## Programme Specification

**MSc Reproductive & Sexual Health Research 2018-19**

For prospectus details about the programme, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/msrshr.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/msrshr.html)

### AWARD DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title and name of final award(s)</th>
<th>Master of Science (MSc) Reproductive &amp; Sexual Health Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level of the programme</strong></td>
<td>All modules and awards offered under the programme are at Level 7 (also known as ‘M’ Masters level) of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales &amp; Northern Ireland (FHEQ). For further information, please see <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Framework-Higher-Education-Qualifications-08.pdf">www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Framework-Higher-Education-Qualifications-08.pdf</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevant QAA subject benchmark</td>
<td>Not applicable For more information on subject benchmarking, please see <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/assuring-standards-and-quality/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements">http://www.qaa.ac.uk/assuring-standards-and-quality/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarding body:</td>
<td>University of London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registering body:</td>
<td>The London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination body:</td>
<td>The London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accreditation by professional or statutory body (if applicable)</td>
<td>Not accredited by any other body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language of study and assessment</td>
<td>English Please see ‘English language requirements’ further below regarding the standard required for entry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

**General entrance requirements**

Applicants must normally satisfy LSHTM’s general entrance requirements and additional programme-specific entrance requirements to be considered for admission. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the procedures and deadlines given in the web-based or printed prospectus. In order to be admitted to a postgraduate taught degree programme of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, an applicant must:
a) hold a first degree at Second Class Honours standard in a relevant discipline, a degree in medicine at the same standard, or another degree of equivalent awarded by an overseas institution recognised by UK Naric or Barrons.

OR

b) hold a professional qualification appropriate to the programme of study to be followed obtained by written examinations and judged by the School to be equivalent to a Second Class Honours degree or above.

OR

c) have relevant professional experience or training which is judged by the School to be equivalent to a Second Class Honours degree or above.

AND

satisfy any additional requirements where prescribed for admission to a specific programme.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/applications/pgt_admissions_policy__2017_18.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/applications/pgt_admissions_policy__2017_18.pdf)

### English language requirements

It is essential to have an excellent command of the English language to benefit from studying for the programme. All students will be required to obtain an acceptable score in an approved English language test if their first language is not English or if their studies at university have not been conducted wholly in the medium of English. Any English language tests must have been taken no more than two years before the date a student commences the programme. LSHTM may also request that an applicant take a test even if the above conditions have been met.

For up-to-date information on language requirements, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/newstudents/internationalstudents/english_language_requirements.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/newstudents/internationalstudents/english_language_requirements.pdf)

Please note that there are different English language requirements for Tier 4 Visa applicants and non-Tier 4 visa applicants.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/faq/english_requirements.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/faq/english_requirements.html)

### Financial requirements

All students are required to have sufficient funds to cover programme tuition fees, living expenses and any travel and project costs for the duration of their studies. Tuition fees are payable in full on registration. The School is not able to provide financial assistance to any student whose funds prove to be inadequate at any stage during the programme. Students offered admission will be required to sign a financial declaration form confirming that they understand this situation and will have sufficient financial support for the duration of their studies. Evidence of available funds may be required.

For up-to-date information on fees and costs, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/funding/index.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/funding/index.html) and click on ‘Tuition Fees and Expenses’.

### Students with disabilities (including dyslexia and mental health issues)

LSHTM welcomes applications from students with disabilities – which may include sensory impairment (visual/hearing), mobility or dexterity impairment, chronic medical conditions (e.g. diabetes, HIV, epilepsy, asthma) or chronic pain/fatigue, mental health difficulties, specific learning difficulties (e.g. dyslexia or dyspraxia), Asperger Syndrome and other autism spectrum disorders, or any other condition which has a long-term and adverse effect on studying.

The School aims to offer as much appropriate assistance as possible to accommodate individual needs, and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that both the application procedure and the programme itself are organised and delivered to offer all students the opportunity to participate fully.

Applicants are encouraged to disclose any specific disability at the time of application (via the ‘Equal Opportunities’ and ‘Investigating Access’ forms), and let the Registry know if anything further can be
done to make the application and selection process as accessible as possible. This helps the School to ensure that applicants’ specialist needs can be understood, and any obstacles minimised, throughout the application and admission process.

