



UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

Programme Regulations 2021–2022

Infectious Diseases

MSc
PGDip
PGCert
and Individual modules

Important document – please read
This document contains important
information that governs your
registration, assessment and
programme of study



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Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

Last revised 05 July 2021

As a student registered with the University of London you are governed by the current General Regulations and Programme Regulations associated with your programme of study.

These Programme Regulations are designed and developed by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) which is responsible for the academic direction of the programme. The regulations take account of any associated arrangements at LSHTM Programme Regulations, together with the Programme Student Handbook (available to registered students on the [LSHTM VLE](#)), will provide the detailed rules and guidance for your programme of study.

In addition to Programme Regulations you will have to abide by the [General Regulations](#). These regulations apply to all students registered for a programme of study with the University of London and provide the rules governing registration and assessment on all programmes; they also indicate what you may expect on completion of your programme of study and how you may pursue a complaint, should that be necessary. Programme Regulations should be read in conjunction with the General Regulations.

The relevant General Regulations and the Programme Regulations relating to your registration with us are for the current year and not the year in which you initially registered.

On all matters where the regulations are to be interpreted, or are silent, our decision will be final.

Further information about your programme of study is outlined in the Programme Specification which is available on the relevant Courses 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.

Terminology

The following language is specific to the Infectious Diseases programme:

Modules: Individual units of a programme are called modules. Each module is a self-contained, formally structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria.

Throughout the Regulations, 'we' 'us' and 'our' mean the University of London; 'you' and 'your' mean the student, or where applicable, all students.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided please contact us. You should use the '**ask a question**' button in the [Student Portal](#).

Changes to Infectious Diseases Regulations 2021-2022

1. The title of module IDM301 has been revised to Epidemiology and control of infectious diseases.
2. Terminology for assessment/ examination has been updated to reflect practice and current usage.

Alternative Assessments during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak

In line with our current General Regulations, the University may offer you alternative assessments where necessary. This includes holding online timed assessments in place of written examinations, which are usually held at examination centres. Please note that this statement replaces any published information relating to assessments or written examinations in any of our materials including the website. Previously published materials relating to examinations should therefore be read in conjunction with this statement.

The University of London continues to work towards supporting the academic progression of all its students. The University also continues to be mindful of the health and wellbeing of its students during this pandemic, whilst protecting the academic standards of its awards.

1 Structure of the programmes

[Appendix A](#) gives the full module list and structure of the programmes.

Qualification

1.1

The following qualifications are awarded under the **Infectious Diseases** programme:

- MSc Infectious Diseases
- Postgraduate Diploma Infectious Diseases (PGDip)
- Postgraduate Certificate Infectious Diseases (PGCert)

Qualification structure

1.2

The **MSc Infectious Diseases** consists of:

- Four compulsory IDM1 modules;

and either

- Six elective IDM modules selected from a list of options; and
- Two additional elective modules selected from a list of options;

or

- Three elective IDM modules selected from a list of options; and
- Two additional elective modules selected from a list of options; and
- A Project Report.

1.3

The **PGDip Infectious Diseases** consists of:

- Four compulsory IDM1 modules; and
- Three elective IDM modules selected from a list of options; and
- One additional elective module selected from a list of options.

1.4

The **PGCert Infectious Diseases** consists of:

- Four compulsory IDM1 modules.

1.5

The Programme Director has the right to consider the suitability of your chosen modules for the MSc or PGDip and, with stated reason, may restrict your chosen options.

1.6

If you have registered for an elective module but have not attempted the assessed assignment or unseen written examination for that module (or have obtained a fail grade for the module overall at the first attempt), you may apply to change to another elective module, but must ensure that you meet the requirements for the qualification.

1.7

If you fail the module overall at a second attempt you will not be permitted to change to another option.)

1.8

If you apply to change module(s) and have entered either element of assessment for the elective module concerned, you will not be able to change until after the results have been published.

