PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Overview

Programme Title	Immunology of Infectious Diseases
Academic Year	2027-28
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in September
Programme Director	Stephen Cose, Theresa Ward
Awarding Body	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Teaching Institution	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Faculty	Infectious and Tropical Diseases
Length of Programme	Full-time Taught Masters programmes: 12 months Split Study Taught Masters programmes: 24 months
Mode of Delivery	Intensive
Maximum period of registration	Full-time: 3 years Split-study: 5 years
Language of Study	English
Entry Requirements	Please refer to the specific programme entry requirements here.
Award Titles	Master of Science in Immunology of Infectious Diseases Exit Awards: Postgraduate Diploma in Immunology of Infectious Diseases (120 credits) Postgraduate Certificate in Immunology of Infectious Diseases (60 credits)
Total Credits	**CATS:** 180 **ECTS:** 90

Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	N/A
Relevant PGT QAA Benchmark Statement and/or other external/internal reference points	N/A
Framework for Higher Education Qualifications Level (FHEQ)	Level 7
Re-sit Policy	https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-08a.pdf
Extenuating Circumstances Policy	https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf
Date of Introduction of Programme	c. 1990

2. Programme Description, Aims & Learning Outcomes

Programme Description
This programme combines the understanding of, and practical training in, the immunology of infectious diseases, through cutting-edge lectures, research methods and laboratory-based research projects. Students will gain specialised skills in exploring scientific concepts, analysing scientific data and carrying out modern immunological techniques, applying their new-found skills to a research project tackling one of the current or emerging diseases of humankind. Such projects range from basic investigations of immune mechanisms or applied field-based studies in laboratories at LSHTM, or one of their overseas Units, or an international partner research laboratory. What sets this programme apart is its setting. At LSHTM, you'll learn at the crossroads of immunology, vaccinology, molecular biology, virology, bacteriology, parasitology, mycology and clinical medicine, an interdisciplinary

mix few institutions can match. In a world where infectious diseases remain a major cause of illness and death, research into how innate, humoral and cellular immunity protect us against pathogens is ever-important, alongside vaccine development as a priority for global health. As a result, there is increased demand for scientists, clinicians and veterinarians who want to deepen their expertise in this fast-moving field. The flexible nature of the programme allows students to gain broad understanding and tailored experiences in infectious diseases.

Educational aims of the programme

The aim of the programme – consistent with the LSHTM's mission to improve health worldwide – is to provide advanced theoretical knowledge and practical training in the immunology of infectious diseases through a comprehensive range of teaching and research methods. It equips students with the range of specialised knowledge and skills in applying scientific concepts, evaluating scientific data, and carrying out modern immunological techniques.

Programme Learning Outcomes

By the end of the programme, students will be expected to achieve the following learning outcomes – drawing on material taught across different elements and assessed in a variety of ways.

(i) demonstrate specialist knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of host immunity to infection against the diverse range of pathogens which confront human populations;
(ii) apply this specialist knowledge to a range of practical skills and techniques, including novel molecular and cellular techniques for assessing immune responses to pathogens;
(iii) critically assess, select and apply appropriate research methods to investigate basic immunological mechanisms and applied issues in the immunology of infection;
(iv) critically evaluate primary scientific data and the published scientific literature;
(v) integrate and present key immunological concepts at an advanced level, both verbally and in written form.

Teaching and Learning Strategy

The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including lectures, small group seminars, practicals and group work with peers. All elements of the programme have specific learning objectives, with content designed to help students achieve these outcomes. Students are expected to learn through both directed and self-directed study.

Assessment Strategy
Assessment methods will vary across the programme, reflecting the breadth of subject learning and enabling students to demonstrate achievement of intended learning outcomes through different methods of assessment. The programme is assessed through individual module assessments, many of which will integrate theoretical and practical knowledge. Assessment formats include a range of authentic written coursework tasks, oral presentations, and time-limited exams. Some assessment tasks (formative or summative) may include elements of groupwork. Assessment methods are selected to align with module learning outcomes and to support progressive development of understanding and skills over the course of the programme.

3. Programme Structure and features, modules, credit assignment and award requirements:

Full-time Masters	Term 1	Term 2/3	Term 3	Total Credits
Compulsory Modules	2	1		90
Recommended Modules		2		30
Project			1	60

Module information is correct at the time of publication, but minor amendments may be made subject to approval as detailed in Chapter 3 of the LSHTM Academic Manual. Elective modules listed are indicative and may change from year to year. https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/changes-courses

Term	Term Slot	Module Code	Module Title	Module Type	Credits (CATS)
1	AB1	tbc	Immunology of Infectious Diseases	Compulsory	45
1	AB1	tbc	Research Skills for Immunology	Compulsory	15
2	C1/C2	tbc	Advanced Topics in Immunology	Compulsory	30
2	D1	3167	Immunology of Clinical Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D1	tbc	Antimicrobial Drug Discovery in the Era of Artificial Intelligence	Recommended	15
2	D1	tbc	Application of Genomics in Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D2	3191	Vaccine Immunology	Recommended	15
2	D2	tbc	Emerging Infections & Diagnostic Design	Recommended	15
3	E	tbc	Research project	Compulsory	60

Students wishing to study a cross programme module can find out more here: https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/modules/distance-learning-modules/module-specifications

Contact time

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 on-campus lectures, seminars, demonstrations, tutorials, supervised laboratory workshops, practical classes, project supervision and external fieldwork or visits, as well as where tutors are available for one-to-one discussions and interaction by email. Module contact time will be defined in the individual module specifications and provided to students at the start of their programme.

This definition is based on the one provided by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) Explaining contact hours (2011). Student contact time, together with time allocated for independent study and assessment, determines the total student study hours for a module or programme. Although there are separate hours allocated for each of these activities, they should always be clearly linked together to support effective learning.

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) defines high quality contact time as structured, focused, purposeful and interactive.