## **London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine**

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMME



# PG Diploma/MSc Clinical Trials students

**July 2017** 

# STUDYING AT LSHTM: BLENDED LEARNING STUDY

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is offering the opportunity for students registered on the distance learning PG Diploma or MSc Clinical Trials programmes to study LSHTM modules at the School in London in place of DL elective modules. On-campus LSHTM modules run for 5 weeks for 2.5 days per week for each module, and take place in the spring and summer terms. (The autumn term 1 modules are foundation level courses which are unavailable to DL students.) A maximum of two on-campus modules only may be chosen.

Blended learning offers DL students a number of benefits, such as extending the range of the MSc, a concentrated period of study, and the opportunity to meet other students and tutors in person and engage in face-to-face discussion-based learning. There is, however, a lot to consider before making this choice, including costs which are detailed below. Also, it is important that you do not underestimate the time commitment required for study at LSHTM: on campus module study is highly intensive throughout the 5-week teaching period, particularly if you choose to study two modules. You may not be able to study your DL modules during the time you are based in London and you should make sure that you plan for this in your study schedule for the year - this is particularly important if you choose to study a module which runs in April and May (the E teaching block).

This document is designed to help you to decide whether blended learning is an appropriate option for you.

### **Eligibility and restrictions**

- To be able to apply to attend an on-campus module, you must already be studying or be starting study of elective modules in 2017-18.
- If you are studying the PG Diploma Clinical Trials, three of your elective modules must be chosen from the DL CT elective modules (those with a CTM20X code) so you may choose to study one on-campus module only during the period of your DL programme. If you are registered for the MSc Clinical Trials you also have to complete a minimum of three DL CTM20X modules (in addition to the modules CTM201 and CTM210), so you may choose to study up to two of your remaining elective modules on-campus. If you successfully complete the LSHTM coursework assessment for the module(s), your grade and credit for the module(s) will be transferred to your DL programme.
- You <u>cannot</u> register for <u>both</u> a DL module and its on-campus equivalent module.
- Some on-campus modules may impose a restriction on student numbers; if such a restriction is applied, on-campus MSc students will be given priority over distance learning student module applications.
- Some modules may require you to have background knowledge in the relevant subject. You must check any prerequisites required for any module and you may be asked to provide evidence in order to satisfy the Module Organiser that you have sufficient knowledge to benefit fully from the module. (Any prerequisites given below were correct at the time of production of this document; students should check updated module specifications from the links given overleaf.)

### The modules

Full details of the content, learning objectives and assessment method of School modules can be found <a href="here">here</a> (please note that this information is likely to be updated later in August, so please do

check in September for the most up to date version). Summary details are shown below. MSc students may choose a maximum of two, and PG Diploma students may choose a maximum of one, on-campus modules from:

Monday 8 January – Friday 9 February 2018	
C1 module options: From Monday 09.00 to Wednesday 12.30	C2 module options: From Wednesday 14.00 to Friday 17.00
Economic evaluation (1501) Students should have a background knowledge and training in health economics prior to studying this module. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM204 may not select this option.	Conflict and health (1402) Prior field experience with a humanitarian agency, donor or government will enable more active participation but is not essential. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM214 may not select this option.
Health care evaluation (1400) Those taking this module will be expected to have an understanding of the material covered in basic statistics, epidemiology, health economics and principles of social research prior to studying the module. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM207 may not select this option.	Design & analysis of epidemiological studies (2417) Students must have successfully completed CTM102 prior to studying this module. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module CTM207 may not select this option.
	History and health (1401)  A knowledge of the principles of social research would be advantageous prior to studying this module.  Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM215 may not select this option.
Monday 19 February – Friday 23 March 2018	
D1 module options: From Monday 09.00 to Wednesday 12.30	D2 module options: From Wednesday 14.00 to Friday 17.00
Basic parasitology (3146) Most students choosing this module have some prior clinical laboratory experience but whilst useful, it is not essential. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module IDM203 may not select this option.	Analytical models for decision making (1606) Some of the exercises involve the use of spreadsheets so students should be confident in the use of Excel, particularly use of formulae, functions, formatting, graphs and charts. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM201 may not select this option.
Epidemiology of non-communicable diseases (2407) Students must have studied CTM207 before studying this module or must obtain Programme Director approval before registration. Students must have a good knowledge of epidemiological methods including different study designs, their analysis and interpretation, prior to studying this module. Those who have previously registered for or completed DL modules EPM303 or EPM307 may not select this option.	Environmental epidemiology (1301) Students must have a sound basic knowledge of epidemiology prior to studying this module. Those who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM205 may not select this module.
Evaluation of public health interventions (1127) This module requires students to have some familiarity with basic epidemiological and statistical concepts. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM219 may not select this option.	Epidemiology & control of communicable diseases (2437) Students must have studied CTM207 before studying this module or must obtain Programme Director approval before registration. Students must have knowledge of basic epidemiology and statistics, and should have some knowledge of Epi-Info prior to studying this module. Those who have previously registered for or completed DL module EPM301 may not select this option.
Medical anthropology and public health (1802) Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM211 may not select this option.	Global disability and health (3461)
Modelling & the dynamics of infectious diseases (2464) Students must have studied CTM207 before studying this module or must obtain Programme Director approval before registration. Students must be familiar with how to use Excel and must have an understanding of basic epidemiology. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module EPM302 may not select this option.	Globalisation and health (1503) Students must have a basic understanding of the political economy of health. Those who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM209 may not select this option.
Organisational management (1403) Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM212 may not select this option.	Sexual health (1804) It is highly recommended that students have studied principles of social research prior to studying this module. Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM216 may not select this option.

