

Module Specification (Distance Learning)

In collaboration with University of London International Programmes



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| 1. Title: | Economic Analysis for Management Policy |
| 2. Module code: | PHM203 |
| 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: | Catherine Goodman |
| 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</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): | <p>On average the module should take about 150 hours to complete, consisting of the following:</p> <p>Main reading and web-based discussion forum participation: 80 hours</p> <p>Additional reading materials and exercises: 30 hours</p> <p>Assignments and exam preparation: 40 hours</p> |
| 10. Aim: | This module aims to strengthen students' knowledge of the conceptual bases for health economic analysis and develop their appreciation of how economic concepts and techniques can be applied to policy making and to the planning and management of health systems. |
| 11. Learning objectives: | <p>On completing this module students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand a broad range of economic concepts and theories which are of relevance to the health sector • Analyse the nature and operation of health care markets, and explain the implications of different market structures • Critically assess the rationale for government involvement in the health sector • Use theories of agency and contracting to analyse alternative ways of financing and organising health systems • Discuss the concept of equity in health care in terms of both its conceptual basis and practical applications. |

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| 12. Content: | <p>The module explores how economic theory can be used in the health sector, to both explain behaviour and provide policy recommendations. It begins by considering the theoretical basis for health economics, and the role of economic evaluation (the latter is covered in much more depth in the <i>Economic Evaluation</i> module (PHM204)). The module investigates the behaviour of individuals as consumers of health care (demand), and the behaviour of health care providers (supply). Then the two sides of the market are brought together to explore competition and market failure. Building on an understanding of market failures, the module explores the appropriate role of government, the nature of contracts in health care, and agency relationships. Finally we turn to the concept of equity, covering both its ethical foundations, and the ways it can be operationalised in health care.</p> <p>Concepts are applied to real world health sector situations in both developed and developing countries. A key theme throughout the module is the ways in which health care markets differ from markets for other goods, and therefore how standard economic models require critique and extension to serve this sector.</p> |
| 13. Learning methods: | <p>The module textbook is <i>Economic Analysis for Management and Policy</i> by Steven Jan, Kara Hanson, Lilani Kumaravanake, Jenny Roberts and Kate Archibald.</p> <p>Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives that are identified at the start of each chapter of the module textbook, which also offers focused reading and various learning activities.</p> <p>Additional learning materials include: a brief guide to the study module, recommended reading from the peer-reviewed literature, 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 on the web-based discussion forum and offer individual feedback on an assessed assignment submitted by the student.</p> |
| 14. Assessment procedures: | <p>Students will be assessed by one or more assignments which count 30% towards the overall grade for the module and by a two-hour unseen written examination, which will contribute 70% of the total grade for the module.</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 |

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| 17. Selection, if applicable: | <p>This module is open to MSc <u>Public Health</u> students who have completed core module PHM103 <i>Introduction to Health Economics</i>. It is also available to those who are studying the PG Diploma Public Health course under the credit framework scheme who have completed PHM103. Alternatively, can also be taken as an Individual Module. Students who have reached a similar standard in health economics to PHM103 through other courses may be accepted, on the approval on the Module Organiser.</p> <p>Students on the MSc <u>Epidemiology</u> and <u>Infectious Disease</u> courses may register for this module subject to Course Director and Module Organiser approval. It is also available to those studying for the PG Diploma Infectious Diseases course under the credit framework scheme. Requests should be sent in writing, together with a CV, to phsupport@lshtm.ac.uk.</p> <p>This module is recommended for students studying the Health Services stream of the Public Health MSc.</p> <p>This module is not available to students who have already studied module HS301 <i>Advanced Health Economics</i>.</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 . |