

# Module Specification



UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON  
INTERNATIONAL  
PROGRAMMES

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



*Please note this module has been withdrawn prior to an updated version being available from October 2016. The extant module may only be taken by those who have registered for the PG Diploma/MSc Infectious Diseases programmes with effect from 1 September 2013 or earlier; the last examinations (including re-sits) for this module will be held in June 2016.*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Module name</b>	<b>Diagnostic Methods</b>
<b>Module code</b>	IDM212
<b>Module Organiser(s)</b>	Claire Rogers
<b>Contact email</b>	The LSHTM distance learning courses and modules are run in collaboration with the University of London International Programmes. Enquiries may be made via their Student Advice Centre at: <a href="http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/contact-us">http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/contact-us</a> . (Enquiries from face-to-face i.e. London-based LSHTM MSc or research students regarding study of DL modules should be emailed to <a href="mailto:distance@lshtm.ac.uk">distance@lshtm.ac.uk</a> .)
<b>Home Faculty</b>	Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine <a href="http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/itd/">http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/itd/</a>
<b>Level</b>	This module is at Level 7 (postgraduate Masters 'M' level) of the QAA <a href="#">Framework for Higher Education Qualifications</a> in England, Wales & Northern Ireland (FHEQ)
<b>Credit</b>	LSHTM award 15 credits on successful completion of this module
<b>Accreditation</b>	Not currently accredited by any other body
<b>Keywords</b>	Laboratory, diagnosis, virology, bacteriology, parasitology, mycology
<b>AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE</b>	
<b>Overall aim</b>	This module aims to give students an understanding of the methods used to diagnose infectious diseases. It will focus on the laboratory tests used to diagnose some of the major viral, bacterial, parasite and fungal infections.
<b>Intended learning outcomes</b>	By the end of this module, students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• understand the methods employed for the laboratory diagnosis of the most important human infections</li><li>• be aware of the strengths and limitations of the various tests</li><li>• appreciate the importance of selecting the most appropriate tests</li><li>• understand how the quality and accuracy of diagnosis is controlled in the laboratory.</li></ul>
<b>Target audience</b>	This module is intended for those who wish to understand the principles of diagnostic methods.

CONTENT	
<b>Session content</b>	<p>The module includes sections addressing the following topics:</p> <p><b>Section 1 Virology</b> Section 1 covers the methods used in the diagnosis of important viral infections.</p> <p><b>Section 2 Bacteriology</b> Section 2 looks at the methods for the isolation and identification of the major bacterial pathogens from various sites of infection in the body.</p> <p><b>Section 3 Parasitology</b> Section 3 looks at the methods employed in the differential diagnosis of the important protozoal and helminth parasite infections.</p> <p><b>Section 4 Mycology</b> Section 4 looks at the methods for isolation and identification of clinically important fungal infections.</p> <p><b>Supplementary section General principles</b> This optional section covers general aspects of laboratory diagnosis and the use of some important diagnostic methods.</p>
TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT	
<b>Study resources provided or required</b>	<p>The following materials are provided to students registered for this module:</p> <p><b>Study Guide:</b> Paper version.</p> <p><b>Reader:</b> Reprints of associated journal articles.</p> <p><b>Textbooks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>District Laboratory Practice in Tropical Countries</i> (Part 1) by M Cheesbrough (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) ISBN 978-0521676304.</li> <li>• <i>District Laboratory Practice in Tropical Countries</i> (Part 2) by M Cheesbrough (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) ISBN 9780521665452.</li> <li>• <i>Identification of Pathogenic Fungi</i> by C K Campbell, EM Johnson, CM Philpot and DW Warnock. ISBN 978-0901144393.</li> <li>• Goering, R.V., Dockrell, H.M., Zuckerman, M., Roitt, I.M. and Chiodini, P.L., (2012) <i>Mims' Medical Microbiology</i>, 5th Ed. ISBN: 978-0723436010.</li> <li>• <i>Microscopy of Tropical Diseases</i> (Learning Bench Aids Series 1-9) 2011, 4th Edition.</li> </ul> <p>In addition to the materials above, students are given access to the LSHTM <b>Virtual Learning Environment, Moodle</b> (for web-based discussion forums etc.) and the LSHTM <b>online library resources</b>.</p>
<b>Teaching and learning methods</b>	<p>Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the module-specific discussion forums available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of LSHTM online library resources. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted assignments.</p>
<b>Assessment details</b>	<p>Formal assessment of this module includes a two-hour unseen written paper examination (70%) and an assessed assignment comprising a 2500 word essay (30%).</p> <p>If students fail the module overall, they are allowed one further attempt at the failed element (examination and/or assignment).</p>

