Module Specification

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This module specification applies for the academic year 2019-20
Last revised 8 August 2019 by Dalya Marks

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel St., London WC1E 7HT. www.lshtm.ac.uk

GENERAL INFORMATION

Module name  Principles and Practice of Public Health
Module code  1608
Module Organiser  Dr Dalya Marks
Contact email  Dalya.Marks@lshtm.ac.uk
Home Faculty  Public Health & Policy
Credit  15 credits
Accreditation  Not currently accredited by any other body
Keywords  Public health knowledge into practice; Measuring health status; Health Policy (including advocacy); Epidemiology; Planning and programming (including budgeting and evaluation); Team work (including Interdisciplinary, inter-professional).

AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE

Overall aim  This module aims to provide a conceptual and practical understanding of public health problems. By exploring a range of scenarios, the student will gain an understanding of how commonly encountered public health problems can be approached.

Intended learning outcomes  By the end of this module, students should be able to:

- Assist in the response to an emerging public health scenario, using a structured and rigorous approach
- Assess the sources of, and analyse the strengths and limitations of, data used in assessing health needs
- Appreciate the role of evidence when designing interventions. Based on a critical appraisal of the literature, make recommendations for a new service development, considering local health priorities and resources
- Understand the principles of methods of assessing health needs, be able to design a health needs assessment, and be able to discuss different methods of setting priorities for responding to them
**CONTENT**

**Session content** The module is expected to include sessions addressing the following topics:
- Data/epidemiological investigation
- Critical appraisal of the literature
- Health needs assessment
- Prioritisation and strategy development
- Evaluation
- Public health advocacy
- Public health communication

**TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT**

**Study resources provided or required** Module Information can be found on the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle) containing information about each session and key references for the module. There are no specific module text books, but useful readings and resources will be outlined on Moodle.

**Teaching and learning methods** Lectures, seminars, group work and classroom discussion will be used to develop relevant skills and knowledge, and apply them through presenting, discussing and analysing case studies.

**Assessment details** The written assessment will be in the form of a policy briefing. Resit/deferred/new attempts - The task will be the same as the original assessment.

**Assessment dates** Assessments will be due on **Friday 22 May 2020**. Resit/deferred/new attempts - the next assessment deadline will be during mid/late September of the current academic year.

**Language of study and assessment** English (please see ‘English language requirements’ below regarding the standard required for entry).

**TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY**

**Duration** 5 weeks at 2.5 days per week

**Dates** Wednesday morning to Friday

**Timetable slot** Term 3 - slot E
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Mode of Study</strong></th>
<th>The module is taught face-to-face in London. Both full-time and part-time students follow the same schedule.</th>
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<td><strong>Learning time</strong></td>
<td>The notional learning time for the module totals 150 hours, consisting of:</td>
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<td>- Contact time ≈ 33 hours</td>
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<td>- Directed self-study ≈ 30 hours</td>
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<td>- Self-directed learning ≈ 50 hours</td>
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<td>- Assessment, review and revision ≈ 37 hours</td>
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**APPLICATION AND ADMISSION**

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<th><strong>Pre-requisites</strong></th>
<th>This module builds on work undertaken in Issues in Public Health (1123), Basic Epidemiology (2001), Basic Statistics for Public Health and Policy (1121), Principles of Social Research (1104) and Introduction to Health Economics (1103) in Term 1. Whilst some non-compulsory modules (e.g. Health Services (1107) and Health Care Evaluation, 1400) may add useful background information, such knowledge is not assumed. Half-time MSc PH students are recommended to take this module in year two of their programme, and those wishing to take it in year one should have completed Issues in Public Health (1123) before commencing this module. Non-MSc PH students wishing to opt for Principles and Practice of Public Health (1608) who have not taken Issues in Public Health (1123) and Basic Epidemiology (2001) should consult with the Module Organiser to get approval. External applicants need to demonstrate some knowledge of, and familiarity with, the core principles of Public Health before being accepted onto the module.</th>
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<td><strong>English language requirements</strong></td>
<td>A strong command of the English language is necessary to benefit from studying the module. Applicants whose first language is not English or whose prior university studies have not been conducted wholly in English must fulfil LSHTM’s English language requirements.</td>
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<td><strong>Student numbers</strong></td>
<td>110 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing)</td>
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<td><strong>Student selection</strong></td>
<td>Preference will be given to LSHTM MSc students and LSHTM research degree students. This module is compulsory for students following the PH general stream. Other applicants meeting the entry criteria will usually be offered a place in the order applications are received, until any cap on numbers is reached. Applicants may be placed on a waiting list and given priority the next time the module is run. Full registration (full participation) by LSHTM research degree students is required for this module, although the assessment for research degrees students is optional.</td>
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