Distance Learning Epidemiology Programme Regulations, LSHTM 2026-2027 (MSc/PGDip/PGCert/Individual modules)

Distance Learning Epidemiology Programme – Regulations

1. The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is responsible for the academic direction of the programme, you are therefore also governed by LSHTM's Academic Regulations. This document outlines regulations specific to distance learning programmes for student registered with LSHTM.
2. The Academic Regulations that govern your registration with us are the regulations in place in the current academic year and not the year in which you initially registered. For subsequent years of registration, you will be governed by the General Regulations and Programme Regulations that are in place for that year.
3. On all matters where the regulations are to be interpreted, or are silent, our decision will be final.
4. Further information about your programme of study is outlined in the Programme Specification which is available on the relevant programme page of the website. The Programme Specification gives a broad overview of the structure and content of the programme as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress.
5. Changes to DL Epidemiology programme Regulations 2026-2027: **EPM400:** Final examination – This component has now been withdrawn from the programme. Students who need to resit this assessment must do so in order to satisfy the requirements for the MSc or have it compensated (see Chapter 2 of the LSHTM Academic Manual). All other students on the Epidemiology programme will no longer need to complete this assessment from 2026/27 onwards.

1 Registration

1.1 Effective date of registration

Your effective date for registration will be 1 September (for the MSc, PGDip, PGCert and for individual modules) in the year that you initially registered.

Note: access to the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment Moodle, study materials and support start annually on 1 October. (If 1 October falls on a weekend the academic year will start on the following Monday in 2026 the academic year will start on 1 October 2026.)

1.2 Period of registration

See the programme specification for the minimum periods of registration applicable to this programme.

1.21

If the maximum registration period for your qualification changes during your studies, you will retain the period of registration initially given to you on registration. Your period of registration may still change if you change qualification as set out in programme specification.

1.22

If you are registered for individual modules and have been permitted to transfer from an individual module to the PGCert, PGDip or the MSc, you will be given a new period of registration beginning from the year that you register on the PGCert, PGDip or MSc. The maximum period of registration allowed will be the same for all students registered for the same programme.

1.23

If you are registered for the PGCert or PGDip and progress to the PGDip or MSc you will not be issued a new period of registration, your registration will continue from the year that you first

registered on the PGCert or PGDip. The maximum period of registration will be the same for all students registered for the qualification.

1.3 Individual modules

1.31

You may apply to register for one or more individual modules as a stand-alone module instead of registering for the MSc, PGDip or the PGCert.

1.32

Some of the modules require you to have prior knowledge or experience in a particular subject area before you study the module. Information on prerequisites is included in the relevant module specification documents.

1.33

If you have successfully completed an individual module on a stand-alone basis and wish to transfer your registration to a PG Cert/Dip or MSc, you must follow the rules and/ meet the requirements of progression for your chosen qualification – i.e., completion of a set number of compulsory modules prior to progression to elective modules. A new application and RPL form will be required.

2 Progression within the programme

MSc Epidemiology

2.1

On starting the programme, you may choose to study and be examined in up to four EPM1 modules in the first year.

2.2

You must study and be examined in EPM101 Fundamentals of epidemiology and EPM102 Statistics for Epidemiology in your first stage of study, either at the same time as, or in advance of the other core EPM1 modules.

2.3

To progress to elective module studies, you must obtain a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00 for each of EPM101 and EPM102.

2.4

Progression to elective module studies before successfully completing EPM101 and EPM102 is subject to approval by the Exam Board Chair.

2.5

If you have been permitted to progress to elective module studies whilst you study and are examined in the remaining EPM1 module(s), you may also study and be examined in up to two EPM2 modules and three elective modules. Resit attempts may be made in addition to the maximum number of modules stated above.

2.6

If you choose to study EPM304 Advanced Statistical Methods in Epidemiology, you are recommended to have completed EPM202 Statistical Methods in Epidemiology before beginning this module. You can attempt the modules at the same time, but this is not recommended if you have not achieved at least a grade point average of 3.00 in EPM102 Statistics for Epidemiology.