<b>Assessment dates</b>	<p>Assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, no later than 31<sup>st</sup> March and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System.</p> <p>Unseen written examinations for DL modules are held once a year, in June (including resits).</p> <p>Examinations are normally held in a student's country of residence, in one of over 650 examination centres worldwide. They are arranged mainly through Ministries of Education or the British Council. A list of examination centres can be found at <a href="http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/community-support-resources/current-students/examinations/examination-centres">http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/community-support-resources/current-students/examinations/examination-centres</a>.</p> <p>A local fee will be payable direct to the examination centre. This fee is in addition to the course/module fee and is set by, and paid directly to, the individual examination centres. The level of local examination centre fees varies across the world and neither the University of London International Programmes nor the LSHTM have any control over the fee amount.</p>
<b>Language of study and assessment</b>	English (please see 'English language requirements' below regarding the standard required for entry).
<b>TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY</b>	
<b>Duration</b>	Distance learning module studies begin in early October. Students may start their studies at any time from receipt of study materials and work through the material until the start of the June examinations (although assessment submission deadlines which are earlier than this must be observed).
<b>Dates</b>	Tutorial support for distance learning modules is available from the beginning of October through to the end of May.
<b>Mode of Study</b>	By distance learning.
<b>Learning time</b>	<p>The notional learning time for the module totals 150 hours, consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directed self study (reading and working through the provided module material) ≈ 90 hours</li> <li>• Self-directed learning (general reading around the subject, library, Moodle discussion forums) ≈ 30 hours</li> <li>• Assessment, review and revision ≈ 30 hours</li> </ul>
<b>APPLICATION, ADMISSION AND FEES</b>	
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	<p>Those who wish to study this module as an <b>individual module</b> or as part of <b>another course</b> should note they should have <b>prior knowledge of basic biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology and parasitology in order to be able to work through and benefit fully from this module.</b></p> <p>Those wishing to study this module must have regular access to the internet to participate in module-specific discussions on Moodle, benefit from online library facilities and submit assignments.</p>
<b>English language requirements</b>	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 <a href="#">English language requirements</a> , with an acceptable score in an approved test taken in the two years prior to entry. Applicants may be asked to take a test even if the standard conditions have been met.

<b>Student numbers</b>	There is no cap on the number of students who can register for this distance learning module. The number of students actively studying this module varies, but typically approx. 30 students register for the module per year.
<b>Student selection</b>	This module is available to be studied by students on the following distance learning courses: MSc or PG Dip Infectious Diseases (ID) courses. Alternatively, students may register for this as an “individual module”. This module is also open to students registered on LSHTM face-to-face (i.e. London-based) MSc courses (subject to course-specific limitations) and research degree students.
<b>Fees</b>	The current schedule of fees can be viewed at <a href="http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/fees">http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/fees</a> (click on the LSHTM course link)
<b>Scholarships</b>	Scholarships are not available for individual modules. Some potential <a href="#">sources of funding</a> are detailed on the LSHTM website.
<b>Admission deadlines</b>	Applications for LSHTM distance learning courses and modules are managed by the University of London International Programmes. To apply to take either a formal award (i.e. PG Certificate, PG Diploma or MSc) or an individual module, click on the relevant link on the right hand side of the page at <a href="http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/lshmt/infectious-diseases-msc-postgraduate-diploma-postgraduate-certificate">http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/lshmt/infectious-diseases-msc-postgraduate-diploma-postgraduate-certificate</a> . Key deadlines are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If taken as part of a formal award (i.e. PG Certificate, PG Diploma or MSc): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Application deadline: 30 June each year</li> <li>➤ Registration deadline 31 August each year (<i>continuing students may register until 30 September but are strongly recommended to register before this deadline because the study year starts beginning of October</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• If taken as an individual module: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Application deadline: 31 August each year</li> <li>➤ Registration deadline: 30 November each year</li> </ul> </li> </ul> (In-house LSHTM MSc and research students wishing to study this module should note information given in the mixed mode study option links, for MSc students at <a href="http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/taughtcourses/handbooks_regs_pols/msc_mixedmodeinformation.pdf">http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/taughtcourses/handbooks_regs_pols/msc_mixedmodeinformation.pdf</a> , and for DrPH/research degree students at <a href="http://intra.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/researchdegrees/rdsupportframework/profdev/rd_mixedmodeinformation.pdf">http://intra.lshtm.ac.uk/edu/researchdegrees/rdsupportframework/profdev/rd_mixedmodeinformation.pdf</a> .)
<b>ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT</b>	
<b>This module specification applies for the academic year 2015/16.</b>	
<b>Last revised/approved, by</b> Further revisions revised by	
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel St., London WC1E 7HT. <a href="http://www.lshtm.ac.uk">www.lshtm.ac.uk</a>	