



APHEA

Agency for Public Health
Education Accreditation

SITE VISIT REPORT FOR THE
INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

REVIEW OF

**London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,
London, United Kingdom**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Accreditation granted December 2018 to December 2024

AGENCY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION ACCREDITATION
SITE VISIT DATES: 17th July to 19th July 2019

SITE VISIT TEAM:
Professor Laurent Chambaud (Chair)
Professor Henrique Barros
Professor John Evans
Dr Julien Goodman, Director APHEA

Executive Summary

The review team (hereafter called the team) would like to express their gratitude for the hospitality of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and the observed overall quality of the school. All the meetings were conducted in an open, congenial and collegial manner which was appreciated by the review team.

Criterion I: Governance and Organisation of the Institution

The team noticed with interest the relationship between LSHTM and the University of London (UoL) and University of London Worldwide (UoLW). LSHTM is an autonomous higher education body, which is quite unusual for a school of public health, but is part of the UoL. The UoL provides a consortium structure for 17 independent members (academic institutions) within London. The consortium makes possible, and facilitates, collaboration with other member institutions and also includes three Central Academic Bodies, one of which is the University of London Worldwide (UoLW). UoLW collaborates with a number of UoL member institutions and provides a structure on which the school is able to provide its distance learning programmes.

Although the school is involved with many important stakeholders, the formal structural organisation and role of the industry/employer stakeholders in the school were not as transparent as the rest of the school operations. Despite this lack of structural clarity, during the team's sessions with stakeholders' evidence was provided reflecting their involvement in the generation of new programmes, such as the proposed data management programme and a new climate change centre.

Criterion II: Aims and Objectives of the Public Health Institution and its programmes

The site visit team were impressed by the clarity of the mission statement and in the manner that it permeated through all of the activities of the school and the attention given by the school to communicating this worldwide.

The team considered that the school is a global public health leader and, as such, has a very strong influence (and lead) in many of the leading IGOs and NGOs. Evidence was presented as to how changes in the curricula had been made in response to the external environment and was clearly research driven.

Criterion III: Programmes

Students and alumni at the school made it clear how impressed they were with faculty knowledge and programme attention to health problems around the world and how knowledgeable they were regarding detailed health characterization of many of their countries of origin.

The site review team noted the strength of the MSc curriculum both in the core compulsory modules, the stream compulsory modules and the broad set of electives to complement them. However, they were somewhat surprised by the apparent limited attention to environment and occupational health in the core and recommend modules and the school should consider increasing environmental health, climate change and occupational health as part of the core offerings.

The school has an impressive amount of international collaborations involving both faculty and students. The team found that there were clear strengths in research methods both regarding the methodological and substantive aspects, provided by the school and were positively impressed by the functioning of the ethics committee.

Criterion IV: Students and Graduates

Students and alumni were enthusiastic in their support for the school and programmes. Even on the distance learning programme, students emphasised the sense of community, strength of faculty knowledge and the importance of exposure to rigorous research training.

A well-functioning tutoring system was found, especially for the face to face programmes, and the review team would support the ongoing school efforts to improve the consistency of the tutoring system, especially for the distance learning programme with the UoLW.

A sound counselling system was found which placed a great deal of emphasis and recognition on the recent changes detected in student stresses and mental health issues.

Criterion V: Human Resources and Staffing

The school was found to have an extremely strong multi-disciplined faculty with wide experience across professional sectors and the globe. An area that was expanded upon

during discussions concerned the school's PGCILT (Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching) which was felt to be an excellent feature for supporting all entering faculty. Due to its strength, the review team would encourage, if possible, to promote the adoption of this award within other schools of public health.

The school actively encourages the involvement of faculty on research and service activities which can be found as part of the explicit guidance on academic pathway promotion.

Criterion VI: Supportive Services, Budgeting and Facilities

The review team noted that the school has both in-house library services as well as access to the central UoL facilities. These extensive library resources are readily accessible online. The LSHTM provides orientation programmes for both library and electronic services.

During the discussion, the review team found an impressive Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) support which, although new, was being clearly driven by pedagogy over technology. As such, the team emphasised that the school should continue to support and expand their efforts in this area.

The welfare of students was clearly addressed and the relevant units within the school were met during the visit. The school's relationship with the UoL also provided opportunities for the school to solve welfare issues when they arose, for example with student accommodation.

Criterion VII: Internal Quality Management

The school was found to have a robust quality management system but without explicit or obvious inclusion of external industry / employer stakeholders. As such, the team felt that the school should consider the potential benefits of more transparently presenting the various structures involving stakeholders in programme management and quality assurance.

Summary of Conclusions

| Criterion I: Governance and Organisation of the Institution | |
|---|-------------------|
| Sub – Criterion 1.1 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 1.2 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 1.3 | Met with comments |
| Sub – Criterion 1.4 | Met with comments |
| Criterion II: Aims and Objectives of the Public Health Institution and its programmes. | |
| Sub – Criterion 2.1 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 2.2 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 2.3 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 2.4 | Met |
| Criterion III: Programmes | |
| Sub – Criterion 3.1 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 3.2 | Met with comments |
| Sub – Criterion 3.3 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 3.4 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 3.5 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 3.6 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 3.7 | Met |
| Criterion IV: Students and Graduates | |
| Sub – Criterion 4.1 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 4.2 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 4.3 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 4.4 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 4.5 | Met with comments |
| Sub – Criterion 4.6 | Met |

| Criterion V: Human Resources and Staffing | |
|--|-------------------|
| Sub – Criterion 5.1 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 5.2 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 5.3 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 5.4 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 5.5 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 5.6 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 5.7 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 5.8 | Met |
| Criterion VI: Supportive Services, Budgeting and Facilities | |
| Sub – Criterion 6.1 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 6.2 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 6.3 | Met with comments |
| Sub – Criterion 6.4 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 6.5 | Met |
| Criterion VII: Internal Quality Management | |
| Sub – Criterion 7.1 | Met with comments |
| Sub – Criterion 7.2 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 7.3 | Met |
| Sub – Criterion 7.4 | Met |