

DL MSc/PG Dip Epidemiology students

October 2020

STUDYING AT LSHTM: BLENDED LEARNING STUDY

In previous years, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine has offered the opportunity for students registered on the distance learning MSc or PG Diploma Epidemiology programme to study LSHTM modules at the School in London **in place of DL elective modules**. On-campus LSHTM modules usually run for 5 weeks for 2.5 days per week for each module, and take place from January to May. (*The term 1 modules are foundation level modules which are unavailable to DL students.*) However, due to the current pandemic, it is not going to be possible to offer this teaching on campus in London for Spring 2021.

Modules run by the School for the in-house MSc programmes in Spring 2021 will run online (these will be referred to as “Intensive Modules”). These intensive synchronous modules will be run across a similar 5-week teaching period as in previous years, between specific dates, and students would need to be able to dedicate that time to study, with reliable internet access, throughout that period. The modules will be taught using synchronous (live and interactive) and asynchronous (recorded or self-directed) teaching methods such as pre-recorded and live lectures, feedback and question and answer sessions, small group seminars, practicals, and groupwork with peers. There may be some optional on-campus components where possible but these may be limited to ensure that UK social distancing rules are adhered to.

Because of this change in mode, only modules which do not have an equivalent distance learning module will be offered to DL students for “blended learning” study in 2020/21. Please note also that, due to social distancing measures, DL students will not be able to attend laboratory-based modules at the School in 2021.

A maximum of two “Intensive Modules” may be chosen.

This document is designed to help you to decide whether blended learning is an appropriate option for you.

Eligibility and restrictions

- If you have not completed the minimum core module requirement for your distance learning programme in 2020 you may still register to study elective modules in Sept/Oct 2020, and may choose to study via this blended learning option. (This only applies for this year, 2020/21 – please see the information document “[Registering early for elective module studies 2020/21](#)”.)
- You may study up to two intensive LSHTM modules **in place of** the DL modules. If you successfully complete the LSHTM coursework assessment for the module(s), your grade and credit for the module(s) will be transferred to your DL programme.
- Some intensive modules may impose a restriction on student numbers; if such a restriction is applied, intensive programme MSc students will be given priority over distance learning student module applications.
- **Please note particularly module restrictions and pre-requisites (if applicable), which are outlined on the following pages.** (These are correct at the time of production of this document; students should check updated module information via the link below.)

To ensure an appropriate epidemiological focus for the MSc Epidemiology award, the Programme Directors have classified the non-Epidemiology programme modules as either 'recommended' (more epidemiological content/relevance compared to other non-Epidemiology modules) or 'eligible' (less epidemiological content/relevance). Some modules are also compulsory to the programme and some have specific pre-requisites to study. This information is noted on the accompanying pages and in the document [here](#).

The modules

Full details of the content, learning objectives and assessment method of School modules can be found [here](#) (please note that this information will be updated, so please do check in early November for the most up to date version). A maximum of two intensive modules may be chosen from:

Monday 22 February – Friday 26 March 2021

D1 module options: from Monday 09.00 to Wednesday 12.30

Control of sexually transmitted infections (3192)
Current issues in maternal & perinatal health (2459)
Nutrition in emergencies (2451)
Social epidemiology (2472)
Spatial epidemiology in public health (3135)

D2 module options: from Wednesday 14.00 to Friday 17.00

Design and evaluation of mental health programmes (2342)
Ethics, public health and human rights (3189)
Nutrition related chronic diseases (2442)

Wednesday 21 April – Friday 21 May 2021

E module options: from Wednesday 14.00 to Friday 17.00

Applying public health principles (3198)
Principles and practice of public health (1608)

Please note the following recommendations, restrictions and pre-requisites for the modules:

(Also check the individual module outlines on the School website for any updated pre-requisites.)