Once registered, the School can provide specific support to students with disabilities throughout their studies. Students are encouraged to disclose any disability from as early as possible; the Student Adviser can answer queries and provide confidential advice at any point. Any special arrangements, for example regarding examinations, may be made via the Student Adviser.

Please see further information www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/support/disability/index.html. Applicants should e-mail registry@lshtm.ac.uk with any specific queries. Registered students should contact disability@lshtm.ac.uk

Intake quota
There is no specific intake quota for the programme, but numbers admitted each year are limited. Applications for places are reviewed and any offer letters are issued in the order in which they arrive. Prospective students are therefore encouraged to apply as early as possible, as admittance to the programme may close up to several months ahead of the start of each new academic year. Applicants wishing to be considered for School scholarships are advised to apply by no later than the 1st of March for studies starting in September.

For information about sources of funding and scholarships, please see www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/funding/

PROGRAMME AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Educational aims of the programme
The aim of the programme – consistent with LSHTM’s mission to improve health worldwide – is to provide an introduction to the concepts and methods used in reproductive and sexual health research and to equip students with the principles, methods and research skills necessary to conduct policy-relevant research. It provides a non-clinical foundation in the main aspects of reproductive and sexual health: family planning, obstetric health and AIDS/STIs (not including laboratory-based studies). The MSc is Europe’s only graduate course in reproductive health research, and is designed mainly for those interested in the developing world, but developed world issues are also accommodated.

By the end of the programme, students will able to:

- demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of evidence-based approaches to research of reproductive and sexual health issues;
- assess and apply these research approaches to inform development, health and social welfare programmes;
- demonstrate a good understanding of the socio-cultural, political and ethical issues surrounding reproductive and sexual health;
- identify and address appropriate research questions in reproductive and sexual health, using methods from a range of public health disciplines;
- carry out research activities to identify effective components of reproductive and sexual health services within programmes.

For further information, please see www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/msrshr.html

Learning, teaching and assessment methods
The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including: lectures, small group seminars, practicals, and groupwork with peers. All elements of the programme have specific learning objectives, with content designed to help students achieve these outcomes. Students are expected to learn through both directed and self-directed study.

The programme is assessed through individual module assessments (which may include essays, other written coursework, short written exams, practical exams, groupwork, presentations or other methods), formal summer exams, and a project report. Such tasks are designed to assess, via the most appropriate method, whether learning objectives have been met.
**Learning outcomes**

By the end of the programme, students will be expected to achieve the following learning outcomes – drawing on material taught across different elements and assessed in a variety of ways.

Please note that modules listed below may be subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning outcome</th>
<th>Programme element</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>Other points to note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of evidence based approaches to research of reproductive and sexual health issues</td>
<td>Foundations in Reproductive Health (2039); Sexual Health (1804); several Stats &amp; Epi courses or project</td>
<td>Various: Formal exams, Pieces of analysis, Group work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Critically assess and apply these approaches to inform development, health &amp; social welfare programmes</td>
<td>Foundations in Reproductive Health (2039); Sexual Health (1804); Family Planning Programmes (2401); Health Care Evaluation (1400); Designing Disease Control Programmes in Developing Countries (3457); Social Epidemiology (2472)</td>
<td>Presentations, Essay, Short answer tests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the socio-political, economic and ethical issues surrounding reproductive and sexual health</td>
<td>Health Policy Process &amp; Power (1117); Foundations in Reproductive Health (2039); Sexual Health (1804); Current Issues in Safe Motherhood &amp; Perinatal Health (2459); AIDS (3174); Conflict &amp; Health (1402)</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv) Identify and address appropriate research questions in reproductive and sexual health, using methods from a range of public health disciplines</td>
<td>Analysing Survey &amp; Population Data (2468); Research Design &amp; Analysis (2423); Principles of Social Research (1104); Medical Anthropology and Public Health (1802); Qualitative Methodologies (1700); several other modules incl. Term 1</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v) Demonstrate the ability to carry out key research skills and activities, including literature review, research study design, and critical analysis and application of research findings</td>
<td>Analysing Survey &amp; Population Data (2468); Research Design &amp; Analysis (2423); Principles of Social Research (1104); Medical Anthropology and Public Health (1802)</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vi) Distinguish and select appropriate components of effective reproductive and sexual health services, including elements of service provision, interventions and methods of evaluation</td>
<td>Designing Disease Control Programmes in Developing Countries (3457); AIDS (3174)</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For further information, please see the programme handbook.
Distinctive features of the programme
The mission of the School is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice. The School has been active at the highest level in this for many years.