2.7

To register for EPM500 (Project), you must either have passed all four core modules (EPM1*), or passed EPM101, EPM102 and EPM103 and submitted EPM105. Students who have failed any core module will not normally be permitted to register for the project unless the failed module is eligible for compensation or an approved Suspension of Regulations (SoR) is in place.

2.8

Where project registration is granted pending the outcome of EPM105, registration can be withdrawn if EPM105 is failed, unless the fail is compensatable or an approved SoR is granted.

2.9

Students should only register for the project in their final year of the programme. To register for the EPM500 project, you must have already registered for all the elective modules needed to complete the MSc, either in a previous year, or, if you intend to complete the MSc degree in the same academic year, be registered for all outstanding elective modules the same year.

PGDip Epidemiology

2.10

You may choose to study and be examined in up to four EPM1 modules in any one year.

2.11

You must take and be examined in EPM101 Fundamentals of epidemiology and EPM102 Statistics for epidemiology in your first stage of study, either at the same time as, or in advance of the other core EPM1 modules. To progress to elective module studies, you must obtain a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00 for each of EPM101 and EPM102.

2.12

Progression to elective module studies before completing the minimum requirement of the EPM1 modules is subject to approval by the Exam Board Chair.

2.13

If you have been permitted to progress to elective module studies whilst completing the remaining two EPM1 module(s) you may study and be examined in the remaining EPM1 modules and up to four elective modules in the same year. Resit attempts may be made in addition to the maximum number of modules stated above.

2.14

If you choose to study EPM304 Advanced Statistical Methods in Epidemiology, you are recommended to have completed EPM202 Statistical Methods in Epidemiology before beginning this module. You may attempt the modules at the same time, although this is not recommended if you have not achieved at least a grade 3 in EPM102 Statistics for Epidemiology.

PGCert Epidemiology

2.15

If you are registered for the PGCert you may choose to study and be examined in up to four EPM1 modules in any one year.

3 Transfer of registration from the PGCert to PGDip Epidemiology or MSc Epidemiology

3.1

Students registered on PG Cert will be able Ito transfer registration to the PGDip or MSc via RPL only once all 60 credits have been achieved.

Intermediate qualifications

3.2

If you have been awarded a PGCert or PGDip, you must give up your Certificate or Diploma to us if you later wish to progress on to the MSc degree.

4 Changing Module Selection

4.1

If you have registered for a non-compulsory elective module but have not registered for nor attempted the assignment or time-limited assessment for that module, you may apply to change to another elective module. Transfer will only be permitted at the discretion of the Programme Directors. If you attempt any element of the assessment, you will not be permitted to change to another module.

4.2

If you change your choice of elective module(s), you will be required to pay the full fee for the newly chosen module.

5 Project (EPM500)

5.1

For the Epidemiology programme the Project is compulsory for the completion of the MSc.

5.2

An initial proposal must be submitted for approval of your research project. If your project proposal is not approved and your project is deemed unsuitable, you may be required by the Project Module Organiser to defer the project to the following year and submit a new project proposal for approval.

5.3

Students have a maximum of two years to submit their Project. However, you are expected to submit your project proposal and complete the report in the same academic year. You may, however, defer submission of the report to a second year but will not receive more than the total allocated number of supervision hours. If deferring submission, you will need to re-register for the Project module for that second year.

5.4

If no Project Report is submitted by the deadline of the second year of project registration, then you will be considered to have made a first attempt and failed the project with a 0 (non-submission) grade unless an extension or deferral has formally been granted. You will be eligible for a second attempt, but this will be capped to a maximum grade of 2.00

5.5

If you fail the Project at the first attempt (0 or 1), the Board of Examiners will decide which of the following types of resit you must carry out:

a) revise and resubmit the failed project within a timescale determined by the Board of Examiners, or

b) collect new data and revise/update the project, and resubmit at a subsequent assessment point; or

c) make a fresh application for approval of a topic and offer a new report, at a subsequent assessment point.

5.6

You must re-register to resit the Project and pay the project resit fee. Usually, once either of (a) (b) or (c) has been carried out, unless extenuating circumstances are agreed no further attempts at the project may be made and you will fail your MSc.

5.7

If you fail the Project at a second attempt, you will have failed the MSc.