## Wednesday 18 April - Friday 18 May 2018

## E module options: from Wednesday 14.00 to Friday 17.00

Advanced statistical methods in epidemiology (2412)

Students must have completed either modules CTM207 or 2417 Design and analysis of epidemiological studies prior to studying this module. Students may not study both this module and CTM208 or EPM304.

AIDS (3174) Students should have some level of scientific background before studying this module. Those who have previously registered for or completed DL module IDM501 may not select this module.

Environmental health policy (1300)

Students who have previously registered for or completed DL module PHM206 may not select this option.

#### Please note:

The modules above are ones that are recommended as most suitable to the Clinical Trials programme. However if you wish to take an on-campus module that is not on the above list, please email CTSupport to request to do so, giving your reasons for the request.

On rare occasions the School may cancel modules two weeks before the start date if numbers are insufficient to run the module. In such cases, the School will refund the module fee. The School cannot accept responsibility for accommodation, travel or other losses incurred as a result of the module being cancelled.

#### Method of assessment

Assessment methods for the on-campus modules vary and full details are given in the module outlines (see the web link on page 1). The on-campus modules may be assessed through coursework or a short examination, which will be carried by the end of the 5-week teaching period. (You must complete the required assessment by the specified deadline of the module you are attending.) The assessment you undertake on an on-campus module via the blended learning scheme will be credited towards your overall distance learning MSc degree. The assessment of up to **two** modules only can be credited in this way. Where a student has registered for an on-campus module that has an equivalent DL module, the student must complete only the on-campus assessment and must not enter to be examined in the DL module assignment/unseen written examination.

## IMPORTANT NOTES:

- On-campus module assessments must be submitted by that module's specified deadline (usually immediately after the end of the 5-week module period); the DL assessment deadlines do not apply to on-campus modules.
- If you fail the on-campus module assessment with a grade point of less than 2.00, you may have
  to register and pay for, an additional distance learning elective module (see your Student
  Handbook for information regarding compensation of grades) not all on-campus module
  assessments undertaken as part of blended learning study may be resat.

## Studying at the School

- Immigration/Visas: Non-EEA (European Economic Area) nationals who would like to attend oncampus modules at the School will require immigration permission that allows them to study in the
  UK. Some students will have to make a visa application in their home country. Further guidance
  for all non-EEA nationals can be found on our webpage. Please note that we cannot register
  students for any on-campus modules unless they hold the correct immigration permission.
- If your DL fees are paid by a sponsor, you may need to check that they approve you studying module(s) at the School rather than by distance learning.
- Accommodation: There are many options for accommodation in London. Please see our
   <u>webpage</u> for information on some of these. Please note it is your responsibility to pay for and
   organise accommodation for the period of your stay in the UK.

### Cost

Distance learning students who wish to study individual modules at LSHTM will be required to pay a fee for the LSHTM module(s). This fee is in addition to your DL programme fee. The module fee will vary depending on whether you have already paid for your distance learning MSc by one initial payment to the University of London International Programmes or you are paying individually for distance learning modules on an annual basis. The cost will be £830 per module if you have paid for your DL programme by one initial payment at the point of initial programme registration - or £1,600 per module if you have paid/are paying for your DL modules in annual instalments. **Do not send any payment at this stage** - confirmation of the cost of your LSHTM module(s) and how to pay will be included in your offer of admission which will be sent to you if your application for blended learning study is successful.

## **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

• If you are registering through the University of London International Programmes for the distance learning modules you wish to study next year, please do NOT register or include any payment for LSHTM on-campus modules you are choosing to study by blended learning. Transfer of module payments from the International Programmes to the LSHTM cannot be made.

## How to apply

Please apply using the LSHTM MSc Module Application Form. One form must be used for each module application. The form should be returned by email to <a href="mailto:shortcourses@lshtm.ac.uk">shortcourses@lshtm.ac.uk</a> (if you are unable to email then by post to Short Courses, Registry, LSHTM, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT) no earlier than 1 September 2017 and no later than 30 September 2017. (Do not return the form to the University of London International Programmes.) Please also include a brief CV with your application, and a short note to indicate to the Module Organiser why it is important that you study this particular module.

Your application for blended learning study will then be considered by the relevant Module Organiser. The LSHTM Registry Short Courses staff will contact you to confirm your place on the module. If you have been accepted on the module you will then receive an official offer letter and must then register to take up the place by sending your payment to the LSHTM. If your application is unsuccessful and you need to register for a distance learning module instead you must do this through the International Programmes Student Portal <u>before</u> 31 October 2017.

### Queries

If you have any questions about the information given here and what your options for study might be, if these are appropriate for other students to view please post a message on the discussion forum within the "Clinical Trials – module options 2017-18" section on the DL General Zone. Alternatively, for queries regarding your personal study progression, email <a href="mailto:ctsupport@lshtm.ac.uk">ctsupport@lshtm.ac.uk</a> putting "blended learning study enquiry" in the subject header. To help you with your choices, in addition to the forum the Programme Directors, Diana Elbourne, Claire Snowdon and Susana Scott, will be running two informal Collaborate sessions in which you can ask questions and discuss options. These will run on Monday 17th July at 15.00 hrs BST and Tuesday 18th July at 10.00 hrs BST.