# Module Specification

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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<tr>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>The Politics of Global Health Policy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Module code</td>
<td>GHM102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module Organiser(s)</td>
<td>Ben Hawkins</td>
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**Contact email**
The LSHTM distance learning programmes and modules are run in collaboration with the University of London. Enquiries may be made via their Student Advice Centre at: [https://london.ac.uk/contact-us](https://london.ac.uk/contact-us)
(Enquiries from face-to-face i.e. London-based LSHTM MSc or research students regarding study of DL modules should be emailed to distance@lshtm.ac.uk.)

**Home Faculty**
Faculty of Public Health & Policy
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
[https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/faculties/php](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/faculties/php)

**Level**
This module is at Level 7 (postgraduate Masters level) of the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ).

**Credit**
LSHTM award 15 credits on successful completion of this module.

**Accreditation**
Not currently accredited by any other body.

**Keywords**
Health policy, global health governance, politics, global health actors.

## AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE

**Overall aim**
This module aims to improve students’ understanding of the political dynamics shaping global health policy.

**Intended learning outcomes**
By the end of this module, students should be able to:
- describe the main global governance arrangements and institutions in the field of health policy and critique their effectiveness;
- identify key actors and interests involved in global health policy making and critically assess their impact on global health policy;
- interpret key political dynamics shaping global health governance;
- Apply key concepts from the fields of political science and international relations as discussed in the module to analyse debates in global health policy.

**Target audience**
The programme is aimed at those with an interest in the political dimension of global health governance including public health actors, NGO employees and those employed in health Ministries (or seeking employment in these areas).
This module will provide an introduction to essential concepts from the fields of political science and international relations to help students understand, interpret and assess the process of global health policy making. Key concepts include global governance, power, institutions, the state, civil society, public-private partnerships, expert networks, political identity and health diplomacy. In addition, the module will look into key cross-cutting themes such as financing, human rights and development.

The module is expected to include sessions addressing the following topics:

- Introduction
- Global Governance
- The Role of Power in Global Health Policy
- Global Health Institutions
- The Role of the State in Global Health
- The Role of Civil Society in Global Health
- The Role of the Corporate Sector in Global Health
- Partnerships for Global Health
- Transnational Expert Networks in Global Health Governance
- Human Rights and Health Discourses and Global Health Governance
- The Politics of Global Health and Development
- The Politics of Financing Global Health
- Global Health Politics and Identities
- Conclusions.

The following materials are provided to students after registration for this module once a year:

- Access to the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment – Moodle, containing programme resources including lecture notes and slides, audio and video recordings, activities and access to web-based discussion forums
- All essential and some recommended readings - provided on Moodle via links to LSHTM library resources
- Access to LSHTM online library resources
- Suggested relevant websites
- In addition to these, students will receive a CD-ROM, containing all lecture notes and slides and some of the activities.

Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in module-specific discussions and real-time tutorials available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of LSHTM online library resources. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted assignments.

Formal assessment of this module consists of a two-hour unseen written examination which will account for 100% of the student's final grade. If students fail the module overall, they are allowed one further attempt at the examination.

Formative assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, no later than 31 March and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System.

Unseen written examinations for DL modules are held once a year, in June (including resits). Examinations are normally taken in a student’s country of
residence, in one of over 650 examination centres worldwide (arranged mainly through Ministries of Education or the British Council). A list of examination centres can be found at:
https://london.ac.uk/current-students/examinations/examination-centres
A local fee will be payable direct to the examination centre. This fee is in addition to the programme/module fee and is set by, and paid directly to, the individual examination centres. The level of local examination centre fees varies across the world and neither the University of London nor the LSHTM have any control over the fee amount.

| Language of study and assessment | English (please see 'English language requirements' below regarding the standard required for entry). |

**TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY**

| Duration | Students may start their studies at any time from access to the Moodle VLE (opens beginning of October) and receipt of study materials (dispatched annually usually during September and October, depending on the date of registration) and work through the material until the start of the June examinations (although assessment submission deadlines which are earlier than this must be observed). |

| Dates | Tutorial support for distance learning modules is available only from the beginning of October through to the end of May. |

| Mode of study | By distance learning. |

| Learning time | The notional learning time for the module totals 150 hours, consisting of: |
| | • core sessions and web-based discussion forum participation ≈ 40 hours |
| | • readings and session activities ≈ 90 hours |
| | • exam preparation and attendance ≈ 20 hours. |

**APPLICATION, ADMISSION AND FEES**

| Pre-requisites | No specific pre-requisites. |
| | Those wishing to study this module must have regular access to the internet to participate in module-specific discussions and tutorials on Moodle, benefit from online library facilities and submit assignments. |

| English language requirements | A strong command of the English language is necessary to benefit from studying the module. Applicants whose first language is not English or whose prior university studies have not been conducted wholly in English must fulfil LSHTM's English language requirements, with an acceptable score in an approved test taken in the two years prior to entry. Applicants may be asked to take a test even if the standard conditions have been met. |

| Student numbers | There is no cap on the number of students who can register for this distance learning module. The number of students actively studying this module varies, but typically approx. 97 students register for the module per year. |

| Student selection | This module is compulsory for students registered for the PG Certificate/PG Diploma/MSc in Global Health Policy. It is an optional elective module for those on the PG Diploma/MSc Demography and Health programme. Alternatively, students may register for this as an "individual module". This module is also open to LSHTM research degree students. |
| **Fees** | The current schedule of fees can be viewed at [https://london.ac.uk/applications/costs-your-course/course-fees](https://london.ac.uk/applications/costs-your-course/course-fees) (click on the Postgraduate fees 2018-19 link). |
| **Scholarships** | Scholarships are not available for individual modules. Some potential [sources of funding](https://lshtm.sharepoint.com/Teaching-and-Support/Pages/taught-programmes-handbooks-regulations-policies.aspx) are detailed on the LSHTM website. |
| **Admission deadlines** | Applications for LSHTM distance learning programmes and modules are managed by the University of London. To apply to take either a formal award (i.e. PG Certificate, PG Diploma or MSc) or an individual module, click on the following link: [https://london.ac.uk/courses/global-health-policy](https://london.ac.uk/courses/global-health-policy)  
Key deadlines are as follows:  
- Application deadline: 31 August each year  
- Registration deadline (new students): 30 September each year  
- Registration deadline (continuing students, with the exception of those taking individual modules): 31 October.  
**Please note:** The academic year starts 1 October. Students who register after 1 October should note that module welcome and Collaborate sessions held in October are recorded, but they cannot request an extension to assignment submission deadlines or apply for an examination extenuating circumstance as a result of registering later than 1 October.  
In-house LSHTM DrPH/research students wishing to study this module should note information given in the mixed mode study option links at: [https://lshtm.sharepoint.com/Teaching-and-Support/Pages/taught-programmes-handbooks-regulations-policies.aspx](https://lshtm.sharepoint.com/Teaching-and-Support/Pages/taught-programmes-handbooks-regulations-policies.aspx) |

**ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT**

- **This module specification applies for the academic year** 2018-19  
- **Last revised/approved** 19 /02 /2018, by Ben Hawkins  
- Further revisions revised [Date / Month / Year], by [Name]  
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel St., London WC1E 7HT.  
- [www.lshtm.ac.uk](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk)