

# PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



## 1. Overview

<b>Academic Year (student cohorts covered by specification)</b>	2020-21
<b>Programme Title</b>	Doctorate of Public Health
<b>Programme Director</b>	Nicki Thorogood
<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of London
<b>Teaching Institution</b>	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
<b>Faculty</b>	Element 1 is based in the Faculty of Public Health & Policy. DrPH students may be based in any faculty
<b>Length of Programme (years)</b>	DrPH Full-time: min 3 years, max 4 years (elements 1, 2 & 3) DrPH Part-time: min 4 years, max 8 years (elements 1, 2 & 3)
<b>Entry Routes</b>	DrPH
<b>Exit Routes</b>	DrPH, PGDip or PGCert: each student will retain only the highest level award achieved.
<b>Award Titles</b>	DrPH PGCert in Public Health Policy, Leadership and Management (60 credits) PGDip in Public Health Policy, Leadership and Management (120 credits)
<b>Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body</b>	N/A
<b>Relevant PGT <a href="#">QAA Benchmark Statement</a> and/or other external/internal reference points</b>	N/A

<b>Level of programme within the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)</b>	Level 8 (Doctoral degree) Level 7 (postgraduate Masters 'M' level) of the QAA <a href="#">Framework for Higher Education Qualifications</a> in England, Wales & Northern Ireland (FHEQ).
<b>Total Credits (PGCert/PGDip)</b>	<b>CATS:</b> 60 / 120 <b>ECTS:</b> 30 / 60
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	For 2020-21, the delivery of LSHTM teaching has been adjusted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.  Taught modules in term 1 will be delivered online only, with a combination of synchronous (live and interactive) and asynchronous (recordings, independent study, individual exercises, etc) activities.
<b>Mode and Period of Study</b>	Full-time Registration: minimum 3 years, maximum 4 years  Part-time Registration: minimum 4 years, maximum 8 years
<b>Cohort Entry Points</b>	Annually in September
<b>Language of Study</b>	English
<b>Re-sit Policy</b>	<a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-08a.pdf">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-08a.pdf</a>  For students who are required to re-sit a module assessment, the normal resubmission period is during May with submission expected by the 1st June.
<b>Extenuating Circumstances Policy (Element 1 only)</b>	<a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf</a>
<b>Interruption of Studies &amp; Extensions Policies (all Elements)</b>	<a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/research-degrees-extensions-policy-and-procedure.pdf">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/research-degrees-extensions-policy-and-procedure.pdf</a>

<p><b>Programme Description</b></p>	<p>The DrPH is a doctoral level qualification intended for leaders and future leaders in public health. It consists of 3 elements.</p> <p><u>Element 1</u>, the <b>Taught Course component</b>, consists of two compulsory modules, taught in term 1. Evidence Based Public Health Policy &amp; Practice, and Understanding Leadership, Management &amp; Organisation. Assessment of each is based on graded written assignments.</p> <p><u>Element 2</u>, <b>Research Study I, organisational and/or policy analysis (OPA)</b></p> <p>This gives the opportunity to observe closely the workings of a public health organisation or a policy community, and from this develop a better understanding of how to design and develop effective public health organisations and/or shape public health policy. The OPA usually involves 3–6 months’ fieldwork observing and analysing operations at a host organisation or using the host organisation as a base from which to explore the dynamics of a number of organisations involved in shaping policy on a particular aspect of public health. It is assessed on the basis of a written report not exceeding 15,000 words. The OPA is assessed internally to ensure that it is of a sufficiently high standard to be formally assessed with Research Study 2 (thesis) at an oral (viva) examination.</p> <p><u>Element 3</u>, <b>Research Study II: a piece of research on any subject related to public health (thesis)</b></p> <p>The purpose is to learn about the role of research in public health practice by undertaking a piece of high-quality public health-relevant research. Before commencing the research there is a DrPH Review, with a written report (7,500 words), a seminar and an assessment panel. This provides feedback to improve the research, and identifies any students who may choose to, or be better suited to, exit with a Postgraduate Certificate (Taught Modules) or Postgraduate Diploma (Taught Modules plus RSI).</p>
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	<p>The thesis topic can be from any discipline or subject area and the research must be original and make a distinct contribution to the knowledge of your chosen subject. You can choose to relate it to your OPA or not. The thesis has a 60,000 word limit. The research thesis and OPA are formally examined together at an oral examination (<i>viva</i>).</p> <p>Elements 2 and 3, Research Studies I and II, are undertaken after the submission of the assessed assignments for Element 1. They cannot be formally assessed until Element 1 has been successfully passed.</p>
<b>Date of Introduction of Programme (month/year)</b>	September 1996
<b>Date of production / revision of this programme specification (month/year)</b>	Extraordinary revisions made in August 2020 in response to Covid-19 mitigation planning