1.9

Up to three elective modules (45 credits) only may be changed in this way.

1.10

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

1.11

An MSc student registered for the project option may switch to three elective modules instead of the project option before the project proposal has been formally approved and no extra fees will be payable.

1.12

If you have registered for the project option you may withdraw from the project option and switch to three elective modules after the project proposal has been formally approved (i.e. either before the final project report is submitted for examination or if the project report has been failed at the first attempt) but you will normally have to pay the full elective module fee for each new module.

1.13

If you fail the project report at the second attempt you will not be permitted to change to elective modules in place of the failed project report and will therefore have failed the MSc.

1.14

If your project proposal is not approved and your project is deemed unsuitable, you will be required by the Project Organisers either (a) to defer the project to the following year and submit a new project proposal for approval; or (b) withdraw from the project option altogether and choose three elective modules in place of the project (you would not have to pay additionally for the three elective modules).

Individual modules

1.15

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 in Infectious Diseases.

1.16

The following Infectious Diseases modules are available on a stand-alone basis:

IDM101	Principles of biostatistics and epidemiology
IDM102	Principles of biology
IDM103	Biology of infectious diseases
IDM104	Control of infectious diseases
IDM201	Bacterial infections

IDM202	Nutrition and infection
IDM203	Parasitology
IDM204	Viral infections
IDM205	Healthcare-associated infections
IDM213	Immunology of infection and vaccines
IDM215	Water, sanitation and hygiene
IDM301	Epidemiology and control of infectious diseases
IDM501	HIV
IDM502	Tuberculosis
IDM503	Malaria
IDM601	Research design, management and analysis

1.17

Some modules will require you to have prior knowledge or experience in a particular subject area before you study the module. Information on such prerequisites is given in the individual [module specifications](#).

1.18

Successful completion by formal assessment of an individual module may be taken into account for credit towards the MSc, PGDip or PGCert Infectious Diseases. If you progress from an individual module to the MSc, PGDip or PGCert Infectious Diseases. You must meet the rules of progression for that qualification.

Details related to progression are set out in [Section 7](#) – Progression within the programme.

Blended learning

1.19

Blended Learning study enables you to combine distance learning study with a period of full-time study at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. If you are registered for either the MSc degree or PGDip and have been permitted to proceed to the elective modules, you may study up to two elective modules at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

There will be certain restrictions to the choice of elective modules available for Blended Learning study:

- the period of time in which the study of these modules must be completed
- the number of students who can be registered for Blended Learning study each year.

1.20

Modules studied by Blended Learning are subject to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) regulations.

Details related to Blended Learning study are set out in the Guidelines for Blended Learning, found on the [LSHTM website](#).

2 Registration

Effective date of registration

2.1

Your effective date for registration will be 1 September (for the MSc, PGDip, PGCert and for individual modules).

Period of registration

2.2

The maximum and minimum period of registration, from your effective date of registration, are

	Minimum	Maximum
MSc	Two years	Five years
PGDip	Two years	Five years
PGCert	One year	Five years
Individual modules	One year	Two years

2.3

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

2.4

If you are registered for the PGCert or PGDip Infectious Diseases and progress to the PGDip or MSc Infectious Diseases 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 Infectious Diseases. The maximum period of registration will be the same for all students registered for the same programme.

3 Recognition of prior learning and credit transfer

To be read in conjunction with the [General Regulations](#), Section 3.

Recognition of prior learning

3.1

Where prior learning is recognised, the decision to award credit (known as Recognition of prior learning (RPL)) shall be made by the Programme Director and approved by the Faculty Taught Programme Director.

3.2

Applications for RPL can only be made at the point of entry to the programme and will only apply to specific modules up to a maximum number of credits.

Credit transfer

3.3

Credit transfer for a module previously studied at LSHTM may be considered for the MSc, PGDip or the PGCert. All applications for credit transfer and recognition of prior learning will be considered on a discretionary case-by-case basis.

