



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2026-27
Module Code	3196
Module Title	Analysis & Design of Research Studies
Module Organiser(s)	Tanya Marchant and Anton Spadar
Faculty	Infectious & Tropical Diseases
FHEQ Level	Level 7
Credit Value	CATS: 10 ECTS: 5
Term of Delivery	Term 1
Mode of Delivery	For 2026-27 this module will be delivered by predominantly face-to-face teaching modes. Where specific teaching methods (lectures, seminars, discussion groups) are noted in this module specification these will be delivered by predominantly face-to-face sessions. There will be a combination of live and interactive activities (synchronous learning) as well as recorded or self-directed study (asynchronous learning).
Mode of Study	Full-time
Language of Study	English
Pre-Requisites	None. However, some students will find the centrally organised 'Basic Maths Support' classes to be of benefit.
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	None
Module Cap (Indicative number of students)	100 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing)
Target Audience	This module is compulsory for all students on the MSc programmes in Immunology of Infectious Diseases, Medical Microbiology, and Medical Parasitology & Entomology.
Module Description	This module provides an introduction to the data management and statistical analysis methods required to analyse data and generate new evidence.
Duration	10 weeks at 0.5 days per week
Timetabling slot	Term 1



Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	July 2024
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Programme(s)	Status
This module is linked to the following programme(s)	
MSc Immunology of Infectious Diseases	Compulsory
MSc Medical Microbiology	Compulsory
MSc Medical Parasitology & Entomology	Compulsory

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

Overall aim of the module
The overall module aim is to: introduce the fundamental concepts, principles and techniques required to design a research study, analyse and interpret the data. Examples will be based around research themes appropriate to the MSc. This module provides a suitable foundation for students involved in laboratory and field research on which they can develop their skills for independent research.

Module Intended Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the module a student will be able to: - Describe the key considerations and principles in the planning and design of a study; - Construct and interpret data using graphical and tabular methods; - Interpret the concept of sampling variation and estimate the sampling variability of a mean and proportion; - Apply knowledge of sampling variation to construct 95% confidence intervals and test hypotheses about population means and proportions; - Select and perform the appropriate statistical technique for the analysis of means and proportions given the research question and distribution of the data; - Interpret the results of simple statistical analyses and communicate them in a clear, concise and appropriate manner.

Indicative Syllabus

Session Content
The module is expected to cover the following topics: • Variables and distributions; summarising data; • Sampling variability of a mean; • Analysis of quantitative data; comparing two means; • Sampling variability of proportions; • Analysis of categorical data; comparing two proportions; • Data and transformations; • ANOVA, linear regression and correlation; • Odds and logistic regression; • Design of experiments.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Contact time	30	30
Directed self-study	20	20
Self-directed learning	20	20
Assessment, review and revision	30	30
Total	100	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 one-to-one discussions and interaction by email.

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.



Teaching and Learning Strategy

Lectures will introduce topics then students will join face-to-face practical classes to put learning into practise. These will take a variety of forms, such as analysis using statistical software, R, interpretation of computer results, discussion of experimental design and analyses.

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. Formative assessment methods may be used to measure students' progress. The grade for summative assessment(s) only will go towards the overall award GPA.

The summative assessment for this module in term 1 will be online in the format of an unseen written assessment.

A formative assessment is to be completed by all students towards the end of the module. Solutions will be covered in the revision session in week 10. This formative assessment will not contribute to the overall MSc grade, but all students are strongly recommended to complete it since it provides both tutors and students with valuable information about student progress.

Summative Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes)	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Timed Test	Completed within 2 hours	100	1 - 6

Resitting assessment

Resits will accord with [Chapter 8a](#) 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

Course materials and lecture notes will all be provided via the LSHTM learning environment, Moodle. No additional reading is required for this module.

Other resources

Some students will benefit from accessing the basic maths refresher course available through Moodle.

Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle provides students with access to lecture notes and copies of the slides used during the lecture prior to the lecture (in pdf format). All lectures are recorded and made available on Moodle as quickly as possible. 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](#).