

Module Specification (Distance Learning)

In collaboration with University of London International Programmes



1. Title:	Basic Statistics for Public Health and Policy
2. Module code:	PHM102
3. Institution:	Faculty of Public Health and Policy London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine Keppel Street London WC1E 7HT http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/php/
4. Module Organiser:	Ben Armstrong
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 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:	10 credit points will be awarded on successful completion of this module at Masters level (Level 7).
9. Notional Learning Hours (NLH):	<p>On average the module should take about 100 hours to complete, consisting of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer assisted learning: 22 hours: • Set textbook selected reading and webboard: participation: 22 hours • Workbook exercises: 22 hours • Formative assignment: 12 hours • Additional reading and exam preparation: 22 hours.
10. Aim:	This module aims to introduce students to the basic statistical methods used in public health research.
11. Learning objectives:	<p>On completing this module students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appreciate the role of statistical methods in public health • understand probability and its application • develop skills in handling data, on computer and otherwise, and in deriving and presenting quantitative results effectively, using appropriate displays, summaries and tabulations (descriptive statistics) • appreciate the nature of sampling variation and the role of statistical methods in quantifying it using confidence limits and hypothesis tests • select and apply appropriate statistical methods for simple analysis of data from public health studies, in particular epidemiological • carry out basic analyses of public health studies in STATA • understand and interpret output from statistical analyses carried out by computer, in relation to research and other questions being asked • present findings based on statistical analysis in a clear, concise and understandable manner.

12. Content:	This module offers students methods for describing data, to interpret and use confidence intervals and significance tests, which are the most common methods of allowing for random variation in research results. The module will cover the presentation and comparison of proportions and of means, and the technique of linear regression. As part of this module, a student will learn basic functions of a statistical computer package.
13. Learning methods:	<p>Learning is self-directed via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A computer assisted learning package of 14 sessions: • Selected reading from a set textbook • Workbook exercises • A formative assignment <p>Additional learning materials include: a brief guide to the study module, recommended articles reading from the peer-reviewed literature, additional exercises, past exam questions with solutions, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and suggested relevant websites.</p> <p>Student support is available from the module tutors through the web-based discussion forum. Module tutors provide written feedback for all students and offer individual feedback on a formative (non-assessed) assignment submitted by the student.</p>
14. Assessment procedures:	<p>Formal assessment of the module will consist of a two-hour unseen written examination, which will account for 100% of the student's final mark.</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>
15. Prerequisites:	<p>Those wishing to study this module should have regular access to the internet to benefit from library facilities, participate in web-based 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>
16. Attendance:	No maximum number
17. Selection, if applicable:	<p>This module is available to students registered for the PG Certificate, PG Diploma/MSc in <u>Public Health</u> courses; alternatively, it can also be taken as an individual module.</p> <p>This module is compulsory for all students studying Environment and Health, Health Promotion, Health Services or General stream of the Public Health MSc.</p>
18. Fees:	For current schedule of fees see http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/fees/schedules/lshtm.pdf .
19. Scholarships:	None available
20. External accreditation:	None
21. Application process:	Applications are managed by the University of London International Programmes (website: http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/).
22. Further enquiries:	Enquiries may be emailed to distance@lshtm.ac.uk .