Further information on the RPL policy can be found on the [LSHTM website](#).

4 Assessment for the programme

In line with our current General Regulations, the University may offer you alternative assessments where necessary. This includes holding online timed assessments in place of written examinations, which are usually held at examination centres. Please refer to Programme Specifications for details on equipment that may be required for alternative assessments.

To be read in conjunction with the [General Regulations](#)

Assessment methods

4.1

Each IDM1 module will be assessed by a timed unseen written examination or by one or more assessed assignments, with the exception of IDM101 where the written examination will be open book.

4.2

Each elective IDM and PHM module will usually be assessed by a timed unseen written examination and/or one or more assessed assignment(s).

4.3

The Project Report will be assessed by submission of one written report of up to 10,000 words.

4.4

Where the assessment for a module comprises an unseen written examination paper and/or one or more assessed assignments you are expected to submit all the assessed assignments and sit the unseen written examination for a module in the same academic year.

The types of assessment for each module can be found in the respective [Module Specification](#).

4.5

If you attempt only one element of the assessment for a module in a given academic year you may be permitted to carry forward the grade awarded for the element attempted for one year only. The Board of Examiners will decide if you may carry over individual element grades for longer than one year.

4.6

Assessed assignments, reports and other similar work must be your own work and must be written without the help of other people, except where you are given permission to work in a group and submit a joint piece of work. If you are working in a group you will need to submit a declaration, confirming the nature of your contribution to the submitted work.

Date of examinations

4.7

Timed unseen written examinations normally take place in June each year.

See the website for the list of [examination centres](#).

4.8

You must submit all assessed module assignments by the deadlines given in the guidelines for the assessed assignments and the LSHTM Student Handbook, both of which are available to registered students on the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment. Assessed assignments must be submitted electronically (unless otherwise specified in the assessed assignment guidelines).

4.9

Extensions to assignment deadlines will only be given in extenuating circumstances, and will only be considered if an application to the [LSHTM Extenuating Circumstances](#) Committee is made and has been received before the deadline. An assignment received after the deadline, without an agreed extension, will either be downgraded or will not be marked (see section 8b.9.9 of the [Academic Manual](#)).

4.10

An initial project proposal must be submitted for approval of the project. Full details about how to submit the project proposal and other project report stages and deadlines for submission, including word limit and format requirements, are included in the Project Report Guidelines.

4.11

Extensions to the project proposal and final project submission deadlines will only be given where there are extenuating circumstances and will only be considered on application to the [LSHTM Extenuating Circumstances](#) Committee before the deadline.

4.12

A Project Report received after the deadline, without an agreed extension, will either be subject to a grading penalty (which may include a zero (0) grade) or will not be marked (see section 8b.9.9 of the [Academic Manual](#)).

Materials and aids allowed in the examination room

4.13

Pre-programmable calculators may be used (see the 'Permitted materials list' that will accompany your 'Notice to candidates').

See [General Regulations](#) Rules for taking written examinations.

5 Number of attempts permitted at an assessment

5.1

The maximum number of attempts permitted at any assessed assignment or unseen written examination is two. If you fail a module at the first attempt, you will be permitted to make a second attempt (resit). Extenuating circumstances may be taken into account which allow for more attempts.

5.2

If you fail an elective module which is assessed by two or more elements of assessment (unseen written examination and/or one or more assessed assignment(s)), you will normally have to resit at least one element of the module assessment, but may have to resit both or all elements.

5.3

If you fail a module which is assessed by two or more elements of assessment (unseen written examination and/or one or more assessed assignments), having passed one element but not the other, you may only resit the failed element.

5.4

If you resit the assessed assignment element of a module assessment you will be required to submit a fresh assignment in answer to a new question or assignment topic.

Project Report (IDM600)

5.5

If your project proposal is approved and you enter to be examined in the project report (IDM600) you must submit the final report by the annual stated submission deadline in the same academic year.

