>Textbooks: Green, A., (2007). <i>An Introduction to Health Planning in Developing Health Systems</i>. 3rd Ed. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0198571346. Jekel, J.F., et al., (2007). <i>Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Preventative Medicine</i>. 3rd Ed. Saunders. ISBN: 9781416034964. Kirkwood, B., & Sterne, J., (2003). <i>Essential Medical Statistics</i>. 2nd Ed. Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 0865428719.</p> <p>Registered students have access to the School's online library resources.</p>
15. Assessment procedures:	<p>Optional formative assignments are available to help students practice some of the principles discussed, and obtain tutor feedback.</p> <p>Formal assessment of this module includes a two-hour unseen written paper (100%). The examination paper may consist of a choice of essay and short answer questions.</p> <p>Examinations are normally held in a student's country of residence, in one of over 650 examination centres worldwide. They are arranged mainly through Ministries of Education or the British Council. A local fee will be payable. A list of examination centres can be found at http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/current_students/general_resources/exams/exam_centres/index.shtml.</p> <p>If students fail an examination at the first entry they will be allowed one further attempt, the following year.</p>
16. Prerequisites:	<p>Those wishing to study this module must have regular access to the internet to benefit from library facilities, participate in web-based conference discussions and submit assignments.</p> <p>Students must meet the standard of English required to study this course. See http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/english.html.</p>
17. Attendance:	No maximum number

18. Selection, if applicable:	This module is available only to those registered on the MSc, Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate <u>Infectious Diseases</u> courses; alternatively, it can be taken as an Individual Module.
19. Fees:	For current schedule of fees see http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/fees/schedules/lshtm.pdf .
20. Scholarships:	None available
21. External accreditation:	None
22. Application process:	Applications are managed by the University of London International Programmes (website: http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/).
23. Further enquiries:	Enquiries may be emailed to distance@lshtm.ac.uk .