- **APPLYING PUBLIC HEALTH PRINCIPLES (3198)**
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
Prerequisite: *Students must have a good understanding of epidemiology, statistics, social science and health economics prior to studying this module.*
- **CONTROL OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (3192)**
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
- **CURRENT ISSUES IN SAFE MOTHERHOOD & PERINATAL HEALTH (2459)**
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
- **DESIGN AND EVALUATION OF MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMMES (2342)**
(Formerly titled Packages of care for mental disorders.)
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
- **ETHICS, PUBLIC HEALTH & HUMAN RIGHTS (3189)**
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
- **NUTRITION IN EMERGENCIES (2451)**
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
Prerequisite: *Although no previous experience is necessary, this module requires an understanding of the process and underlying causes of malnutrition.*
- **NUTRITION-RELATED CHRONIC DISEASES (2442)**
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
Prerequisite: *Students are recommended to have a strong background in a biological science prior to studying this module.*
- **PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH (1608)**
This module is classified as **eligible** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.
Prerequisite: *Students need to demonstrate some knowledge of, and familiarity with, the core principles of public health before being accepted onto the module.*
- **SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY (2472)**
This module is classified as **recommended** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.

- **SPATIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY IN PUBLIC HEALTH (3135)**

This module is classified as **recommended** for the PG Diploma and MSc Epidemiology programmes.

Prerequisite: *A willingness to carry out quantitative data analysis is required and good basic computing skills are essential. Basic knowledge of Stata is an advantage but not essential.*

Method of assessment

Assessment methods for the intensive modules vary and full details are given in the [module specifications](#) (these will be updated in early November). The intensive modules may be assessed through coursework or a short examination (accessible remotely), which will be carried out by the end of the 5-week teaching period. (*You must complete the required assessment by the specified deadline of the module you are attending.*) The assessment you undertake on an intensive module via the blended learning scheme will be credited towards your overall distance learning MSc degree. The assessment of up to **two** modules only can be credited in this way.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- *Intensive module assessments must be submitted by that module's specified deadline (usually immediately after the end of the 5-week module period); the DL assessment deadlines do not apply to intensive modules.*
- *If you fail the intensive module assessment with a grade point of less than 2.00, you may have to register and pay for, an additional distance learning elective module (see your Student Handbook for information regarding compensation of grades) – not all intensive module assessments undertaken as part of blended learning study may be resat.*

Cost

Distance learning students who wish to study intensive modules at LSHTM will be required to pay a fee for the LSHTM module(s). This fee is in addition to your DL programme fee. The module fee will vary depending on whether you have already paid for your distance learning MSc by one initial payment to the University of London or you are paying individually for distance learning modules on an annual basis. The cost will be £930 per module if you have paid for your DL programme by one payment at the point of initial programme registration - or £1,790 per module if you have paid/are paying for your DL modules in annual instalments. **Do not send any payment at this stage** - confirmation of the cost of your LSHTM module(s) and how to pay will be included in your offer of admission which will be sent to you if your application for blended learning study is successful.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- *If you are registering through the University of London for the distance learning modules you wish to study next year, please do NOT register or include any payment for LSHTM intensive modules you are choosing to study by blended learning. Transfer of module payments from the University of London to the LSHTM cannot be made.*

How to apply

Applications for blended learning intensive module studies can only be submitted between Monday 2nd November and Friday 6th November 2020. When applications are ready to be received, a link to the form will be put on the [DL General Zone](#) in Moodle. One form must be used for *each* module application. The form should be returned by email to shortcourses@lshtm.ac.uk (if you are unable to email then by post to Short Courses, Registry, LSHTM, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT). (*Do not return the form to the University of London.*) Please also include a brief CV with your application, and a short note to indicate to the Module Organiser why it is important that you study this particular module.

Your application for blended learning study will then be considered by the relevant Module Organiser. LSHTM Registry will contact you to confirm your place on the module. If you have been accepted onto the module you will then receive an official offer letter and must then register to take up the place by sending your payment to the School. **If your application is unsuccessful and you need to register for a distance learning module instead you must do this through the University of London Student Portal.**

Please note: on rare occasions the School may cancel modules two weeks before the start date if numbers are insufficient to run the module. In such cases, the School will refund the module fee. The School cannot accept responsibility for accommodation, travel or other losses incurred as a result of the module being cancelled.

Queries

If you have any questions about the information given here and what your options for study might be, and if these questions are appropriate for other students to view please post a message on the [“Questions about Epidemiology elective modules”](#) forum in the DL General Zone which is open until September. Alternatively, for queries regarding your personal study progression, email dlsupport@lshtm.ac.uk putting “blended learning study enquiry” in the subject header.