

Module Specification

Module title	Infectious Diseases	Module code	BMD323				
Credit Value	15	Level	5	Mode of Delivery	On Campus	Sem	A

Pre-requisite modules	Co-requisite modules	Overlapping modules
BMD231 (potentially BMD269)		

1) Content Description

Provide a description of the module, as it will appear in the Module Directory and on the Student Information System (approx. 70-80 words).

In this module we select a few topics related to infectious diseases to cover in depth. These will include topics that are currently causing public interest or concern in the UK and internationally. Some lectures will cover principles that apply to many microorganisms, while others will look in detail at particular microbial species.

Two major themes will link lectures on different organisms:

1. Microbial pathogenesis

- How microorganisms damage and manipulate the host
- How microorganisms evade the immune response
- How we investigate microbial pathogenesis

2. Combatting infectious diseases

- Public health surveillance and epidemiology
- Molecular diagnostics and typing
- Drug development
- Vaccines

2) Module Aims

Specify the aims of the module, i.e. the broad educational purposes for offering this module.

Infectious diseases remain a major public health concern, providing an opportunity to engage students with current news stories. Within the selected topics we aim to explore current research and research applications, such as drug development, to encourage students to see the relevance of research to population health in the UK and internationally. In that context students will explore primary research data and experimental design. The emphasis on themes that are relevant to a

range of different microorganisms is intended to encourage students to integrate and synthesise information across lectures, and given by different lecturers. Public health aspects of the module will include consideration of potential employers of biomedical graduates.

3) Learning Outcomes

Identify the learning outcomes for this module, i.e. knowledge, skills and attributes to be developed through completion of this module. Outcomes should be referenced to the relevant [QAA benchmark statements](#) and the [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland \(2008\)](#). The [SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education 2003](#) and [Queen Mary Statement of Graduate Attributes](#) should also be used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Academic content:	
A1	Mechanisms used by microorganisms to cause disease
A2	Mechanisms used by microorganisms to evade detection and elimination by the immune system
A3	Strategies for combatting infectious diseases in the UK and internationally, particularly via public health measures and drug development
A4	Methods used to investigate microbial pathogenesis

Disciplinary skills - able to:	
B1	Analyse experimental data relating to microbial pathogenesis
B2	Interpret results of simple epidemiological studies in infectious diseases, such as typing of strains from an outbreak
B3	Appreciate the complex interplay between microorganisms and the immune system
B4	Evaluate the importance of prevention and/or treatment of some examples of infectious diseases

Attributes	
C1	Connect information acquired about different microorganisms and the immune system to enhance understanding of infectious disease
C2	Recognise that infectious diseases have a continuous and evolving impact on local and global public health, emphasising the importance of learning continuously in a changing world
C3	Use evidence for decision making and problem solving

4) Reading List

Provide an indicative reading list for the module. This should include key texts and/or journals but **should not** be an exhaustive list of materials.

Talis online reading list will be developed and reviewed on an annual basis to keep up to date with recent research and current public health concerns

5) Teaching and Learning Profile

Provide details of the method of delivery (lectures, seminars, fieldwork, practical classes, etc.) used to enable the achievement of learning outcomes and an indicative number of hours for each activity to give an overall picture of the workload a student taking the module would be expected to undertake. This information will form the Key Information Set for each undergraduate programme and will be used to populate the KIS widget found on the QMUL programme information pages. More information can be found [online](#) about KIS. You may also wish to refer to the [QAA guidance on contact hours](#) when completing this section.

Activity Type	KIS Category	Time Spent (in hours)
Lecture	Scheduled	22
Practical Classes and workshops	Scheduled	4
Guided independent study	Guided Independent	124
Total		150

Specify the total module notional study hours. This should be a total of the hours given for each activity. The notional study hours for each academic credit point is 10. A 15 credit point module therefore represents 150 notional study hours.

Activity Type	Total Time Spent (in hours)	Percentage of Time Spent
Scheduled learning and teaching	26	17.3%
Placement	0	0
Independent Study	124	82.7%
Total	150	100

Use the information provided in the box above to specify the total time spent and the percentage time spent in each category of teaching and learning activity.

6) Assessment Profile

Provide details of the assessment methods used to assess the achievement of learning outcomes.

Description of Assessment	Assessment Type	KIS Category	Duration/Length	Percentage Weighting	Final element of	Qualifying Mark

					assessment	
Coursework exercises	In class test	Coursework	4 hr	10%	No	
Assignment	Written assignment, inc Essay	Coursework	1,500 words	10%	No	
Exam	Written Exam	Written	3 hr	80%	Yes	

Final element of assessment: The assessment that takes place last. **There should normally be only one element of assessment marked as final unless two assessment or submission dates occur on the same day.**

Qualifying mark: A specified minimum mark that must be obtained in one or more elements of assessment in order to pass a module. **This is in addition to, and distinct from, the requirement to achieve a pass in the module mark to pass the module.**

Reassessment

Provide details of the reassessment methods used, specifying whether reassessment is either standard reassessment or synoptic reassessment.

Synoptic Reassessment

Standard Reassessment

Synoptic reassessment details (if you have indicated synoptic reassessment above, please give details)		
Brief Description of Assessment	Assessment Type	Duration/Length of Examination/ Coursework
Exam	Written Exam	3 hours, weighting 100%