# Module Specification

## GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module name</strong></th>
<th>Environment, Health and Sustainable Development</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module code</strong></td>
<td>PHM106</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module Organiser(s)</strong></td>
<td>Emma Hutchinson (MO), Jenny Rodger (Deputy MO)</td>
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<td><strong>Contact email</strong></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="http://www.london.ac.uk/contact-us">www.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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<tr>
<td><strong>Home Faculty</strong></td>
<td>Faculty of Public Health and Policy London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine <a href="http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/php/">http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/php/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Level</strong></td>
<td>This module is at Level 7 (postgraduate Masters level) of the QAA <a href="http://www.rqu.org.uk/frameworks">Framework for Higher Education Qualifications</a> in England, Wales &amp; Northern Ireland (FHEQ).</td>
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<td><strong>Credit</strong></td>
<td>LSHTM award 10 credits on successful completion of this module.</td>
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<td><strong>Accreditation</strong></td>
<td>Not currently accredited by any other body.</td>
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<td><strong>Keywords</strong></td>
<td>Environmental hazards, toxic agents, chemicals, water, sanitation, air pollution, climate, globalisation, ecology, ecosystem, health in emergencies, inequalities, sustainability, housing and indoor environment, urban environmental hazards, urbanisation, public health, local/regional and international/global policy response, poverty, equity, economic development and changing pressures.</td>
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## AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE

### Overall aim
This module aims to show how health is related to the environment and sustainable development and the importance of the interaction between them; and further to improve understanding of environmental issues in public health policy and practice.

### Intended learning outcomes
By the end of this module, students should be able to:
- understand and demonstrate the links between health, environment and sustainable development;
- explain equity and sustainability as central principles in environmental health risk management
- understand the changing pressures on the environment and health over time
- describe the range of environmental hazards that damage health, including: chemical hazards, water and sanitation, inadequate housing, air pollution, transport, waste, and disasters
- describe the health implications of global environmental change, including the urban transition, energy use, climate change and loss of ecosystem services
- evaluate how environmental issues are addressed in public current health practice, and to understand mechanisms for policy action.

**Target audience**

This module is available to students registered for the PG Certificate/PG Diploma/MSc in Public Health programmes; alternatively, it can also be taken as an individual module.

This module is compulsory for those choosing to study the Environment and Health stream of the MSc Public Health.

**CONTENT**

**Session content**

Environmental health is the branch of public health concerned with assessing and understanding the impact of the environment on people and their health, and the impact of human’s actions on the environment, and the effect of this impact.

The module covers three main themes. The first is an introduction to the concepts of environment, health and sustainable development, and the frameworks used to assess how these relate to each other. The second section explores in more detail the environmental hazards that affect health (chemicals, water and sanitation, air pollution, transport, waste, the built environment, disasters, climate change, and the natural environment). The third section looks at actions to address these environmental hazards. Each thematic discussion uses examples from low, middle and high income countries. We do not attempt to cover the effects of environment on agriculture or nutrition in this module.

Click on the link below to view the content of the module textbook:

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Environment-Sustainable-Development-Education-Humanities/dp/0335245374](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Environment-Sustainable-Development-Education-Humanities/dp/0335245374)

**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/October:

- A brief guide to studying the module.
- The main textbook is *Environment, Health and Sustainable Development* (Hutchinson and Kovats (Eds) 2016). A reading list including details of both required and optional (recommended) reading and links to selected papers.
- A list of useful websites.
- Access to the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) - Moodle, where students can access a range of materials including all those listed above apart from the textbook, participate in module-specific discussion forums and occasional live lecture and revision sessions, and access the LSHTM online library resources.

Please note the textbook will be sent to students. All other materials may only be accessed via the LSHTM VLE – Moodle, for which students must actively log into after registration with the University of London.

**Teaching and learning methods**

Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives identified at the start of each chapter of the module textbook.
Students are directed to use the various online electronic resources and to read and work through activities in specific sections of the module book, *Environment, Health and Sustainable Development* (second edition 2016).

Additional learning materials include: a brief guide to the study module, recommended articles and readings from the peer-reviewed scientific literature and suggested relevant websites.

Student support is available from the module tutors through the web-based discussion forums and occasional scheduled 1 hour ‘live-chat’ sessions on specific topics, including exam revision. Module tutors provide asynchronous feedback for all students on the web-based discussion forum and offer detailed individual written feedback on a formative (non-assessed) assignment submitted by the student.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the module-specific discussions and real-time sessions available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of LSHTM online library resources.

| Assessment details | Optional formative assignment.  
|                    | Formal assessment of this module is by a two hour and 15 minute unseen written paper examination (100%). Students are advised to spend the first 15 minutes reading the paper and planning responses.  
|                    | If students fail the examination they are allowed one further attempt. |
| Assessment dates   | 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 re-sits). 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](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 | Distance learning module studies begin in early October. The textbook that supports the module will be dispatched to registered students in early autumn once fees have been paid. All other module materials will be made available on Moodle. Students may start their studies at any time from October 1st onwards 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 100 hours, consisting of:

- **Directed self-study** (reading and working through the provided module material) and **self-directed learning** (general reading around the subject, library use, Moodle discussion forums) ≈ 70 hours
- **Assessment, review and revision** ≈ 30 hours

### APPLICATION, ADMISSION AND FEES

#### Pre-requisites

Those wishing to study this module must have regular access to the internet. A range of materials will be made available only on the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle) some of which are essential to studying the module and students are encouraged to participate in module-specific discussions and live sessions on Moodle; make use of the online library facilities and will be required to submit assignments via the on-line assignment management.

#### 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 approximately 50-60 students register for the module per year.

#### Student selection

This module is available to students on the following distance learning programmes: MSc / PGDip / PGCert Public Health. It is compulsory for those choosing to study the Environment and Health stream of the MSc Public Health. It forms a suitable introduction to the modules: Environmental Health Policy (PHM206) and Environmental Epidemiology (PHM205).

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 link).

#### Scholarships

Scholarships are not available for individual modules. Some potential sources of funding 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, see [https://london.ac.uk/courses/public-health](https://london.ac.uk/courses/public-health).

Key deadlines are as follows:
- Application deadline: 31 August
- Registration deadline: 30 September (new students and those registering for the project module, PHM305)
- Registration deadline: 31 October (continuing students, with the exception of those registering for the project module PHM305, and those taking individual modules).

**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 research students wishing to study this module should self-enrol on the module's Moodle area.)

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<td>This module specification applies for the academic year 2019-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last revised/approved: July 2019 by Emma Hutchinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine, Keppel St., London WC1E 7HT.</td>
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