MSc Health Economics, Policy and Management
A two-year modular MSc

Programme directors
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The newly created MSc in Health Economics, Policy and Management at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) provides an opportunity to engage with the UK’s top academics, policy-makers and professionals in international health, health economics and management. Participants will be taught by leading UK and European academics in the areas of health economics, management and policy. Your peers in the programme will include a diverse group of professionals from various health services, insurance funds, international agencies and health care, pharmaceutical and consulting companies from across the globe. The programme will start annually in December, however, registration will take place in October.

**How does the programme work?**
Participants will attend four two-week intensive teaching sessions at LSE over the course of two years. These intensive sessions will include a combination of academic lectures and seminars, individual meetings with faculty tutors, revision sessions and invitations to lectures from visiting academics and policy-makers. Following the completion of coursework, participants will undertake a dissertation with individual supervision from a member of the LSE Health staff. In total, participants will attend 8 half unit courses each taught over 4.5 continuous days.
What can I study?

We require several compulsory courses but also allow participants to tailor their programme to their interests with elective course choices.

The following four courses are compulsory in the first year:

**Compulsory courses – Year 1**
- Health Economics
- Financing Health Care
- Resource Allocation and Cost-effectiveness Analysis
- Health Administration and Management

Participants will be able to choose their courses for the entire second year.

Elective courses include the following:

**Health Economics – Year 2**
- Statistical Methods in Economic Evaluation
- Measuring Health Outcomes

**Health Systems and Policies – Year 2**
- Measuring Health System Performance
- Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy

**Other – Year 2**
- Introduction to Medical Statistics, Clinical Trials and Epidemiology
- Healthcare Information Systems

Note: Not all options will be available every year and the choice of options may be constrained by timetable limitations. There must also be a minimum of ten students to run each option. All students will be required to select their course options by the end of the first session in December.
What will one intensive session look like?

All sessions will start on Mondays and end by mid-afternoon on Fridays. During the first session of the first year, we will have an introductory meeting Monday prior to the first lecture to introduce the courses, staff and allow students to meet each other. There will also be a social function that evening. We expect there to be between four and six hours of teaching time per day during each session.

How is the course organised over the two year time period?

Programme Year 1

December
- Session 1 – Introductory meeting
  9.5 teaching days

May
- 2 assessed essays for Session 1 due

June
- Session 2 – 2 exams on December coursework
  9 teaching days

Programme Year 2

December
- Session 3 – 2 exams on June coursework
  9 teaching days

May
- 2 assessed essays for Session 3 due

June
- Session 4 – 2 exams on December coursework
  9 teaching days

August
- 2 assessed essays for Session 4 due

September
- 1 day exam session and dissertation due

December
- Graduation

What is the course in detail

How is the course organised over the two year time period?

Year 1 – Session 2 in June

Week 1:
Monday – 2 exams for Health Economics and Resource Allocation and Cost-effectiveness Analysis taught in Session 1 (December)

Tuesday – Friday (ending about 3pm) – teaching time for Financing Health Care

Week 2:
Monday (until midday) – teaching time for Financing Health Care

Monday afternoon – Friday (ending about 3pm) – teaching time for Health Administration and Management

Here is an example:

Programme Year 1

December
- Session 1 – Introductory meeting
  9.5 teaching days

May
- 2 assessed essays for Session 1 due

June
- Session 2 – 2 exams on December coursework
  9 teaching days

Programme Year 2

December
- Session 3 – 2 exams on June coursework
  9 teaching days

May
- 2 assessed essays for Session 3 due

June
- Session 4 – 2 exams on December coursework
  9 teaching days

August
- 2 assessed essays for Session 4 due

September
- 1 day exam session and dissertation due

December
- Graduation
What kind of teaching methods will be used?
Each course will include lectures and seminars. Each lecture will cover a new topic. Seminars will include a discussion of topics covered in lecture and also introduce new topics. Some courses such as Statistical Methods in Economic Evaluation and Resource Allocation and Cost-effectiveness Analysis will have applied seminars to teach participants how to perform economic evaluation using relevant software such as STATA and Excel.

What kind of work will I have to do to prepare for the intensive teaching sessions?
Remote access to reading materials will be available prior to each teaching session. We also will include the names of recommended textbooks prior to each session. Readings that are required for each session will be highlighted for students. We would advise that all students be familiar with these readings to get the most out of the intensive teaching session.

How will my work be assessed?
Each course will have one assessed essay (up to 3,000 words, no less than 2,500 including references) and one exam. Essays for the courses taught in December will be due on the first Monday of May. Essays for the courses taught in June will be due on the first Monday of November in the first year and end of August in the second year. Exams will take place two times per year at the beginning of intensive sessions 2, 3 and 4 as well as during a one day meeting in September 2011 for the final two exams. All participants will also complete a MSc dissertation (10,000 words) with the supervision of a member of LSE staff.

Can my dissertation be related to my everyday work activities?
Yes and if necessary, examiners can sign data confidentiality agreements for commercially sensitive information. Dissertations will only be seen by those who have signed such a confidentiality agreement.

