

**SUMMER
2024
WEEKS 1-3**



Global Health Challenges: Navigating Current World Health Concerns

IEEL018

Credit Value	Delivery	Contact Hours Per module	Self-Directed Hours Per module	Total Hours Per module
5 UoL credit, 2.5 ECTS	On-campus	12-16	34-38	50

Module Leader: Dr. Alice Maher

Alice is a lecturer in the School of Life Sciences, her research and interests are Zoology and Palaeontology based, with a research focus on contributing to the understanding of animal ecology and evolution.

Module Description

This module will introduce selected case studies which examine challenges in globally significant health issues. Each session will comprise a seminar in which a current challenge in human health is introduced and then evaluated via structured group discussion and debate. During our discussions we will focus on the latest improvements in our understandings of disease: causation, prevention and treatment. We will then discuss how these improvements in health research have ethical, economic, societal and global consequences. The content will vary from year to year, as it reflects varied areas that are the focus of research in Health and Life Sciences at the University of Liverpool.

Module Aims:

To develop confidence in understanding and communicating complex ideas.

To develop skills in research and collaborative learning.

To enable informed evaluation of the consequences of improvements in our understanding of human health and disease in a broad global and societal context.

Content

Typical examples of indicative content, directly based on the most recent research conducted in the area of Global Health, are included below and may vary according to staff availability.

Ageing – mechanisms and consequences

Global challenges infectious diseases

Increasing food safety & security

Tracking emerging and zoonotic infections

Improvements in our understanding and treatment of cancers

Molecular basis of therapeutic targeting

Genomics and human health

Development of personalised medicines

Antimicrobial resistance – risks and potential solutions

How our evolutionary heritage predisposes us to modern health problems

A PostNote is a summary of a public policy issues based on reviews of the research literature and interviews with stakeholders (e.g. from academia, industry, government and the third sector) – following the format of the reports produced by the Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST).

Module Structure

The module will be delivered over a three-week period in six two-hour sessions (four hours per week, total 12 hours contact time). The final 2 sessions will be for assessment.

Each session will comprise a seminar in which a current challenge in human health is introduced and then evaluated via structured group discussion and debate. During our discussions we will focus on the latest improvements in our understandings of disease: causation, prevention and treatment. We will then discuss how these improvements in health research have ethical, economic, societal and global consequences. The content will vary from year to year, as it reflects varied areas that are the focus of research in Health and Life Sciences at the University of Liverpool.

In addition, it is expected that students will spend 34-38 study hours outside of the classroom contact hours on activities including assigned reading, optional reading of areas of personal interest, homework tasks, web research and preparation for assessment. Students should be aware that in order to fully benefit from the face-to-face classroom sessions, they will need to have done the preparation work assigned beforehand.

Teaching Methods

The teaching approach will include the following:

Taught sessions

Small group working

Group discussions

Presentations

Site visits and team interactions

Assessment:

Assessment will be by:

Long-form written assignment - the PostNote exercise.

Students will collaborate in groups of 4 to produce a 2500 word PostNote. Hence the assessment combines collaboration and communication in a group context.

Standard University policies apply with regard to late submission of assessments

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

Learning outcome	Assessment component which assesses this learning outcome
Display confidence in understanding and communicating complex ideas in written language.	Long-form written assignment - the PostNote exercise
Research a topic within the subject area, be better able to work collaboratively in this research and to produce a piece of work based on that research.	Long-form written assignment - the PostNote exercise
Demonstrate an understanding of a named issue in human health and disease, and be able to apply the scientific knowledge to a broad global and societal context.	Long-form written assignment - the PostNote exercise

Skills:

Key skills that will be developed:

Skill	How this skill is developed	Mode of assessment
Collaboration and Teamwork	Collaborative group discussions in class and work on PostNote assessment.	Long-form written assignment - the PostNote exercise
Communication	Orally in group discussions and tasks in class; in writing by production of assessed assignment.	Long-form written assignment - the PostNote exercise
Analytical skills	During class discussions; during the written assessment.	Long-form written assignment - the PostNote exercise

Books, ebooks and websites:

The University Website at www.liv.ac.uk/library provides access to many relevant books and electronic books, as well as academic journals and databases.