5.6

If you do not submit the report before the annual deadline (or within an agreed extension deadline) the report will not be accepted that year but you may submit your report the following year, again before the annual stated submission deadline of the new academic year. If you submit your project report the following year you must ensure that you have registered for the project module (IDM600) that year, that you have entered to be examined in the project report, and that your project is updated in the light of any changes in guidelines that apply for the year submitted.

5.7

Extensions to the project report submission deadline will only be granted where there are extenuating circumstances and if requested prior to the submission deadline.

5.8

If you fail the Project Report at the first attempt, the Board of Examiners will determine whether you should either:

- 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 examination; or
- c) make a fresh application for approval of a topic and offer a new report, at a subsequent examination.

If you carry out (b) or (c) above you must re-register to resit the project and pay the usual project resit fee. Usually, once either of (a), (b) or (c) has been carried out, no further attempt at the project may be made.

More details can be found about extenuating circumstances on the [webpage](#) and in the [General Regulations](#).

Details of the LSHTM resits and [extenuating circumstances policies](#) are available to registered students on the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment.

6 Assessment offences and penalties

6.1

Penalties may be applied to assessed work that does not comply with requirements given in programme materials or submitted by the stated deadlines. You should check the requirements given for individual assessed assignments and the project report on the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment. Penalties such as grade reductions (including reduction to a fail grade) may apply for work that is late, over-length or for poor academic quality or plagiarism (see section 8b.9.9 of the [Academic Manual](#)).

6.2

All project work must abide by the ethical requirements of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and any involved external organisations. It is your responsibility to seek the approval

needed from external organisations. If your work needs ethical approval you must receive approval before beginning those elements of the project. If you fail to gain the right ethical approval or breach the terms of your original ethical approval submission penalties will be applied to your work (see section 8b.9.9 of the [Academic Manual](#)).

7 Progression within the programme

See [section 4](#) for method of assessment.

MSc Infectious Diseases

7.1

You may choose to study and be assessed in a maximum of four IDM1 modules. You must **successfully** complete a minimum of **three** IDM1 modules to be permitted to progress to elective module studies whilst you complete your remaining IDM1 module. You may study the remaining IDM1 module and up to eight elective modules (or five elective modules and the project) in any one year.

7.2

Progression to elective module studies before completing the minimum number of IDM1 modules is subject to approval by the Exam Board Chair.

7.3

If you have completed the core IDM1 modules, you may choose to study and be assessed in a maximum of eight elective modules (or five elective modules and the Project Report) in any one year. Resit attempts are allowed in addition to the maximum number of modules stated above.

7.4

The Project Report should be submitted in the same year that you enter to complete the qualification, except where you have been given exceptional permission to submit the Project Report in an alternative year.

PGDip Infectious Diseases

7.5

If you are registered for the PGDip you may choose to study and be assessed in a maximum of four core IDM1 modules. You must **successfully** pass a minimum of **three** IDM1 modules to be permitted to progress to elective module studies whilst you complete your remaining IDM1 module.

7.6

Progression to elective module studies before completing the minimum number of IDM1 modules is subject to approval by the Exam Board Chair.

7.7

You may choose to study and be assessed in a maximum of four elective modules in any one year. If you have been permitted to progress to elective module studies whilst you complete your final IDM1 module, you may study and be assessed in the final IDM1 module in the same year as up to four elective modules. Resit attempts are permitted in addition to the maximum number of modules stated above.

Progression to elective module studies (PGDip and MSc only)

7.8

To proceed to the elective modules and/or the Project report (MSc only) you must pass at least three IDM1 modules with a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00.

PGCert Infectious Diseases

7.9

If you are registered for the PGCert you may choose to study and be examined in a minimum of one and a maximum of four IDM1 modules in any one year.

