

# Module Specification

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



## ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

**This module specification applies for the academic year 2017-18**

**Last revised** 8 August 2017, by Martine Collumbien and Pippa Grenfell

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel St., London WC1E 7HT. [www.lshtm.ac.uk](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Module name</b>	<b>Sexual Health</b>
<b>Module code</b>	1804
<b>Module Organisers</b>	Martine Collumbien and Pippa Grenfell
<b>Contact email</b>	<a href="mailto:Martine.Collumbien@lshtm.ac.uk">Martine.Collumbien@lshtm.ac.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:Pippa.Grenfell@lshtm.ac.uk">Pippa.Grenfell@lshtm.ac.uk</a>
<b>Home Faculty</b>	Public Health & Policy
<b>Level</b>	Level 7 (postgraduate Masters 'M' level) of the QAA <a href="#">Framework for Higher Education Qualifications</a> in England, Wales & Northern Ireland (FHEQ).
<b>Credit</b>	15 credits
<b>Accreditation</b>	Not currently accredited by any other body
<b>Keywords</b>	Vulnerable groups; Sexual & reproductive health; Disease prevention & control; Behavioural aspects; Access to health information; Sexuality; Values/ Human rights; Gender & health; Sociology (including socio-cultural aspects); Research (in general); Self-reflection; International/global.

## AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE

<b>Overall aim</b>	To acquaint students with the theoretical and empirical aspects of the study of sexual health, and their application to public health practice.
<b>Intended learning outcomes</b>	By the end of this module, students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Define sexual health and its key components</li><li>• Describe who is most at risk of poor sexual health and why</li><li>• Demonstrate understanding of social influences on sexual behaviour and health, and their implications</li><li>• Evaluate the impact of specific issues relating to the classification and measurement of sexual attitudes and behaviour, including political, ethical and research issues</li><li>• Appraise a range of interventions designed to improve sexual health, including broad spectrum and community based approaches</li></ul>
<b>Target audience</b>	This module is intended to introduce students to issues involved in working in the area of sexual health, whether as researchers, practitioners or evaluators.

<b>CONTENT</b>	
<b>Session content</b>	<p>The module is expected to include sessions addressing the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of sexual behaviour: theoretical and empirical issues, definitions of 'normal', sexual diversity and conformity, and implications for sexual health. The regulation of sexual conduct.</li> <li>• Historical and social science approaches to the study of sexual behaviour (i.e. variations through time and across societies). Trends in sexual mores and their implications for public health. Influences on sexual attitudes and lifestyles - psychological, biological, cultural, economic, religious, political, technological, etc.</li> <li>• Political aspects of sexual health; treatment of sex, sexuality and sexual health in society and law, implications of stigma, criminalisation, sensitivities and taboos for practice of sexual health medicine and provision of services. Communication about sexual matters. Gender issues in sexual health. The health of sexual and gender minorities.</li> <li>• Researching sexual behaviour: pitfalls and possibilities; appropriate and inappropriate methodologies; examples of qualitative and quantitative research.</li> <li>• Public health priorities in sexual health. Designing, implementing and assessing sexual health interventions.</li> </ul>
<b>TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>Study resources provided or required</b>	<p>Module Information can be found on the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle) containing information about each session and key references for the module.</p> <p>A textbook of the module, <i>Sexual Health: A public health perspective</i> by Kaye Wellings, Kirstin Mitchell and Martine Collumbien, will be available for purchase and can be accessed electronically via MOODLE.</p>
<b>Teaching and learning methods</b>	Formal lectures will be interspersed with practical group work, participatory plenary sessions and debates.
<b>Assessment details</b>	<p>Formal assessment will be by a written assignment on the social influences on sexual behaviour and their implications for sexual health. The assessment will contribute 100% of the total grade for the module.</p> <p>Resit/deferred/new attempts - The task will be a short essay to answer one question (out of three possible questions) in the area of sexual health and sexual behaviour research, or sexual health service provision, or sexual health promotion.</p>
<b>Assessment dates</b>	<p>Assessments will be due on <b>Friday 24 March 2017</b>.</p> <p>Resit/deferred/new attempts - The next assessment deadline will be during mid/late September of the current academic year.</p>
<b>Language of study and assessment</b>	English (please see 'English language requirements' below regarding the standard required for entry).
<b>TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY</b>	
<b>Duration</b>	5 weeks at 2.5 days per week

<b>Dates</b>	Wednesday lunchtime to Friday afternoon
<b>Timetable slot</b>	Term 2 - slot <b>D2</b>
<b>Mode of Study</b>	The module is taught face-to-face in London. Both full-time and part-time students follow the same schedule.
<b>Learning time</b>	The notional learning time for the module totals 150 hours, consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact time ≈ 30 hours</li> <li>• Directed self-study ≈ 35 hours</li> <li>• Self-directed learning ≈ 35 hours</li> <li>• Assessment, review and revision ≈ 50 hours</li> </ul>
<b>APPLICATION AND ADMISSION</b>	
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	It is highly recommended for students to have studied principles of social research prior to taking this module.
<b>English language requirements</b>	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> .
<b>Student numbers</b>	50-60 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing).
<b>Student selection</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>Full Registration (full participation) by LSHTM research degree students is required for this module, although the assessment for research degrees students is optional.</p>