PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Overview

Academic Year	2025-26
Programme Title	Medical Parasitology and Entomology
Programme Director	Matthew Rogers
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
Faculty	Infectious and Tropical Diseases
Length of Programme (months)	MSc – Full time = 12 months, Part time = 24 months
Entry Routes	MSc
Exit Routes	MSc/PGDip/PGCert
Award Titles	MSc Medical Parasitology and Entomology (180 credits) Exit awards: PGDip Medical Parasitology and Entomology (120 credits) PGCert Parasitology and Entomology (60 credits)
Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body	N/A
Relevant PGT QAA Benchmark Statement and/or other external/internal reference points	No relevant PGT QAA benchmark for this MSc Programme.
Level of programme within the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)	Masters (MSc) Level 7

Total Credits	**CATS:** 180 **ECTS:** 90
HECoS Code(s)	100345:100265:100948 (1:1:1)
Mode of Delivery	This programme is based at LSHTM in London and delivered by predominantly face-to-face teaching modes.
Mode and Period of Study	Full time (12 months) or part time/split time (max 24 months)
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in September
Language of Study	English
Re-sit Policy	https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-08a.pdf
Extenuating Circumstances Policy	https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf
Programme Description	This programme provides core training in the theoretical and practical aspects of medical parasitology and entomology, covering the protozoan and metazoan parasites of humans and the vectors which transmit them. Students will gain specialised skills to enable them to pursue a career in research, control or teaching related to medical parasitology and entomology.
Date of Introduction of Programme	The last periodic review of the programme occurred in March 2022.
Date of production / revision of this programme specification	October 2024

2. Programme Aims & Learning Outcomes

Educational aims of the programme
The aim of the programme – consistent with the LSHTM's mission to improve health worldwide – is to provide core training in the theoretical and practical aspects of medical parasitology and entomology, covering the protozoan and metazoan parasites of humans and the vectors which transmit them, and equip students with specialised skills to enable them to pursue a career in research, control or teaching related to medical parasitology and entomology.
Programme Learning Outcomes
By the end of the programme, students will be expected to achieve the following learning outcomes – drawing on material taught across different elements and assessed in a variety of ways. (i) demonstrate detailed knowledge and understanding of the biology, life cycles, pathogenesis, diagnosis of parasitic infections in humans and their relevance for human health and strategies for control; (ii) demonstrate detailed knowledge and understanding of the biology and strategies for control of the vectors and intermediate hosts of human parasites; (iii) carry out practical laboratory identification of the various parasite stages both free and in tissues and diagnose infections; (iv) demonstrate specialised skills acquired through taking Modules on: advanced diagnostic, molecular, immunological, genetic, chemotherapeutic, ecological and/or control aspects of the subject; (v) demonstrate the ability to design a laboratory or field-based research project, apply relevant research skills, critically analyse and interpret data, and work with minimal supervision; (vi) prepare a written report including a critical literature review of relevant scientific publications; and show competence in communicating scientific information and findings.
Teaching and Learning Strategy
The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including: lectures, small group seminars, practicals and groupwork with peers. In addition, there is a compulsory one-week field course. All elements of the programme have specific learning objectives, with content designed to help students achieve these outcomes. Students are expected to learn through both directed and self-directed study.

Assessment Strategy
The programme is assessed through individual module assessments (which may include essays, other written coursework, short written exams, practical exams, groupwork, presentations or other methods, two practical and two MCQ examinations in Term 1, written assessments during the week before the start of Term 2, and a project report. Such tasks are designed to assess, via the most appropriate method, whether learning objectives have been met.

Programme Structure and features, modules, credit assignment and award requirements:

Full-time Masters	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Total Credits
Compulsory Modules	2	1		60
Recommended Modules		4	1	75
Project			1	45

The structure and content of modules 3141, 3166 and 3176 is currently being reviewed and these modules may have changed significantly by 2025-6. Other module information is correct at the time of publication, but minor amendments may be made subject to approval as detailed in Chapter 3 of the LSHTM Academic Manual. Optional (i.e. recommended non-compulsory) modules listed are indicative and may change from year to year.
https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/changes-courses

Term	**Slot**	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Module Type (compulsory or recommended)**	**Credits (CATS)**
1	AB1	3196	Analysis & Design of Research Studies	Compulsory	10
1	AB1	3122	Parasitology & Entomology	Compulsory	50
2	C1	3141	Vector Sampling, Identification & Incrimination	Recommended	15
2	C1	3131	Molecular Biology & Recombinant DNA Techniques	Recommended	15
2	C1	3457	Designing Disease Control Programmes	Recommended	15
2	C2	3143	Advanced Diagnostic Parasitology	Recommended	15

2	C2	2417	Design & Analysis of Epidemiological Studies	Recommended	15
2	D1	3195	Malaria: From Science to Policy and Practice	Recommended	15
2	D1	3158	Advanced Training in Molecular Biology	Recommended	15
2	D1	3135	Spatial Epidemiology	Recommended	15
2	D2	3177	Immunology of Parasitic Infection	Recommended	15
2	D2	3166	Vector Biology and Vector-Parasite Interactions	Recommended	15
2	D2	2437	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15
3	D2	3260	Molecular and Cell Biology of Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D2	3133	Field Trip	Compulsory	0
3	E	3169	Novel Drug Discovery & Antimicrobial Resistance	Recommended	15
3	E	3176	Integrated Vector Management	Recommended	15
3	E	3460	Pathogen Genomics	Recommended	15
3	E	3465	Neglected Tropical Diseases	Recommended	15

Contact Time

Student contact time refers to the tutor-mediated time allocated to teaching, provision of guidance and feedback to students. This time includes activities that take place in face-to-face contexts such as on-campus lectures, seminars, demonstrations, tutorials, supervised laboratory workshops, practical classes, project supervision and external fieldwork or visits, as well as where tutors are available for one-to-one discussions and interaction by email. Module contact time will be defined in the individual module specifications and provided to students at the start of their programme.

This definition is based on the one provided by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) Explaining contact hours (2011). Student contact time, together with time allocated for independent study and assessment, determines the total student study hours for a module or programme. Although there are

separate hours allocated for each of these activities, they should always be clearly linked together to support effective learning.

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) defines high quality contact time as structured, focused, purposeful and interactive.

4: Entry Requirements

Please refer to the programme's entry requirements here.