PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Overview

Programme Title	Professional Diploma in Global Health and Tropical Nursing
Academic Year	2026-27
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in September and March
Programme Director	Katherine Beck
Awarding Body	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Teaching Institution	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Faculty	Infectious and Tropical Diseases
Length of Programme	24 weeks (19 taught days over the first 20 weeks, and a 4-week assessment period at the end)
Mode of Delivery	Online, part-time
Maximum period of registration	N/A
Language of Study	English
Entry Requirements	The programme is open to candidates with a degree who are currently registered as nurses, midwives, paramedics or allied medical professionals. Any prospective student who does not meet the above minimum entry requirements but who has relevant professional experience may still be eligible for admission. Candidates must be computer literate and have a good standard of written and spoken English and of English comprehension. LSHTM may ask the applicant to provide evidence of a satisfactory standard of English. LSHTM has approved certain English tests. Further details can be found in the English Language Requirements policy.

	Priority may be given to applicants with experience of working in low- and middle-income countries and to those with at least two years of post-qualification experience.
Award Titles	Professional Diploma in Global Health and Tropical Nursing
Total Credits	**CATS:** 45 **ECTS:** 22.5
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	N/A
Relevant PGT QAA Benchmark Statement and/or other external/internal reference points	N/A
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	September 1996

2. Programme Description, Aims & Learning Outcomes

Programme Description
The Professional Diploma in Global Health and Tropical Nursing (PTDN) is one of the UK's leading course in global public health nursing. It equips nurses and other health professionals to address inequalities, deliver care in under-resourced systems, and strengthen practice in diverse communities.

This fully online course is designed to be highly flexible, so you can study from anywhere in the world alongside your professional and personal commitments. Experts in their field lead high quality teaching. The insights and connections you will gain will not only enhance your practice locally but also open doors to careers and collaborations across the globe.

An internationally recognised qualification
Held up as the industry standard, the PTDN is an established professional qualification and a requirement for many international agencies including Médecins Sans Frontières. By joining this course, you will gain an academic qualification, enhance your professional development, and become part of a dedicated international alumni community.

A lasting legacy in global nursing
First established at LSHTM in 1996, the PDTN was a pioneering programme as the first course of its kind designed specifically with nurses in mind, recognising their vital role in health system strengthening and global health. Thousands of graduates now contribute to health improvement and leadership worldwide.

Assessment
The course is formally assessed through an online exam (50%). And the submission of a 2500-word essay (50%). The exam combines short-answer and multiple-choice questions within scenario-based contexts and is designed to assess all elements of the course content (including lab material).

Educational aims of the programme

The overarching aim of this course is to equip healthcare professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to tackle inequalities, collaborate across borders, and optimise care in challenging environments. It facilitates the development of practical skills, clinical knowledge, academic proficiency, and ethical awareness to enhance healthcare and address disparities.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

1. Critically discuss the epidemiology, clinical presentation, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and nursing management of the major communicable and non-communicable diseases and health challenges endemic in low resource settings.

2. Critically analyse the determinants of health, and how these are significant in the planning and delivery of health services.

3. Critically evaluate the ethical and professional responsibilities of nurses and other healthcare workers in diverse socio-economic and cultural settings, including within international collaboration, and assess their role in improving health and diminishing health inequities.

Teaching and Learning Strategy

The majority of this course is taught through live-online lectures, workshops and laboratory sessions. There are some direct asynchronous tasks (e.g. recorded content or self-paced tasks). Students are expected to learn through both directed and self-directed study.

Students study for one full day each week on a Wednesday for 19 weeks. For the duration of the programme, each week will typically include 8 hours of online time.

Assessment Strategy

The course is formally assessed through an online exam (50%). And the submission of a 2500-word essay (50%). The exam combines short-answer and multiple-choice questions within scenario-based contexts and is designed to assess all elements of the course content (including lab material). , The essay provides an opportunity for students to explore a chosen area in depth within the parameters of the essay brief. These assessments are designed to enable students to demonstrate their learning in relation to the course's learning outcomes.

Candidates must pass both course components.