



## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### 1. Overview

<b>Academic Year (student cohorts covered by specification)</b>	2021-22
<b>Programme Title</b>	Medical Parasitology
<b>Programme Director</b>	Matthew Rogers
<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of London
<b>Teaching Institution</b>	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
<b>Faculty</b>	Infectious and Tropical Diseases
<b>Length of Programme (months)</b>	MSc – Full time = 12 months, Part time = 24 months
<b>Entry Routes</b>	MSc
<b>Exit Routes</b>	MSc/PGDip/PGCert
<b>Award Titles</b>	MSc Medical Parasitology (180 credits) Exit awards: PGDip Medical Parasitology (120 credits) PGCert Parasitology & Entomology (60 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>	No relevant PGT QAA benchmark for this MSc Programme.
<b>Level of programme within the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)</b>	Masters (MSc) Level 7
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>CATS:</b> 180 <b>ECTS:</b> 90
<b>HECoS Code(s)</b>	100345:100265:100948 (1:1:1)

<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	<p>Our ambition is to open our London campus for as much activity as possible but are mindful that the outbreak of COVID-19 is unprecedented and has the potential to influence the delivery of education around the world for some time to come. We will monitor the pandemic and associated Government restrictions carefully and adjust our plans accordingly.</p> <p>Please note that an element of on campus laboratory teaching is essential to achieve all the Programme Learning Outcomes. Consequently, in order to study and complete your degree with us, it will be necessary for you to attend some laboratory practical sessions at our campus in London. Should the ongoing pandemic escalate, resulting in Government measures preventing us from delivering on campus teaching, students on lab-based programmes may be required to suspend their studies until such time access to laboratories can be reinstated.</p>
<b>Mode and Period of Study</b>	Full time (12 months) or part time/split time (max 24 months)
<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>
<b>Extenuating Circumstances Policy</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>Programme Description</b>	This programme provides core training in the theoretical and practical aspects of medical parasitology, covering the protozoan and metazoan parasites of humans and the vectors which transmit them. Students will gain specialised skills to enable them to pursue a career in research, control or teaching related to medical parasitology.
<b>Date of Introduction of Programme (month/year)</b>	The last periodic review of the programme occurred in 2014-15.
<b>Date of production / revision of this programme specification (month/year)</b>	November 2020

## 2. Programme Aims & Learning Outcomes

<b>Educational aims of the programme</b>
The aim of the programme – consistent with the LSHTM’s mission to improve health worldwide – is to provide core training in the theoretical and practical aspects of medical parasitology, covering the protozoan and metazoan parasites of humans and the vectors which transmit them, and equip students with specialised skills to enable them to pursue a career in research, control or teaching related to medical parasitology.
<b>Programme Learning Outcomes</b>
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.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) demonstrate detailed knowledge and understanding of the biology, life cycles, pathogenesis, diagnosis of parasitic infections in humans and their relevance for human health and strategies for control;</li><li>(ii) demonstrate detailed knowledge and understanding of the biology and strategies for control of the vectors and intermediate hosts of human parasites;</li><li>(iii) carry out practical laboratory identification of the various parasite stages both free and in tissues and diagnose infections;</li><li>(iv) demonstrate specialised skills acquired through taking Modules on: advanced diagnostic, molecular, immunological, genetic, chemotherapeutic, ecological and/or control aspects of the subject;</li><li>(v) demonstrate the ability to design a laboratory or field based research project, apply relevant research skills, critically analyse and interpret data, and work with minimal supervision;</li><li>(vi) prepare a written report including a critical literature review of relevant scientific publications; and show competence in communicating scientific information and findings.</li></ul>
<b>Teaching and Learning Strategy</b>
The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including: lectures, small group seminars, practicals and groupwork with peers. In addition, there is a compulsory one week field course. 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.
<b>Assessment Strategy</b>
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, two practical and two MCQ examinations in Term 1, written assessments during the week before the start of Term 2, and a project report. Such tasks are designed to assess, via 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	2	1		60
Recommended Modules		5 across Term 2 and 3		75
Project			1	45

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](#). Optional (i.e. recommended non-compulsory) modules listed are indicative and may change from year to year. <https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/changes-courses>

Term	Slot	Module Code	Module Title	Module Type (compulsory or recommended)	Credits (CATS)
1	AB1	3196	Analysis & Design of Research Studies	Compulsory	10
1	AB1	3122	Parasitology & Entomology	Compulsory	50
1	AB1	3333	Molecular Biology	Recommended (Supplementary)	0
2	C1	3195	Malaria: From Science to Policy and Practice	Recommended	15
2	C1	3131	Molecular Biology & Recombinant DNA Techniques	Recommended	15
2	C2	3143	Advanced Diagnostic Parasitology	Recommended	15
2	D1	3141	Vector Sampling, Identification & Incrimination	Recommended	15
2	D2	3177	Immunology of Parasitic Infection	Recommended	15
2	D2	3160	Molecular Research in Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D2	3166	Vector Biology and Vector-Parasite Interactions	Recommended	15
2	D2	3133	Field Trip	Compulsory	0
3	E	3169	Antimicrobial Chemotherapy	Recommended	15
3	E	3176	Integrated Vector Management	Recommended	15
3	E	3191	Vaccine Immunology	Recommended	15
3	E	3260	Cell Biology of Host-Pathogen Interactions	Recommended	15
3	E	3460	Pathogen Genomics	Recommended	15
3	E	3465	Neglected Tropical Diseases	Recommended	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. 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). 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 \(2011\) 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

### Criteria for admission

Applicants must normally satisfy the LSHTM's general entrance requirements and additional programme-specific entrance requirements to be considered for admission. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the procedures and deadlines given in the web-based or printed prospectus.

In order to be admitted to a postgraduate taught degree programme of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, an applicant must:

- a) hold a first degree at Second Class Honours standard in a relevant discipline, a degree in medicine at the same standard, or another degree of equivalent awarded by an overseas institution recognised by UK Naric or Barrons.

**OR**

- b) hold a professional qualification appropriate to the programme of study to be followed obtained by written examinations and judged by the LSHTM to be equivalent to a Second Class Honours degree or above.

**OR**

- c) have relevant professional experience or training which is judged by the LSHTM to be equivalent to a Second Class Honours degree or above.

**AND**

satisfy any additional requirements where prescribed for admission to a specific programme.

For the MSc Medical Parasitology an interest in parasites of public health importance and disease transmission is preferred.

For further information, please see

<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/how-apply/applying-masters-degree-london/you-apply-msc>

**English language entry requirements**

**Band B**

It is essential that all students have a good command of the English language to benefit from their studies at the LSHTM.

As part of the application process, applicants are required to demonstrate how they meet the LSHTM's minimum English language requirements. This is particularly important for applicants requiring a Student visa, as the UK Home Office dictates that every student from outside the UK and European Union (EU) must show evidence of a minimum level of English language ability (called CEFR1 B2 level), in order for a Student visa to be issued for entry to the UK.

Additionally, the LSHTM asks applicants to have minimum English language proficiency levels that are necessary for our academic programmes. These levels are higher than the CEFR B2 minimum level and also apply to EU applicants, although these will not normally require a Student visa.

The academic English language requirements for each of the LSHTM's programmes are categorised into one of three profiles A, B or C. For information on these three profiles, please refer to the LSHTM English Language Requirement Policy:

[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)