8 Scheme of award

8.1

The Infectious Diseases programmes are marked according to the following scale:

Qualification GPA	Classification
2.00 - 3.84	Pass
3.70 – 3.84	Consider merit
3.85 – 4.29	Merit
4.15 - 4.29	Consider distinction
4.30 - 5.00	Distinction

8.2

The Board of Examiners will make a decision on the final qualification classification once the criteria for that qualification have been met. Once you have met the criteria for the qualification on which you are registered, you will not be allowed to resit any failed modules or substitute any failed modules with other modules.

8.3

All written examinations, assessed module assignments and the Project Report will be marked according to the LSHTM [Academic Manual](#).

8.4

The final outcome of the qualification of MSc, PGDip or PGCert is determined as set out in the LSHTM [Academic Manual](#).

8.5

The final qualification classification will be based on the final qualification GPA, which will be calculated as shown in the LSHTM [Academic Manual](#).

8.6

In order to be awarded the MSc, PGDip or PGCert you must satisfy the Examiners in the assessment for all the necessary components of the qualification.

Exit qualifications

8.7

If you are registered for the PGDip Infectious Diseases or MSc Infectious Diseases, an exit qualification (i.e. a related certificate or diploma) may be granted to you if you either do not complete or if you withdraw early from the programme you were registered on, provided that you have fully met the requirements for an exit qualification as detailed in the LSHTM [Academic Manual](#).

The qualification of the PGCert Infectious Diseases or PGDip Infectious Diseases will be with effect from the year in which you successfully completed all components for that qualification.

Receiving related qualifications

8.8

If you successfully complete the formal assessment of relevant individual modules you may apply to receive a related qualification provided that you meet the requirements for that qualification and you apply within three years of the successful completion of the relevant modules.

Information on assessment criteria and how the grades obtained for individual modules might contribute to a related qualification are given in Chapter 8b of the LSHTM [Academic Manual](#).

9 Transfer of registration

Transfer of registration from the PGCert or PGDip Infectious Diseases to the MSc Infectious Diseases

9.1

To transfer registration from the PGCert or PGDip to the MSc, you must pass a minimum of three IDM1 modules (with a Grade Point Average of at least 2.00).

9.2

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

Progression from the PGCert Infectious Diseases to the PGDip Infectious Diseases

9.3

To transfer registration from the PGCert to the PGDip, you must pass a minimum of three IDM1 modules (with a Grade Point Average of at least 2.00).

9.4

If you have been awarded a PGCert you must give up your certificate to us if you wish to progress on to the PGDip.

Progression and transfer of registration from an individual module

9.5

If you wish to progress from an individual module and register for the PGCert, PGDip or MSc Infectious Diseases, you must follow the sequence of modules given within the individual programme structures in [Appendix A](#). Advice on the previous knowledge you are expected to have to undertake a particular module is also given within the [module specifications](#).

Appendix A – Structure of the programmes

All module specifications can be found on the [LSHTM website](#).

PGCert Infectious Diseases

Four **compulsory modules** (60 credits in total):

IDM101	Principles of biostatistics and epidemiology [15 credits]
IDM102	Principles of biology [15 credits]
IDM103	Biology of infectious diseases [15 credits]
IDM104	Control of infectious diseases [15 credits]

PGDip Infectious Diseases

Four **compulsory modules** (60 credits in total*):

IDM101	Principles of biostatistics and epidemiology [15 credits]
IDM102	Principles of biology [15 credits]
IDM103	Biology of infectious diseases [15 credits]
IDM104	Control of infectious diseases [15 credits]

**At least 3 IDM1 modules must be completed prior to progressing to elective modules.*

Four elective modules (60 credits in total) selected from the list of options below.

