MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2026-2027
Module Code	GHM102
Module Title	The Politics of Global Health Policy
Module Organiser(s)	Marco Liverani
Contact email	For students studying University of London Awards (initial registration 2025/2026 and prior years): Enquiries may be made via their Student Advice Centre at: Student Advice Centre. For students studying LSHTM awards (registration in 2026/2027 and onwards): Enquiries should be emailed to: GHPsupport@lshtm.ac.uk
Faculty	Public Health & Policy
FHEQ Level	Level 7
Credit Value	**CATS** 15 **ECTS** 7.5
Mode of Delivery	Distance Learning
Mode of Study	Directed self-study, through online materials via the Virtual Learning Environment
Language of Study	English
Pre-Requisites	None
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	None
Module Cap (Maximum number of students)	None
Target Audience	This module is compulsory for the PGCert/PGDip/MSc Global Health Policy by Distance Learning, and an elective module for PG Dip/MSc Health in Humanitarian Crises by Distance Learning. It can also be taken as a standalone module. The module is aimed at those with an interest in the political dimension of global health policy including public health actors, NGO employees and those employed in health ministries (or seeking employment in these areas).
Module Description	This module provides an introduction to essential concepts from the fields of political science, social theory and

	international relations to help students understand, interpret and critique the key actors and process within global health policy making. Topics covered in the module include global governance, power, institutions, the state, civil society, public-private partnerships, expert networks, political identity and health diplomacy. In addition, the module examines cross-cutting themes such as financing, human rights and development.
Duration	Moodle is open to access from 1st October. Students then plan their own studies between October and June.
Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	June 2025

For students studying UoL awards (initial registration in 2025/2026 and prior years)

Programme(s) This module is linked to the following programme(s)	**Status**
PGCert/PGDip/MSc Global Health Policy (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Compulsory
PGDip/MSc Health in Humanitarian Crises (Distance Learning – University of London Worldwide)	Elective

For students studying LSHTM awards (registration in 2026/2027 and onwards)

Programme(s) This module is linked to the following programme(s)	**Status**
PGCert Global Health Policy (Distance Learning)	Compulsory
PGDip Global Health Policy (Distance Learning)	Compulsory
MSc Global Health Policy (Distance Learning)	Compulsory
PGDip Health in Humanitarian Crises (Distance Learning)	Elective
MSc Health in Humanitarian Crises (Distance Learning)	Elective

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

Overall aim of the module
The overall module aim is to: • provide conceptual foundations to understand the political dynamics shaping global health policy.

Module Intended Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the module a student should be able to: 1. describe the main global governance arrangements and institutions in the field of health policy and critique their effectiveness; 2. identify key actors and interests involved in global health policy making and critically assess their impact on global health policy; 3. interpret key political dynamics shaping global health governance; 4. apply key concepts from the fields of political science and international relations as discussed in the module to analyse debates in global health policy.

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content
The module is expected to cover the following topics: • Introduction; • Global Health Governance; • Power in Global Health Policy; • Intergovernmental Organisations and their Influence on Global Health Policy • The Role of the State in Global Health; • The Role of Civil Society in Global Health; • Corporations and Global Health Policy; • Partnerships for Global Health; • Transnational Expert Networks in Global Health; • Human Rights and Health Discourses and Global Health Policy; • The Politics of Global Health and Development; • The Politics of Global Health Financing; • Global Health Politics and Identities.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Directed self-study	84	56
Self-directed learning	16	11
Assessment, review and revision	50	33
Total	**150**	**100**

Teaching and Learning Strategy
Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Module tutors provide asynchronous support for students by replying to students' questions in open online discussion forums and facilitating discussion. Students

Teaching and Learning Strategy
are also strongly encouraged to participate in live webinars available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of LSHTM online library resources. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted formative assignments.

Assessment

Assessment Strategy
An optional formative assessment (FA) is offered to students to assess their knowledge and understanding of the materials and receive individual feedback. The formative assessment is optional and will not count towards a student's final module grade. The summative assessment of this module is by time-limited assessment (TLA) which will account for 100% of the student's final module grade.

Summative Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes)	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Time-limited assessment	3 questions, word limit of 1,200 words per question	100	1 - 4

Formative assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, no later than **14 February** and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System.

Time-limited assessments for DL modules are held once a year, usually in June (including resits). Please note that a separate assessment fee may be payable in addition to the module fee. Further details will be communicated as soon as the final decisions are known.

For students studying UoL awards (initial registration in 2025/2026 and prior years)
Assessments are held in accordance with University of London's annual guidance.

For students studying LSHTM awards (registration in 2026/2027 and onwards)
Assessments are held in accordance with Chapter 8b of the LSHTM Academic Manual.

Resitting assessment
Resits will accord with Chapter 8b of the LSHTM Academic Manual. The Resit assessment will be the same assessment type as the first attempt (see previous table)

Resources

Indicative reading list
This is a sample of readings from across the different sessions in the module:

Hawkins B, Liverani M (2022). Bilateral, multilateral and regional actors in global health. In: Stephens C, Hawkins B, Liverani M (editors). *Globalization and Global Health*: Open University Press.

Greer SL, Bekker M, de Leeuw E, Wismar M, Helderman JK, Ribeiro S, Stuckler D. (2017). Policy, politics and public health. European Journal of Public Health 27(suppl_4): 40-43.

Ooms G. & Hammonds R. (2018) The Human Right to Health and Global Health Politics. In *The Oxford Handbook of Global Health Politics*. Oxford University Press.

Stone (2020). Making Global Policy. Cambridge University Press. Ch 1: Public Policy for Global Problems.

Other resources
A full list of essential, recommended and further reading is given for each session.

Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle provides students with access to the majority of the module learning materials, including a study guide and online reading list (detailing both essential and recommended readings), and additional resources including supplementary exercises and optional lecture recordings. In some cases, module materials include a text book that is made available to students in e-format. All materials posted up on Moodle areas, including computer-based sessions, have been made accessible where possible. The LSHTM Moodle has been made accessible to the widest possible audience, using a VLE that allows for up to 300% zoom, permits navigation via keyboard and use of speech recognition software, and that allows listening through a screen reader. All students have access to "SensusAccess" software which allows conversion of files into alternative formats.

For Students studying University of London Awards (initial registration 2025/2026 and prior years):
For students with special needs, reasonable adjustments and support can be arranged – details and how to request support can be found on the University of London Worldwide website at: Inclusive practice and Access arrangements | University of London

For Students Studying LSHTM awards (registration 2026/2027 and onwards):
For students who require learning or assessment adjustments and support this can be arranged through the Student Support Services – details and how to request support can be found on the LSHTM Disability Support pages.