



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2026-27
Module Code	2007
Module Title	Extended Epidemiology
Module Organiser(s)	Dr David MacLeod, Dr Georgia Gore-Langton and Dr Enny Cruz
Faculty	Epidemiology and Population Health
FHEQ Level	Level 7
Credit Value	CATS: 15 ECTS: 7.5
Term of Delivery	Term 1
Mode of Delivery	For 2026-27 this module will be delivered by predominantly face-to-face teaching modes. A small number of specific teaching sessions (review lectures) mentioned in this module specification may be delivered as pre-recorded activities depending on scheduling, and made available for self-directed study (asynchronous learning).
Mode of Study	Both full-time and part-time students follow the same schedule
Language of Study	English 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 English language requirements.
Pre-Requisites	None, but quantitative skills expected.
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	N/A
Module Cap (indicative number of students)	250 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing)
Target Audience	Extended Epidemiology is a core module for all students on the MSc Epidemiology, MSc Veterinary Epidemiology and MSc Public Health for Global Practice programmes. Students of MSc Control of Infectious Diseases, MSc Demography and Health, and MSc Reproductive and Sexual Health Research

	must take either Basic Epidemiology or Extended Epidemiology.
Module Description	The module provides a solid introductory grounding in the design, analysis and interpretation of epidemiological studies and introduces epidemiological methods applied to public health.
Duration	10 weeks at 1 day per week (Tuesday and Wednesday mornings)
Timetabling slot	Term 1
Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	October 2024

Programme(s)	Status
This module is linked to the following programme(s)	
MSc Epidemiology	Compulsory
MSc Veterinary Epidemiology	Compulsory
MSc Public Health for Global Practice	Compulsory
MSc Control of Infectious Diseases	Optional
MSc Demography and Health	Optional
MSc Reproductive & Sexual Health Research	Optional

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

Overall aim of the module
The overall module aim is to introduce the core concepts in the design, analysis and interpretation of epidemiological studies and introduce epidemiological methods applied to public health.

Module Intended Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the module a student will be able to: 1. Describe, calculate and interpret epidemiological measures. 2. Identify the key principles and assess the relative merits of different epidemiological study designs. 3. Discuss and evaluate key considerations in the design, conduct and interpretation of epidemiological studies. 4. Identify the major potential sources of error in epidemiological studies and assess the implications of these sources of error. 5. Apply epidemiological principles to the ascertainment of disease in populations.

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content

The module is expected to cover the following topics:

- Cases & measures of disease frequency
- Measures of effect
- Measures of population impact
- Infectiousness and dynamics of infection
- Ecological studies
- Intervention studies
- Cohort studies
- Case-control studies
- Bias
- Measurement error: validity and reliability
- Confounding and effect modification
- Control of confounding
- Screening
- Causality

We will also discuss, in several sessions, the increasingly important role of routinely collected data in modern epidemiology.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Contact time	≈ 50 hours	33%
Directed self-study	≈ 38 hours	25%
Self-directed learning	≈ 12 hours	8%
Assessment, review and revision	≈ 50 hours	33%
Total	150	100%

Student contact time refers to the tutor-mediated time allocated to teaching, provision of guidance and feedback to students. This time includes activities that take place in face-to-face contexts such as lectures, seminars, demonstrations, tutorials, supervised laboratory workshops, practical classes, project supervision as well as where tutors are available for discussions and interaction by email or other online digital tools such as Zoom, Blackboard, or Moodle fora.

The division of notional learning hours listed above is indicative and is designed to inform students as to the relative split between interactive and self-directed study.