## 2. Programme Aims & Learning Outcomes

<b>Educational aims of the programme</b>
<p>The programme aims are to equip graduates with the knowledge and experience to deal with the particular challenges of understanding and using scientific knowledge in order to achieve public health gains, as well as the analytical and practical skills required by managers and leaders in public health. The rigour and volume of the total programme of work is at doctoral level, and appropriate to the personal development of public health professionals.</p>

<b>Programme Learning Outcomes</b>
<p><b>DrPH Taught modules, Research Studies I and II</b></p> <p>The award of DrPH (Level 8): is based on evidence of the student's demonstration of facility in four distinct areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge in Public Health Policy, Leadership and Management;</li> </ol>

2. The ability to conceptualise, design and implement projects for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline, and to adjust the project design in the light of unforeseen problems;
3. A detailed understanding of applicable techniques for research and advanced academic enquiry; and
4. The creation and interpretation of new knowledge, through original research or other advanced scholarship.

**PGDip Taught modules (60 credits) and Research Study I (60 credits)**

The award of PGDip in Public Health Policy, Leadership and Management (Level 7): is based on evidence of the student's demonstration of facility in:

The systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge in Public Health Policy, Leadership and Management and the satisfactory completion of a policy and/or organisationally focused piece of independent, applied research (RSI).

**PGCert Taught modules (60 credits)**

The award of PGCert in Public Health Policy, Leadership and Management (Level 7): is based on evidence of the student's demonstration of facility in:

The systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge in Public Health Policy, Leadership and Management.

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

Element	Year of Study (Full Time)	Module Code	Module Title	Module Type (compulsory or recommended)	Credits (CATS)	Contact hours*
1	Year 1	5001	Understanding Leadership, Management & Organisation	Compulsory	30	100
		5002	Evidence Based Public Health Policy & Practice	Compulsory	30	70
2	Year 1 and 2	5003	Public Health Research Study	N/A	60	Supervision in line with

			I (RSI): Organisation and/or Policy Analysis			research degree expectations
3	Year 3-4	N/A	Public Health Research Study II (RSII). (individually agreed study)	N/A	N/A	Supervision in line with research degree expectations
4		N/A	Individually negotiated researcher development/ training activities and complementary studies	N/A	N/A	Varies with individual selection

\* 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. Student contact time also includes tutor-mediated activities that take place in online environments, which may be synchronous (using real-time digital tools such as Zoom or Blackboard Collaborate Ultra) or asynchronous (using digital tools such as tutor-moderated discussion forums or blogs often delivered through the School's virtual learning environment, Moodle). These contact hours reflect provision during the 2019/2020 session. We anticipate that in 2020/2021 there will be fewer hours with tutor presence at specified times and a greater emphasis on directed study such as recorded lectures, recommended readings and guided exercises. Please refer to the individual 2020/2021 module specifications for more detail. This definition is based on the one provided by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) Explaining contact hours (2011) guidance document, page 4 available [here](#). 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.

#### 4. Entry Requirements

<b>Criteria for admission</b>
<p>Applicants for DrPH study should have at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• an upper second-class Honours degree of a UK university, or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard, in a subject appropriate to that of the course of study to be followed; or</li><li>• a registrable qualification appropriate to the course of study to be followed, in medicine, dentistry or veterinary studies; or</li><li>• a Masters degree in a subject appropriate to the course of study to be followed; or</li><li>• a professional qualification obtained by written examination and approved by the University of London as an appropriate entrance qualification for the degree in question.</li></ul> <p>In addition, DrPH candidates require a minimum of two years' appropriate experience.</p>
<b>English language entry requirements</b>
<p>Band B – It is essential to have an excellent command of the English language to benefit from studying for the programme. All students will be required to obtain an acceptable score in an approved English language test if their first language is not English or if their studies at university have not been conducted wholly in the medium of English. Any English language tests must have been taken no more than two years before the date a student commences the programme. LSHTM may also request that an applicant take a test even if the above conditions have been met. For up to date information on language requirements, please see: <a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/english_language_requirements_policy.pdf">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/english_language_requirements_policy.pdf</a></p>