For further information, please see www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/msrshr.html

LEARNING TIME

Modes of study and duration of study
The main part of the programme is taught ‘face-to-face’ at LSHTM in London. There is also a limited opportunity to take some LSHTM modules via distance learning, as ‘blended learning’ options. After the end of formal teaching in May, the final part of the programme is a period of up to three months intensive project work. Normally this period is spent in London but exceptionally, and if appropriate, part of the project period may be spent away from the School, whether in the UK or abroad. Arrangements for this must be discussed and agreed with the Course Director.

The programme may be taken on a full-time, part-time or split-study basis, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Standard period of registration</th>
<th>Maximum period of registration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time (involves attending the School five days each week during term-time)</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time (involves attending the School at least two days each week during term-time)</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Split study* (involves attending the School five days each week during term-time, with a one-year gap part-way through the programme)</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The standard period of registration is also the minimum. Any exemptions from this must be agreed on an individual basis.

* Students taking the programme by split study over two years attend full-time for part of Year 1, then take a one-year break, and undertake the remainder of the programme in Year 2. The split can occur at any module or slot end-point between the end of Term 1 and the end of formal teaching in May, by prior arrangement with the Course Director. With split study, Paper 1 of the formal exams will normally be taken at the end of Year 2, but may be taken at the end of Year 1 after discussion and agreement with the relevant Course Director. Paper 2 must normally be taken at the end of Year 2, and the project report must normally be undertaken in Year 2.

Mode of study information is also given at www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/modeofstudy/index.html

Estimated number of study hours
This master’s level programme comprises 1,800 notional learning hours (180 UK credits), based on a mix of contact teaching time, directed study, and self-directed study time plus assessment.

- It is generally expected that full-time students will spend on average 35-40 hours a week on study, including face-to-face sessions and private study. During term-time, each week will typically include 30 hours of contact time within the School and 10 hours of self-directed study.
- Part-time students usually study approx. 18-20 hours per week over two years, including face-to-face sessions and private study. During term-time, each week will typically include 15 hours of contact time within the School and 5 hours of self-directed study.
- Split study is expected to require the same amount of study time as full-time study during periods of active registration at the School, but there is no required time commitment during the one-year break.

For further guidance on study patterns, please see the programme handbook.
## CREDIT AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

### Credit scheme
The programme operates a credit system which is consistent with the Higher Education Credit Framework for England, and compatible with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). LSHTM credits are awarded for successful completion of modules and the project – all of which are at Level 7, Masters level, of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England (FHEQ).

Award of the MSc degree is based on successfully obtaining 180 credits in total, equivalent to 90 ECTS credits. It is normally required that all credits be obtained from approved LSHTM modules.

Further information about the credit systems used by universities in the UK and Europe is available in:

### Assessment
Assessment at LSHTM uses a Grade Point Average (GPA) scheme, running from 5 (excellent) to 0 (very poor fail) and with a pass threshold of 2 (satisfactory).

For students who have obtained sufficient credit and are hence due an award, degree classifications of Pass or Distinction are determined by combining grades from modules, exams and the project to calculate a degree GPA.

Details of how degree GPA is calculated, and the GPA required to obtain a Distinction, are given in the detailed award scheme for the programme at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/currentstudents/studentregulations/taughtcourseregulations/index.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/currentstudents/studentregulations/taughtcourseregulations/index.html)

### Programme components and requirements
The programme is split into 3 major assessed components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Term 1 (Oct-Dec) plus summer exams</th>
<th>Terms 2 &amp; 3 (Jan-May)</th>
<th>Term 3 (June-Sept)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What</td>
<td>A range of taught modules of different sizes</td>
<td>5 individual taught modules</td>
<td>Research project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>60 credits (awarded as a block)</td>
<td>75 credits (15 credits per module)</td>
<td>45 credits (a single piece of work)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Unseen written exams in the summer (Papers 1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>In-course assessment for each module</td>
<td>Project report (max. 10,000 words)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades to be awarded credits</td>
<td>Marks required: Papers combined = ≥ 2, with Paper 1 = ≥ 1 and Paper 2 = ≥ 1</td>
<td>A minimum mark of 2 is required for each module; one module with a mark of 1 to 1.99 can be compensated provided the combined GPA for the 5 modules is ≥ 2</td>
<td>A minimum mark of 2 is required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Study calendar**

The academic year is broken up into three terms. Students are also expected to continue their studies (through reading, revision etc.) during the breaks between terms.

