

Module Specification (Distance Learning)

In collaboration with University of London International Programmes



1. Title:	Parasitology
2. Module code:	IDM203
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 Patricia Gorak-Stolinska
5. Mode of study:	Distance Learning
6. Type:	Elective module
7. Duration and dates:	<p>Deadlines if taken as part of a formal award:</p> <p>Application deadline: 30 June each year Registration deadline: 31 August each year Course registration duration: Up to 5 years Course starts: 1 October each year 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 Registration deadline: 30 November each year Registration duration: 2 years Module study starts: 1 October each year 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: 75 hours Self-directed learning: 25 hours Assessment, review and revision: 50 hours.
10. Aim:	This module aims to provide students with an understanding of the biology of parasites and the ways in which they can cause disease. The organisms responsible for the major parasitic diseases will provide the main focus for instruction as they have also been the main focus for research.
11. Learning objectives:	On completing this module students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe and explain details of the development and transmission of the major parasite pathogens, • Describe and explain how their complex life cycles cause the clinical and pathological conditions that constitute the disease, • Describe and explain the remarkable and diverse ways in which the parasites survive by evading the host response to them, • Describe, plan and critically assess attempts to control each infection by drug treatment, vaccination or by attacking vector or intermediate hosts that are essential to development of the parasite.

12. Content:	<p>The module consists of four sections:</p> <p>Section 1 Parasites and parasitism: gives an insight into the many and varied associations between species that we call parasitism.</p> <p>Section 2 Parasitic Protozoa: discusses the protozoa of medical importance. These are very diverse and include parasites responsible for major diseases such as malaria, sleeping sickness and amoebiasis.</p> <p>Section 3 Parasitic Helminths: considers the worm (helminth) parasites causing diseases such as schistosomiasis, elephantiasis and river blindness.</p> <p>Revision Section: provides students with a collection of fact sheets which can be used to revise once they have completed the material in the other sections.</p>
13. Learning methods:	<p>Learning is directed self-study and self-directed learning 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. In addition, module tutors provide written feedback on the submitted assessed assignment.</p>
14. Study resources provided:	<p>Study Guide: Paper version.</p> <p>Reader (folder containing associated journal articles).</p> <p>Textbooks: Cheesbrough, M., (2005) <i>District Laboratory Practice in Tropical Countries Part 1</i>, 2nd Ed. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 0521676304. John, D.T., & Petri, W.A., (2006) <i>Markell and Voge's Medical Parasitology</i>, 9th Ed. Saunders. ISBN: 0721647936.</p> <p>Registered students have access to the School's online library resources. Students who are taking this as an individual module or as part of MSc PH or MSc EP, will also have online access to the MSc ID core study materials (this access will exclude tutor support and associated textbooks).</p>
15. Assessment procedures:	<p>Formal assessment of this module includes an assessed assignment (30% of the total grade for the module) and a 2-hour unseen written examination (70% of the total grade for the module). 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:	<p>This module is available only to those registered for the <u>MSc Infectious Diseases</u> (ID), <u>Epidemiology</u> (EP), or <u>Public Health</u> (PH) courses; alternatively, it can be taken as an Individual Module. Those studying for the PG Diploma ID or PH courses under the credit framework scheme may also study this module.</p> <p>Those who wish to study this module as an Individual Module or as part of an EP or PH course should note that the study material may refer to core modules (IDM101, IDM102, IDM103 and IDM104) which they may not have studied. In particular, students should have a prior knowledge of basic biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology and parasitology in order to be able to work through and benefit fully from this module. (See section 14 above.)</p>
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 .