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Teaching and Learning Strategy

The teaching and learning strategy centres on lectures followed by practical sessions. In the practical sessions, students have the opportunity to apply the concepts and methods covered in the immediately preceding lectures. The practicals provide students with “hands on” experience in thinking and working through concepts and learning points in the context of real examples. Practical tutors facilitate small-group discussions and sum up key points in class discussions. For each practical, students are provided with detailed solutions to the tasks set, enabling them to check that their understanding of the material. An extended practical study-design exercise at the end of term brings together learning points from across the module. There is a mid-term review lecture where material is recapped. There is also an interactive review session at the end of term during which students can ask questions on the formative assessments and any of the taught topics and clarify points of uncertainty. There is a mix of formative learning activities that will be self-marked or automatically marked, including MCQs, SAQs and a paper critique.

Assessment

Assessment Strategy

The assessment for this module has been designed to measure student learning against the module intended learning outcomes (ILOs) as listed above. The summative assessment consists of a structured paper critique with a series of short-answer questions relating to a specific research paper. The assessment will be issued after the end of term 1 and is to be submitted before the start of Term 2 teaching. The summative assessment will count for 100% of the module GPA.

There is a formative, example assessment provided after reading week that is the same format as the summative assignment, to be carried out in the students’ own time and to be self-marked. There will also be short, multiple choice quizzes made available on Moodle during the course to allow students to monitor their own progress.

Summative Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes)	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Paper review	Short answer questions (handed in before Term 2)	100%	1 – 5

Resitting assessment

Resits will accord with [Chapter 8a](#) of the LSHTM Academic Manual.



Resitting assessment

The unseen short answer questions resit will take place in term 3.

Resources

Indicative reading list

1. Webb P and Bain C. *Essential Epidemiology: An introduction for Students and Health Professional*. (4th Edition), Cambridge University Press. 2020.
2. Webb P, Bain C. *Essential epidemiology : an introduction for students and health professionals* /. 2nd ed. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press; 2011.
3. Hennekens CH, Buring JE, Mayrent SL. *Epidemiology in medicine* /. Boston: Little Brown; 1987.
4. Gordis L. *Epidemiology* /. Fifth edition. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier/Saunders; 2013.
5. Bailey L, Vardulaki K, Langham J, Chandramohan D. *Introduction to epidemiology* / [Internet]. 2005.
6. Carneiro I, Howard N. *Introduction to epidemiology* / [Internet]. Second edition. Maidenhead: McGraw Hill Oxford University Press; 2011.
7. Keyes KM, Galea S. *Epidemiology matters : a new introduction to methodological foundations* /. Oxford: Oxford University Press;; 2014.
8. Silva I dos S. *Cancer epidemiology : principles and methods* / [Internet]. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer; 1999. Available from: <http://publications.iarc.fr/Non-Series-Publications/Other-Non-Series-Publications/Cancer-Epidemiology-Principles-And-Methods-1999>
9. Bonita R, Beaglehole R, Kjellström T. *Basic epidemiology* / [Internet]. Second edition. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2006.
10. Porta MS. *A dictionary of epidemiology* /. Sixth edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press;; 2014.
11. Rothman KJ, Greenland S, Lash TL. *Modern epidemiology* /. Third edition. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott-Raven; 2008.
12. Giesecke J. *Modern infectious disease epidemiology* /. Second edition. London: Taylor and Francis; 2001.
13. Coggon D, Rose G, Barker DJP. *Epidemiology for the uninitiated* / [Internet]. Fifth edition. London: BMJ; 2003.

Other resources

Module information can be found on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) (Moodle), including information about each session and key references for the module. Lecturers make their lecture slides available electronically. We provide practical solutions at the end of practical sessions. A selection of textbooks is suggested, but not required. All are available in the Library.



Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

All lectures are recorded and made available online. Notes, slides and handouts are provided prior to each session, and solutions afterwards. Supplementary exercises with solutions, and suggestions for background reading, are also provided. The module also provides additional support for students with disabilities and learning differences in accordance with the Student Support Services section of the Student Handbook. Reasonable adjustments and support can be arranged.

The module-specific site on Moodle provides students with access to lecture notes, lecture recordings, and copies of the slides used during the lecture (in pdf 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 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](#).