**Term 1 (Autumn)** runs from September to December (12 weeks total).

- There is a compulsory orientation and induction week for new students at the very beginning of the term.
- Formal module teaching then runs for 5 weeks, followed by a Reading Week in early November (which may include some specific programme-level sessions), then a further 5 weeks of module teaching.

**Term 2 (Spring)** runs from January to March (11 weeks total).

- In the first 5 weeks, two modules are taken; one in the ‘C1’ slot running from Monday through to Wednesday morning, and one in the ‘C2’ slot running from Wednesday afternoon through to Friday.
- This is followed by a Reading Week in early February, which may include programme-level sessions.
- In the next 5 weeks, two more modules are taken; in the ‘D1’ slot running from Monday through to Wednesday morning, and in the ‘D2’ slot running from Wednesday afternoon through to Friday.

**Term 3 (Summer)** runs from April to September (5 weeks teaching, 2 weeks run-up to examinations, plus approximately 11 further weeks intensive project work).

- In the first 5 weeks, a final module is taken in the ‘E’ slot running from Wednesday afternoon through to Friday; the rest of each week is set aside for revision, programme-level sessions and project work.
- After teaching finishes, there is a short gap for final revision ahead of exams in late May or early June.
- After the exams, project work should take place in earnest over the period from June to August, with a project report hand-in date at approximately the beginning of September.

Specific term dates are available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/termdates/](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/termdates/); more detailed guidance and deadlines are given in the programme handbook.

**Modules**

Modules are taken over all three terms. Those available through the programme are categorised as either compulsory (core modules), recommended (obvious choices highly relevant to the programme) or peripheral (alternative modules which may be more relevant to individual students’ interests).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Compulsory modules</th>
<th>Recommended modules</th>
<th>Peripheral modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>• Basic Epidemiology or Extended Epidemiology¹</td>
<td>• Health Policy, Process &amp; Power</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Foundations in Reproductive Health</td>
<td>• Introduction to Health Economics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Principles of Social Research</td>
<td>• Population Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Statistics for EPH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>And any one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Health Policy, Process &amp; Power</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Introduction to Health Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Population Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹: These options are offered alongside a separate ‘Extended Epidemiology’ module.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2, C1 slot</th>
<th></th>
<th>Term 2, C2 slot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Design &amp; Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td>Designing Disease Control Programmes in Developing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Health Care Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Health Promotion Approaches and Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maternal &amp; Child Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sociological Approaches to Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2, D1 slot</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 2, D2 slot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of Sexually Transmitted Infections</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of Public Health Interventions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Issues in Safe Motherhood &amp; Perinatal Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Epidemiology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Anthropology and Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3, E-slot</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Statistical Methods in Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysing Survey &amp; Population Data</td>
<td></td>
<td>Applying Public Health Principles in Developing Countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proposal Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Students must choose either Basic Epidemiology or Extended Epidemiology

In addition:

- Training sessions covering areas like computing, basic maths skills, English for academic purposes, using library resources, study skills and more are offered during the programme of the year (most being available from early in Term 1).
- Students are encouraged to attend the Global Health Lecture Series which runs weekly during term-time in Terms 1 and 2.

Further details about modules are given in the programme handbook and in the LSHTM-wide module handbook available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/msc_module_handbook/](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/msc_module_handbook/)

### Formal summer examinations

The formal examinations held in Term 3 consist of two unseen written examinations, known as Papers 1 and 2. Each exam lasts three hours. Paper 1 primarily examines specific content from Term 1 teaching, while Paper 2 tests the ability to integrate knowledge acquired from across the whole of the programme.

