Module Specification

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT
This module specification applies for the academic year 2018-19
Last revised 14 August 2018 by Helena Helmby
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GENERAL INFORMATION
Module name Immunology of Parasitic Infection
Module code 3177
Module Organiser Dr Helena Helmby
Contact email Helena.Helmby@lshtm.ac.uk
Home Faculty Infectious & Tropical Diseases
Credit 15 credits
Accreditation Not currently accredited by any other body
Keywords Parasites, parasitic, helminth, worm infections, malaria, protozoa, immunity, immunopathology

AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE
Overall aim To develop an understanding of the diverse nature and consequences of the interaction between parasites and the host immune response.

Intended learning outcomes By the end of this module, students should be able to:
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the various different types of immune responses elicited by parasites
- Evaluate how such immune responses and the balance between them are, or might be, controlled
- Compare the mechanisms used by parasites to avoid/exploit the immune response
- Describe the outcomes of the interaction between the immune response and the parasite, for example immunopathology and immunity to infection/disease
- Distinguish the most important immunological features relating to the major parasitic infections of man
- Evaluate how parasitic infections can bias the nature of the immune response to concurrent infections
- Assess the direction of current research in this field
**Target audience**

This module covers current knowledge of the immune response in parasite infection. Students must have a good basic knowledge of immunology. Sufficient introduction to the parasites themselves will be given during the module.

**CONTENT**

**Session content**

The module is expected to include sessions addressing the following topics:
- Brief review of basic immunological principles and basic parasitology
- Immunology of trypanosomatids, Toxoplasma, gut protozoa
- Immunology of malaria
- Immunology of schistosomes, filarial worms and gut nematodes

**TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT**

**Study resources provided or required**

Module Information can be found on the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle) containing information about each session and key references for the module. Lecture handouts will be available via Moodle.

**Teaching and learning methods**

Lectures will comprise the bulk of the teaching time but group-work, classroom discussions and student presentations are also included. Certain topics will be covered by guest visiting lecturers.

**Assessment details**

Assessment will be in the form of a 1.5-hour written test based on lecture material (100% of module mark).

Resit/deferred/new attempts - The task will be an essay or critical review, with a maximum word limit of 2,000 words.

**Assessment dates**

Assessments will take place on 29 March 2019.

Resit/deferred/new attempts - The next assessment deadline will be during mid/late September of the current academic year.

**Language of study and assessment**

English (please see ‘English language requirements’ below regarding the standard required for entry).

**TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY**

**Duration**

5 weeks at 2.5 days per week

**Dates**

Wednesday lunchtime to Friday afternoon

**Timetable slot**

Term 2 - slot D2

**Mode of Study**

The module is taught face-to-face in London. Both full-time and part-time students follow the same schedule.

**Learning time**

The notional learning time for the module totals 150 hours, consisting of:
- Contact time ≈ 32 hours
- Directed self-study ≈ 51 hours
- Self-directed learning ≈ 28.5 hours
- Assessment, review and revision ≈ 38.5 hours

**APPLICATION AND ADMISSION**

**Pre-requisites**

This module is designed for students with a good basic knowledge of immunology.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>English language requirements</strong></th>
<th>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="#">English language requirements</a>.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student numbers</strong></td>
<td>20-30 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Student selection</strong></td>
<td>Preference will be given to LSHTM MSc students and LSHTM research degree students. Other applicants meeting the entry criteria will usually be offered a place in the order applications are received, until any cap on numbers is reached. Applicants may be placed on a waiting list and given priority the next time the module is run. Full Registration (full participation) by LSHTM research degree students is required for this module.</td>
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