



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Overview

Academic Year (student cohorts covered by specification)	2025-26
Programme Title	Epidemiology
Programme Director	Patrick Nguipdop-Djomo & Ona McCarthy
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Faculty	Epidemiology and Population Health
Length of Programme (months)	MSc – Full time = 12 months, Part-time or Split study = 24 months
Entry Routes	MSc
Exit Routes	MSc/PGDip/PGCert
Award Titles	MSc in Epidemiology (180 credits) Exit awards: PGDip in Epidemiology (120 credits) PGCert in Epidemiology (60 credits)
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	N/A
Relevant PGT QAA Benchmark Statement and/or other external/internal reference points	Consistent with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications at Masters level (level 7), this programme will provide students with an understanding of the conceptual basis of epidemiology and with training in essential methodological skills for the design, conduct, and analysis of epidemiological studies, and in the interpretation and communication of their results.

	See pages 28-29 at: http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks.pdf?sfvrsn=170af781_14
Level of programme within the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)	Masters (MSc) Level 7
Total Credits	CATS: 180 ECTS: 90
HECoS Code	101335
Mode of Delivery	The programme is based at LSHTM in London and delivered by predominantly face-to-face teaching modes.
Mode and Period of Study	Full time (12 months) or part time/split study (max 24 months)
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in September
Language of Study	English
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
Programme Description	This programme equips students to study the distribution and determinants of health in populations and to evaluate interventions, to improve health and health equity worldwide. The epidemiology programme reflects LSHTM's characteristics as a research institution: multidisciplinary, spanning diverse global contexts, and covering infectious and non-communicable conditions. Students will also develop transferable skills appropriate for health-related careers such as in academia, the public, private, and non-profit sectors, and in clinical research.
Date of Introduction of Programme	September 1979. Full periodic review carried out in 2022.

Date of revision of this programme specification	August 2024
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2. Programme Aims & Learning Outcomes

Educational aims of the programme
The LSHTM epidemiology programme equips students to study the distribution and determinants of health in populations and to evaluate interventions, to improve health and health equity worldwide. The epidemiology programme reflects LSHTM's characteristics as a research institution: multidisciplinary, spanning diverse global contexts, and covering infectious and non-communicable conditions. Students will also develop transferable skills appropriate for health-related careers such as in academia, the public, private, and non-profit sectors, and in clinical research.
Programme Learning Outcomes
<p>Knowledge & understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the role of epidemiology and its contribution to health-related research and policy • the main types of epidemiological studies and the key issues with their use <p>Intellectual & Practical skills - able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design and critically appraise epidemiological studies and protocols, with consideration of the study question, study design, data collection methods, sources of bias, and appropriate statistical analyses • manage, summarise, analyse, and present epidemiological data (using statistical software) and interpret findings appropriately given study limitations • apply advanced epidemiological concepts and methods to specific fields (e.g. non-communicable disease epidemiology, infectious disease epidemiology, social epidemiology, spatial epidemiology, prediction modelling, clinical trials) <p>Transferable skills - able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use problem-solving skills in a range of situations, working individually or in a team • design, execute, and report on a substantial independent research project • appraise, critique and communicate health data and health research findings • manage their own learning, including working effectively to deadlines
Teaching and Learning Strategy

The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including: lectures, small group seminars, pen-and-paper and computer practicals, and group work with peers. All elements of the programme have specific intended learning outcomes, 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, group work, presentations or other methods), a formal summer exam, and a project report. Such tasks are designed to assess, via the most appropriate method, whether learning outcomes have been achieved.

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

Full-time Masters	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Total Credits
Compulsory Modules	5	2	0	90
Recommended Modules	0	2	1	45
Projects			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	2033	Clinical Trials	Compulsory	10
1	AB1	2056	Epidemiology in Practice	Compulsory	15
1	AB1	2007	Extended Epidemiology	Compulsory	15
1	B1	2484	Epidemiology and -omics	Compulsory	5
1	AB1	2021	Statistics for EPH	Compulsory	15
2	C1	2400	Study Design: Writing a Study Proposal	Compulsory	15
2	C2	2402	Statistical Methods in Epidemiology	Compulsory	15
2	D1	2407	Epidemiology of Non-Communicable Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D1	2464	Modelling & the Dynamics of Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15

2	D1	2472	Social Epidemiology	Recommended	15
2	D1	3135	Spatial Epidemiology in Public Health	Recommended	15
2	D2	1301	Environmental Epidemiology	Recommended	15
2	D2	2437	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D2	2493	Analysis of Electronic Health Record Data	Recommended	15
3	E	2412	Advanced Statistical Methods in Epidemiology	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. 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.

4: Entry Requirements

Please refer to the programme's entry requirements [here](#).