Further details about summer exams are given in the programme handbook.
**Project report**
As the last major component of the programme, students undertake a research project on a relevant topic – assessed through a written-up report. The project should be an independent piece of work, appropriately guided and supported by a supervisor and other relevant staff. The topic should be selected and a project proposal drawn up by the end of Term 2, for approval by the supervisor or personal tutor. Substantive work, including any travel or fieldwork, should start after the exams in the summer. The final report, to be submitted at the beginning of September, should be between 7,000 and 10,000 words long.

Criteria and further details about projects are given in the project handbook for the programme.

**Re-sits**
Reproductive & Sexual Health Research students follow the School policy on re-sits of modules, examinations and project reports. For students who are required to re-sit a module, module re-sits normally take place in September following submission of the project report. Re-sits of Paper 1 or Paper 2 (the summer exams) take place at the time of summer examinations in the following academic year (usually in late May or early June). Project report re-sits will be decided by the course Exam Board.

The School’s re-sits policy is available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/taughtcourses/exams_assmt_staff/resits_policy.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/taughtcourses/exams_assmt_staff/resits_policy.pdf)

**Exit Awards**
Students who do not manage to complete the Master’s degree programme, but who have achieved the appropriate number of credits through the satisfactory completion of formal assessments associated with the taught components of the degree programme, may be considered for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Reproductive and Sexual Health Research if they have successfully completed 120 credits.

More information on awards is available under the F2F Postgraduate Taught Degree Regulations at [Add link](#)

**STUDENT SUPPORT, GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES**

**Student charter**
LSHTM has a student charter which summarises the standards of service the School expects and aspires to offer students, as well as the standards of conduct which students should expect and aspire to follow in turn. Students and prospective students are encouraged to read this.

The LSHTM student charter is available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/student_charter.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/student_charter.pdf). A general summary of support and services offered to students is given at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/support/index.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/support/index.html)

**The student community**
All students on the programme are members of the LSHTM Students’ Representative Council (SRC). The SRC provides a focus for student opinion and identity across LSHTM, through representation on committees and by acting as a link between staff and students. In addition, the SRC organises LSHTM-wide social and sporting events.

Students on the programme elect representatives to liaise with staff and help communicate student views, as well as to help arrange social activities.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/src/index.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/src/index.html)

**Personal tutors**
Students on the programme are allocated a personal tutor who can provide both academic guidance and more general support or pastoral care. The personal tutor relationship is not about direct teaching – although tutors can recommend or arrange for their tutee to see other specific members of staff regarding specific academic matters. Personal tutors mainly act as a point of contact to discuss practical issues or questions regarding the programme, such as module choices or project selection, or as a first-line sympathetic ear for personal problems.

Further details about personal tutoring arrangements are given in the programme handbook.

### Student advice and counselling

The Student Advice & Counselling Service offers advice and support for any practical or emotional issues students may experience during their time at LSHTM. The Student Adviser can offer impartial advice on a range of issues including accommodation, financial concerns and immigration. The Counsellor is available to talk to any student who is experiencing anxiety or stress, study-related or otherwise.

All appointments with the Student Adviser or Counsellor are strictly confidential, and no information volunteered by a student will be passed on to anyone else without permission.

For further information, please see https://intra.lshtm.ac.uk/Teaching-and-Support/Student-Advice-and-Counselling/index

### Healthcare

LSHTM students can usually register with the Gower Street Medical Centre at 20 Gower Street, which offers an NHS GP (general practitioner) medical service. Alternatively, students can also register with a local NHS GP near their home address.

For further information about the postcodes covered by the Gower Street Medical Centre, please see intra.lshtm.ac.uk/studentadvice/healthcare/index.html. For further information about finding a GP near your home address, please see www.nhs.uk

### Learning resources and facilities

Students on the programme have access to comprehensive library and IT (computing) resources and facilities, as well as many other standard facilities such as the Refectory, common rooms, etc.

For further information, please see www.lshtm.ac.uk/library (Library) and www.lshtm.ac.uk/its (IT Services)

### English language support

While all students are required to demonstrate English language proficiency in line with the School's minimum requirements in order to be accepted on the programme, LSHTM provides free 'English for Academic Purposes' classes aimed at students whose first language is not English and who would like further support in adjusting to the demanding standards of postgraduate university study in Britain.

