



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)	2025-26
Module Code	3177
Module Title	Immunology of Parasitic Infection
Module Organiser(s)	Dr Helena Helmbly
Faculty	Infectious & Tropical Diseases
FHEQ Level	Level 7
Credit Value	CATS: 15 ECTS: 7.5
HECoS Code	100265:100345 (1:1)
Term of Delivery	Term 2
Mode of Delivery	For 2025-26 this module will be delivered by predominantly face-to-face teaching modes. Where specific teaching methods (lectures, seminars, discussion groups) are noted in this module specification these will be delivered by predominantly face-to-face sessions. There will be a combination of live and interactive activities (synchronous learning) as well as recorded or self-directed study (asynchronous learning).
Mode of Study	Full-time
Language of Study	English
Pre-Requisites	This module is designed for students with a good prior basic knowledge of immunology.
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	None
Module Cap (Indicative number of students)	20-30 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing)
Target Audience	This module covers current knowledge of the immune response in parasite infection. Students must have a good prior basic knowledge of immunology. Sufficient introduction to the parasites themselves will be given during the module.
Module Description	The aim of this module is to allow students to develop an understanding of the diverse nature and consequences of the interaction between parasites and the host immune

	response. Through a diverse set of independent lectures, students will learn about the immunology of the most important human parasitic infections.
Duration	5 weeks at 2.5 days per week
Timetabling slot	Slot D2
Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)	June 2025

Programme(s)	Status
This module is linked to the following programme(s)	
MSc Immunology of Infectious Diseases	Recommended
MSc Medical Parasitology & Entomology	Recommended
MSc Tropical Medicine & International Health	Recommended

Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

Overall aim of the module
The overall module aim is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop an understanding of the diverse nature and consequences of the interaction between parasites and the host immune response.

Module Intended Learning Outcomes
By the end of this module, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Systematically explain the most important immunological features relating to the major parasitic infections of man; Critically distinguish how the interaction between the immune response and the parasite may result in immune-mediated pathology and/or protection against infection; Summarise the mechanisms used by parasites to avoid or exploit the immune response; Critically evaluate the methodologies for studying the immunology of parasitic infections



Indicative Syllabus

Session Content

The module is expected to cover the following topics:

- Brief review of basic immunological principles and basic parasitology;
- Immunology of trypanosomatids, Toxoplasma, gut protozoa;
- Immunology of malaria;
- Immunology of schistosomes, filarial worms and gut nematodes.

Teaching and Learning

Notional Learning Hours

Type of Learning Time	Number of Hours	Expressed as Percentage (%)
Contact time	32	21
Directed self-study	51	34
Self-directed learning	28.5	19
Assessment, review and revision	38.5	26
Total	150	100

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 lectures, seminars, demonstrations, tutorials, supervised laboratory workshops, practical classes, project supervision as well as where tutors are available for one-to-one discussions and interaction by email.

The division of notional learning hours listed above is indicative and is designed to inform students as to the relative split between interactive and self-directed study.

Teaching and Learning Strategy

Lectures will comprise the bulk of the teaching time but group-work, classroom discussions and student presentations are also included. Certain topics will be covered by guest visiting lecturers.



Assessment

Assessment Strategy

The assessment for this module has been designed to measure student learning against the module intended learning outcomes (ILOs) as listed above. Formative assessment methods may be used to measure students' progress. The grade for summative assessment(s) only will go towards the overall award GPA.

The assessment for this module will take place in a classroom.

Assessment will be in the form of a 1.5-hour unseen written test based on lecture material (100% of module mark).

Summative Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes)	Weighting (%)	Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested
Unseen written test	1.5 hour	100	1 - 4

Resitting assessment

Resits will accord with [Chapter 8a](#) of the LSHTM Academic Manual

For individual students resitting there will be an approved alternative assessment as detailed below. The alternative assessment will be an essay or critical review.

Assessment being replaced	Approved Alternative Assessment Type	Approved Alternative Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes)
Unseen written test	Coursework	The task will be an essay or critical review (2000 words)



Resources

Indicative reading list

Course materials and lecture notes will be provided via the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment, Moodle.

Recommended: For students coming from non-immunology MSc programmes, or who feel the need to refresh basic immunology topics, we recommend that they have access to one of the following general Immunology textbooks:

1. Janeway's Immunobiology ISBN-10: 0393884910, ISBN-13: 978-0815345510 (Norton & Company)
2. Roitt's Essential Immunology ISBN: 978-1-118-41577-1 (Wiley-Blackwell)
3. Abbas Cellular and Molecular Immunology, ISBN-10: 9780323479783, ISBN-13: 978-0323479783 (Elsevier)

Other resources

Students are given access to the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment, (Moodle) where they can access web-based discussion forums, assignments (where applicable), supplementary materials, Panopto recordings and the LSHTM online library resources.

Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle gives students access to lecture notes and copies of the slides used during the lecture. Where appropriate, lectures are recorded and made available on Moodle. All materials posted on Moodle, including computer-based sessions, have been made accessible where possible.

LSHTM Moodle is accessible to the widest possible audience, regardless of specific needs or disabilities. More detail can be found in the [Moodle Accessibility Statement](#) which can also be found within the footer of the Moodle pages. All students have access to "SensusAccess" software which allows conversion of files into alternative formats.

Student Support Services can arrange learning or assessment adjustments for students where needed. Details and how to request support can be found on the [LSHTM Disability Support pages](#).