At least three of these must be selected from the IDM2, IDM3, IDM5 or IDM6 selection groups. The remaining module can be selected from IDM2, IDM3, IDM5, IDM6 or PHM2. *Up to two LSHTM in-house modules prefixed 3xxx via the blended learning study option may be chosen in place of up to two of the above elective modules.*

MSc Infectious Diseases

Four **compulsory modules** (60 credits in total):

IDM101	Principles of biostatistics and epidemiology [15 credits]
IDM102	Principles of biology [15 credits]
IDM103	Biology of infectious diseases [15 credits]
IDM104	Control of infectious diseases [15 credits]

** At least 3 IDM1 modules must be completed prior to progressing to elective modules.*

Either

- Eight **elective modules** (120 credits in total) selected from the list of options below.

At least **six** modules from the IDM2, IDM3, IDM5 or IDM6 selection groups should be selected. The remaining modules can be selected from IDM2, IDM3, IDM5, IDM6 or PHM2.

(If you registered for the MSc Infectious Diseases programme with effect from 1 September 2012 or earlier at least **four** modules from the IDM2, IDM3, IDM5 or IDM6 selection groups must be selected. The remaining modules can be selected from IDM2, IDM3, IDM5, IDM6 or PHM2.)

Or

- Five **elective modules** (75 credits in total) selected from the list of options below.

At least **three** modules from the IDM2, IDM3, IDM5 or IDM6 selection groups must be selected. The remaining modules can be selected from IDM2, IDM3, IDM5, IDM6 or PHM2.

and

- **IDM600 Project Report (45 credits)**

Up to two LSHTM in-house modules prefixed 3xxx via the blended learning study option may be chosen in place of up to two of the above elective modules.

Grades awarded for modules satisfactorily completed from the MSc Health Systems Management programme (HS2 or HS3 modules) or from modules satisfactorily completed which have now been withdrawn from the Infectious Diseases programme may also be included in place of elective modules (see Appendix A1).

Elective modules

IDM2

IDM201	Bacterial infections [15 credits]
IDM202	Nutrition and infection [15 credits]
IDM203	Parasitology [15 credits]
IDM204	Viral infections [15 credits]
IDM205	Healthcare-associated infections [15 credits]
IDM213	Immunology of infection and vaccines [15 credits]
IDM215	Water, sanitation and hygiene [15 credits]

IDM3

IDM301	Epidemiology and control of infectious diseases [15 credits]
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IDM5

IDM501	HIV [15 credits]
IDM502	Tuberculosis [15 credits]
IDM503	Malaria [15 credits]

IDM6

IDM601 [15 credits]	Research design, management and analysis
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PHM2

PHM207	Health care evaluation [15 credits]
PHM211	Medical anthropology in public health [15 credits]
PHM213	Principles and practice of health promotion [15 credits]
PHM218	Applied communicable disease control [15 credits]

Important Notes:

- You must check each module specification prior to registration as modules may have specific prerequisites for study. In particular, many of the IDM modules require you to have a prior knowledge of basic biochemistry, cell biology, genetics and immunology in order to be able to work through and benefit fully from the module.
- Some modules have been withdrawn from study and replaced with updated versions. You may not register for or study some current modules if you have already been awarded credits and a grade for an equivalent withdrawn module - see Appendix A1.
- The examination numbers precede the module titles and these numbers should be used when completing examination entry forms.
- Not all elective modules will necessarily be available every year.
- Requests from students wishing to register for a module that is not on the IDM2, IDM3, IDM5, IDM6 or PHM2 lists above will be considered on an individual basis by the Programme Director.

Appendix A1 – Module restrictions

Some modules have been withdrawn from study and replaced with updated versions. You may not register for or study the following currently available modules if you have already been awarded credits and a grade for the equivalent withdrawn module as follows:

Module currently available:	Previous module withdrawn:
IDM215 Water, sanitation and hygiene	IDM210 Water and sanitation
PHM207 Health care evaluation	HS204 Health care evaluation
PHM211 Medical anthropology in public health	HS303 Medical anthropology
PHM213 Principles and practice of health promotion	HS302 Health promotion strategies and interventions
PHM218 Applied communicable disease control	PHM202 Communicable disease control