For further information, please see www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/english.html

### Further learning support

In addition to programme-level activities and academic support from personal tutors and teaching staff, LSHTM offers specific training sessions in areas such as basic maths skills and introductory-level computing. A series of study skills workshops are held throughout the year on topics such as effective reading and coping with exams. Students with disabilities such as dyslexia should contact the Student Adviser for appropriate guidance and support.

For further information, please see www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/studyskills.html. Please also see earlier sub-section on ‘Students with disabilities’ regarding disability support.

### Careers advice and resources

The School's Careers Service can provide confidential advice and guidance appropriate to the diverse needs of students at the School, from those with established careers who wish to change direction to those who have come from their first degree and are looking to establish a career. Advisers can assist on an individual basis (including help with career planning, CV writing and interview technique), in
small groups, or through School-wide events (arranging regular careers fairs and forums, talks by speakers from relevant organisations, and workshops on essential career skills).

The on-site Careers Centre offers a central reference point for job vacancies, careers information and literature and employer information. The LSHTM Careers Service is also part of the Specialist Institutions' Careers Service (SICS) of the University of London Careers Group, and students can access their even more extensive resources.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers) and [www.careers.lon.ac.uk](http://www.careers.lon.ac.uk)

## PROGRAMME QUALITY

### Quality evaluation and enhancement

The programme is subject to LSHTM’s rigorous quality assurance processes, including both standard annual monitoring and an extensive special review every five years.

As students reach the end of the programme, they are asked to give specific feedback both via class discussion sessions and an end-of-programme survey. Feedback on other topics, including the content of specific modules as well as more general issues like Library facilities, will also be sought at intervals throughout the period of study. Such feedback is anonymised, analysed, discussed and followed up by appropriate committees and functions within the School.

Operation of the programme itself is overseen by a dedicated committee. A range of further LSHTM committees and functions are responsible for identifying and resolving any problems, improving programme quality and enhancing the student experience on an ongoing basis.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance)

### External Examiner

A list of current External Examiners to the School is available at [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/external_examiners_list.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/external_examiners_list.pdf)

The standard of awards is scrutinised by the above External Examiner(s), according to LSHTM policies and procedures consistent with UK national best practice. External Examiners are senior academics from other institutions or subject experts, who provide independent scrutiny of both the setting and marking of assessments. They provide annual reports which are scrutinised both at course level and centrally, and are publicly available via [www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/annualmonitoring.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/qualityassurance/annualmonitoring.html).

## AFTER GRADUATION

### Possible routes to further study

Successful completion of the programme may serve as excellent preparation for students who wish to go on to take a higher degree, such as a PhD, DrPH or MPhil – whether to be undertaken at LSHTM or elsewhere.

For further information on research degrees at LSHTM, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/research/index.html](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/research/index.html)

### Possible graduate employment routes

The programme is suitable for those aiming to work in public health and reproductive health programmes, evaluation of family planning programmes, research for governmental and non-governmental agencies and university teaching.

It may be noted that LSHTM has links with the World Health Organisation (WHO Collaborating Centre), UK Department of Health, UK National Health Service and NHS Graduate Scheme, UN High Commission on Refugees, International Committee of the Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières, Oxfam, GOAL, Merlin, International SOS, Save the Children, Malaria Consortium, Action Against Hunger, International Medical Corps, DOCS International, Emergency, Medair, Médecins Du Monde, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Clinton Foundation HIV/Aids Initiative, Public Health

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers/onlinecareerresources/grad_data_june_2011_update.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/careers/onlinecareerresources/grad_data_june_2011_update.pdf)

### The Alumni Association

Membership of the LSHTM Alumni Association is free and open to all former students of LSHTM. This is a diverse community of over 15,000 alumni in more than 180 countries, including local chapters, and with regular events, communications and opportunities to meet fellow alumni in many different parts of the world. The Association aims to provide past students with lifelong links to the School and each other, and is keen to foster a vibrant and active alumni community. All alumni are encouraged to register their details and participate further.

For further information, please see [www.lshtm.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/alumni) or email alumni@lshtm.ac.uk

### ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This Programme Specification has been developed in line with the nationally agreed reference points for assuring the quality and standards of higher education in the United Kingdom, known as the Academic Infrastructure. For further information, please see [www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/Pages/default.aspx)

Last revised DD/MM/YYYY by Name