MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2026-27
Module Code	IDM201
Module Title	Bacterial Infections
Module Organiser(s)	Fauzy Nasher & Catherine Hall
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 IDsupport@lshtm.ac.uk
Faculty	Infectious & Tropical Diseases
FHEQ Level	Level 7
Credit Value	**CATS:** 15 **ECTS:** 7.5
Mode of Delivery	Distance Learning
Mode of Study	Directed self-study, through provided and online materials
Language of Study	English
Pre-Requisites	Those who wish to study this module as an individual module or as part of another programme should note they should have prior knowledge of basic biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology and parasitology in order to be able to work through and benefit fully from this module.
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	None
Module Cap (Maximum number of students)	None
Target Audience	This module is an optional module for those studying for an MSc in Infectious Diseases. This module is intended for those who wish to understand the principles of bacteriology with a focus on human bacterial pathogens and the procedures used to investigate infection from clinical materials.
Module Description	The module deals with biology of bacteria as pathogens. It focuses on the ways in which the procedures that are used to investigate bacteria from clinical materials (specimens

	collected from ill people) reflect current understanding of the pathogenesis of bacterial infections and how infections can be controlled.
Duration	Distance learning module studies begin in early October. Students start their studies at any time from receipt of study materials and work through the material until the start of the June assessments (although assessment submission deadlines which are earlier than this must be observed).
Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	March 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**
PGDip/MSc Infectious Diseases (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective option
PGDip Public Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health (General Stream) (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health: Environment and Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health: Health and Promotion (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option
MSc Public Health: Health Services Management (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)	Elective Option

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

Programme(s) This module is linked to the following programme(s)	**Status**
PGDip Infectious Diseases (Distance Learning)	Elective
MSc Infectious Diseases (Distance Learning)	Elective
PGDip Public Health (Distance Learning)	Elective
MSc Public Health (Distance Learning)	Elective

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

Overall aim of the module
The overall module aims are to: • give students an understanding of the biology of bacteria as pathogens. • give students an understanding of how samples are collected and analysed and how procedures used to investigate bacteria from clinical materials reflect current understanding of the pathogenesis of bacterial infections. • give students an understanding of how bacterial infections can be prevented and treated.

Module Intended Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the module a student will be able to: 1. Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the pathogenesis of bacterial infections in humans by explaining and comparing their microbiology and epidemiology; 2. Apply specialist theoretical knowledge and demonstrate a practical understanding of relevant clinical samples to be collected, if presented with infected patients, and associated appropriate laboratory investigations; 3. Apply specialist theoretical knowledge to determine appropriate investigations on clinical samples of bacterial infections, and to interpret and evaluate the results from diagnostic techniques.

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content
The module is expected to cover the following topics: • **Section 1**. Introduction to bacterial infections e.g. specimen processing, laboratory diagnosis, identification, pathogenesis, antibiotic resistance. • **Section 2**. Urinary tract infections e.g. laboratory diagnosis, common bacteria, pathogenesis • **Section 3**. Meningitis e.g. Meningococcal, *Haemophilus*, Pneumococcal, neonatal • **Section 4**. Wound and perinatal infections e.g. neonatal tetanus, puerperal sepsis, surgical wound infection • **Section 5**. Gastrointestinal infections e.g. *Helicobacter pylori,* diarrhoea, dysentery, food poisoning, enteric fever

Session Content
• **Section 6**. Lower respiratory tract infections e.g. Whooping cough, Legionnaires' disease, pneumonia • **Section 7**. Choice of methods e.g. investigation of urine • **Section 8**. Thinking numbers e.g. the scope of bacterial infections.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Directed self-study	75	50
Self-directed learning	25	17
Assessment, review and revision	50	33
Total	**150**	**100**

Teaching and Learning Strategy
The learning strategy is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the module-specific discussion forums available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of the LSHTM online library resources. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted assignments.

Assessment

Assessment Strategy
Formal assessment of this module is by an assessed assignment comprising a 2500 word written assignment (100%).

Assessment submission deadlines

Assessed assignment submission deadline **12th May**

Summative assessment

Assessment Type	**Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes)**	**Weighting** (%)	**Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested**
Assessed Assignment	2500 words	100	1, 2, 3,

Assignments for this module will be made available to students on **12th April** and can be submitted once annually, by **12th May** via the online Assignment Management System.

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.

Please note that a separate assessment fee may be payable in addition to the module fee.

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). (Note that for those resitting module assessments, a fee will be payable.)

- Prior to September 2026, students were required to sit a Time-Limited Assessment (TLA) (70% of module marks) and submit an assessed assignment (AA) (30% of module marks).
- Students who have were registered to this module prior to 1 September 2026 and have not submitted any element of the IDM201 assessment must move to the new mode of assessment.
- If a student registered for module IDM201 prior to 1 September 2026 and is required to sit the TLA or needs to or wishes to resit the TLA the last opportunity to take the TLA will be June 2028 after which all students requiring a sit the TLA will be transferred to the new mode of assessment and will be required to submit a new mode assessed assignment. The TLA's will usually be held in **June**.
- If a student registered for module IDM201 prior to 1 September 2026 has obtained a pass in the TLA prior to 1 September 2026 and have not submitted the AA they will still need to submit the old mode AA. The submission deadline is **31st March**

Resitting assessment
If a student has obtained a grade of between 1-1.99 for the AA it may be possible to compensate for this grade (note only one module grade of between 1.0-1.99 can be compensated for)

Resources

Indicative reading list

- Heymann, D.L., (2014) *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*. Revised 20th Edition. American Public Health Association, ISBN: 978-0875530185.
- Goering, R.V., Dockrell, H.M., Zuckerman, M. and Chiodini, P.L., (2024) *Mims' Medical Microbiology and Immunology.* 7th Ed. ISBN: 9780702071546.

Textbooks will be made available in e-format or hard copy if e-format unavailable, to registered students in early autumn.

Other resources

Study Guide: Available online, and to download, via the virtual learning environment.

Reader: On-line reading list via the Virtual Learning Environment

In addition to the materials above, students are given access to the **LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment, (VLE; Moodle** where they can access the study guide, reading list, web-based discussion forums, assignments, supplementary materials and the **LSHTM online library resources**.

Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle provides students with access to the module learning materials, including a study guide (with accessible printable versions of sessions), an online reading list (containing essential readings), textbooks in e-format and additional resources including supplementary exercises.

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.