## Module Specification

### GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Research Design and Methods for the Analysis of Global Health Policy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Module code</td>
<td>GHM203</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module Organiser(s)</td>
<td>Professor Ellen Nolte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact email</td>
<td>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: <a href="https://london.ac.uk/contact-us">https://london.ac.uk/contact-us</a> (Enquiries from face-to-face i.e. London-based LSHTM MSc or research students regarding study of DL modules should be emailed to <a href="mailto:distance@lshtm.ac.uk">distance@lshtm.ac.uk</a>.)</td>
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**Home Faculty**
Faculty of Public Health and 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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quality_Assurance_Agency) in England, Wales & Northern Ireland (FHEQ)

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

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

**Keywords**
Research design, qualitative methods, political analysis.

### AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE

**Overall aim**
This module will enable students to consider the distinct stages of designing a policy research proposal, and will introduce them to the utility and application of diverse qualitative methods for the analysis of global health policy and politics.

**Intended learning outcomes**
By the end of this module, students should be able to:
- demonstrate knowledge of research methods as they pertain to global health policy and politics
- critically evaluate research methods for the analysis of global health policy
- appreciate key issues involved in the design and application of these research methods
- design their own global health policy research project.

**Target audience**
Elective module for students on DL MSc/PGDip Global Health Policy programme. The module is also available as a stand-alone individual module for anyone with an interest in research design and social science methods for the analysis of global health policy and politics.

### CONTENT

**Session content**
This module introduces students to key concepts and practices in research design as well as to research methods for the analysis of global health policy and politics.
The module will include sessions addressing the following topics:

- Introduction – what is global health policy research?
- The research process - from research question to choosing a research design
- Case studies and comparative design
- Reviewing the literature – critical review and systematic literature review
- Differences between qualitative and quantitative research
- Interviews, focus groups and participant observation
- Access to and use of official statistics and large datasets
- Documentary and archival research and analysis
- Surveys and polls
- Ethics and values in the research process
- Health Policy Analysis – practical approaches and critical perspectives
- Determining what to observe and avoiding pitfalls in research
- Analysis, interpretation, and policy research impact.

### TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

#### Study resources provided or required
The following materials are provided to students after registration for this module once a year in September:

- Main study materials delivered via the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) - Moodle.
- Recommended reading articles, provided via online reading for programmes.
- Suggested relevant websites.

In addition to the materials above, students are given access to both the LSHTM and University of London (Senate House) online library resources.

#### Teaching and learning methods
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.

#### Assessment details
This module will be assessed by two assessed assignments (AAs), respectively contributing AA1:AA2 - 30:70% of final grade. AA1 critically evaluates a particular research method. AA2 is a research design assessment. If students fail the module overall, they are allowed one further attempt at the failed element.

#### Assessment dates
The assessed assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, AA1 no later than 14 February and AA2 no later than 12 May. Both must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System.

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

### TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY

#### Duration
Distance learning module studies begin in early October. Students may start their studies at any time from access to the study materials (access to the Moodle VLE starts at the beginning of October) and work through the material until the deadline for submission of the assessed assignment.

#### 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:

- **Directed self-study** (reading and working through the provided module material) and **self-directed learning** (general reading around the subject, library, Moodle discussion forums) \( \approx 100 \) hours
- **Assessment, review and revision** \( \approx 50 \) hours.

### APPLICATION, ADMISSION AND FEES

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<th>Pre-requisites</th>
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<td>PG Diploma and MSc students taking this module need to have successfully completed at least 3 of the core GHP modules – GHM101, 102, 103 or 104. There are no specific pre-requisites for individual module students, or LSHTM in-house MSc or research degree students wishing to take this module. 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.</td>
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<th>English language requirements</th>
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<td>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 <a href="https://lshtm.ac.uk/admissions/english-language-requirements">English language requirements</a>, 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.</td>
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<th>Student numbers</th>
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<td>There is no cap on the number of students who can register for this distance learning module. This is a new module. It is expected that the number of students actively studying this module will vary, but typically will be approx. 30 students per year.</td>
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<th>Student selection</th>
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<td>This module is available to be studied by students registered for the MSc/Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Policy programmes. Alternatively, students may register for this as an 'individual module'. This module is also open to LSHTM research degree and London-based MSc students.</td>
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<td>The current schedule of fees can be viewed at <a href="https://london.ac.uk/applications/costs-your-course/course-fees">https://london.ac.uk/applications/costs-your-course/course-fees</a> (click on the Postgraduate fees 2018-19 link).</td>
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<th>Scholarships</th>
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<td>Scholarships are not available for individual modules. Some potential <a href="https://lshtm.ac.uk/admissions/scholarships">sources of funding</a> may be detailed on the LSHTM website.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Admission deadlines</th>
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| 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 and London-based MSc students wishing to study this module should note information given in the mixed mode study option links at: [https://lshtm.sharepoint.com/Teaching-and-](https://lshtm.sharepoint.com/Teaching-and-).
ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This module specification applies for the academic year 2018-19

Last revised 15/03/2018, by Preslava Stoeva

Further revisions revised dd/mm/yyyy by Name

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel St., London WC1E 7HT. www.lshtm.ac.uk