PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Overview

Programme Title	PGCert Demography & Health
Academic Year	2027-28
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in September
Programme Director	Sarah Walters
Awarding Body	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Teaching Institution	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Faculty	Epidemiology and Population Health
Length of Programme	Full Time Postgraduate Certificate programmes: 4 months
Mode of Delivery	Intensive
Maximum period of registration	Full-time 3 years
Language of Study	English
Entry Requirements	Please refer to the specific programme entry requirements here.
Award Titles	Postgraduate Certificate in Demography & Health (60 credits)
Total Credits	**CATS:** 60 **ECTS:** 30
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	N/A
Relevant PGT QAA Benchmark Statement and/or other external/internal reference points	No relevant subject benchmark statement – consistent with external reference points UK quality code for higher education & QAA credit framework for England

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	The MSc Demography and Health was introduced in 1970 as MSc Medical Demography. The MSc programme in its current form was validated in 2024 The PGCert was an exit award option from this MSc. The PGCert as an entry award will be introduced within the MSc Demography and Health in 2026.

2. Programme Description, Aims & Learning Outcomes

Programme Description
This programme is designed for those interested in the dynamics of population change and its causes and consequences, with a global focus. It is aimed at professionals working with population data who need to advance their analytical skills and knowledge. The curriculum includes technical training in the theories and methods of demography, equipping students with skills to assess and analyse a wide range of demographic data. The programme will enable students to understand the critical role of population change as a driver and consequence of socio-economic, political and environmental change, and to critically assess population policies and public debates. For further information, please see www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/msdh.html
Educational aims of the programme
The aim of the programme – consistent with LSHTM's mission to improve health worldwide – is to offer training in the theories and methods of demography and population science and their application to population health. Students will acquire the basic interdisciplinary 'toolkit' of demographers, bringing together population data science with critical and theoretical approaches to population change and policy. Emphasis is placed

on socioeconomic, environmental and political determinants and consequences of population change. Alongside modules in demographic methods and population studies, students can study programming and population data science in the population data science Pathway, or statistics for epidemiology and population health and social research methods in the Population Health and Policy Pathway.

Programme Learning Outcomes

By the end of the programme, students will be expected to achieve the following learning outcomes.

Please note that modules listed below may be subject to change.

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific, evidence-based approaches to the study of population issues;
2. Identify causes and consequences of population change, including political, environmental and socioeconomic factors, and relate these to underlying population dynamics;
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of demographic behaviour in social, economic and policy contexts;

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of major global population trends, including migration, ageing, fertility decline and population growth, in low, middle and high income countries.

Teaching and Learning Strategy

The programme will be taught through a variety of teaching methods including lectures, small group seminars, practical classes, and groupwork 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

The programme is assessed through individual module assessments which may include essays, other written coursework, short written exams, practical exams, groupwork, presentations or other methods. Such tasks are designed to assess, using the most appropriate method, whether learning objectives have been met.

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

Full-time Masters	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Total Credits
Compulsory Modules	4/5*			60/65

*4 compulsory term 1 modules for Population Health and Policy Pathway, 5 for Population Data Science pathway

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

Population Health and Policy Pathway:

Term	Slot	Module Code	Module Title	Module Type (compulsory or recommended)	Credits (CATS)
1	AB1	2057	Demographic Methods	Compulsory	15
1	AB1	2011	Population Studies	Compulsory	15
1	AB1	TBC	Concepts in Epidemiology	Compulsory	15
1	AB1	TBC	Statistics for Epidemiology and Public Health 1	Compulsory	15

Population Data Science Pathway:

Term	Slot	Module Code	Module Title	Module Type (compulsory or recommended)	Credits (CATS)
1	AB1	2057	Demographic Methods	Compulsory	15
1	AB1	2011	Population Studies	Compulsory	15
1	AB1	2488	Concepts and Methods in Epidemiology	Compulsory	10
1	AB1	2486	Programming	Compulsory	10
1	AB1	2489	Statistics for Health Data Science	Compulsory	15

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.