Will I have a personal tutor?
Yes, each student will be allocated a member of LSE staff as a personal tutor.

Who will be teaching?
We will have a combination of academic staff leading each course with guest lecturers from governments, healthcare providers, international organisations and consulting firms.

Who should attend?
This programme has been designed to meet the needs of mid-career professionals who seek formal qualifications in health economics, policy and management but do not have the flexibility to participate in a traditional MSc program. We encourage a diverse range of applicants currently employed or seeking employment in the government, healthcare delivery and pharmaceutical and medical devices industries. We welcome participants from all over the world with particular course focus on Europe, North America and developed countries. We assume no previous formal training in health economics or policy but those with training in these areas can choose more advanced options.

How long will it take to receive a degree?
We offer multiple exit options based on the number of courses taken. The MSc will take two years. Certificate and diploma options are also available.

What happens if I leave my MSc studies?
We offer multiple leaving options. You can receive a Certificate if you have completed and passed 4 half units (2 sessions/1 year) of coursework. You can receive a Diploma if you have completed and passed 6 half units (3 sessions/1.5 years). You receive a MSc if you complete and pass 8 half units (4 sessions/2 years) and a dissertation. If you complete less than 4 half units, you may receive a certificate of attendance.

What qualifications are required?
2:1 (or national equivalent) in any discipline. Work experience in the health policy, health economics or health-related commerce is not essential but desired.

What are the characteristics of a successful applicant?
LSE actively seeks to enrol a diverse class of students who have demonstrated academic excellence and have a wide range of personal, professional, and academic experience. Applicants must hold a bachelor’s degree or its equivalent. (Please see LSE graduate admissions requirements for international equivalents). All students must have proven English language proficiency. LSE students come from a wide range of undergraduate majors, including medicine, social sciences, the humanities, business, and physical sciences and engineering.

For general application information see: www.lse.ac.uk/collections/graduate Admissions/apply/

For international entrance requirements see www.lse.ac.uk/collections/student Recruitment/country/Default.htm

What are the motivations of HEPM participants?
The motivations for participating in HEPM are typically:

- Career acceleration
- Continue on a current career path while studying and exploring new opportunities
- Enhanced health economics, policy and management skills set
- Personal development
- New challenges
- Opportunities to immediately implement theories and concepts
- Networking

Will I have the privileges of full-time and part-time MSc students?
Yes, this includes library privileges both on-campus and off-campus and an LSE e-mail account.
It also includes access to the School’s dining and pub facilities.
Do I need to have work experience to take part in this programme?
No, however, this programme has been developed for someone who is currently employed full-time and does not have the time for a full-time MSc degree. The assignments and course schedule have been developed with a fully-employed person in mind to take into account constraints on time.

Work experience is strongly recommended. The Committee on Admissions carefully reviews each applicant’s personal and professional experience to assess readiness for graduate study at LSE. Voluntary positions, internships, and part- and full-time experience all play a role in preparing students for study.

Is international experience required for admission?
International experience is not required.

Do I need to live in London to take part in this MSc?
No, the course is designed for students who must travel to London for the course. It requires a maximum of 41 working days in London over the course of the MSc. The sessions will each be ten working days. We expect to finish by mid-afternoon on Fridays to facilitate travel plans. There will be no classes on the weekend so students have the option of returning home in between the two intensive weeks. While those commuting may find the experience demanding, they realise the benefits from the programme far outweigh the inconvenience of the travel.

Can I still take the course if I live in London?
Yes, this course would also be good if you cannot take an MSc part-time or full-time at LSE because of work requirements.

Is this a distance learning course?
No, all teaching will be face-to-face, however, this course will have electronic communication through Moodle software to update reading lists and allow electronic discussion.

Do I need to take TOEFL/IELTS?
All applicants whose native language is not English must take the TOEFL or IELTS unless they have received a degree from an institution where English was the language of instruction. LSE standard requirements are as follows for each test:

**TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)**
- with a minimum score of 603 in the paper test, 250 in the computer-based test or 100 in the internet based test.

**IELTS (International English Language Testing System)**
- with a minimum score of 6.5.

Further details are available on the LSE Graduate Prospectus website.

What is the cost?
£6,220 for Year 1, £5,950 for Year 2.
This cost includes access to all LSE facilities available to full-time MSc participants including the library facilities and electronic resources.

Will you provide accommodation during the intensive teaching sessions in London?
No, this is not included in the course fee. However, the LSE accommodation office can assist in providing information about short-term accommodation. We also will try to ensure discount rates at a local hotel.

Will travel expenses be included?
No, travel expenses will not be included in the fee.

Will there be facilities to work remotely while in London?
Wireless internet is available throughout the LSE campus. We can facilitate other communication needs in cases of emergency. You will also have access to the library including desktop computers and meeting rooms to work remotely.

How to apply
Visit our website www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEHealth/MScHEPM.htm for more information and application materials. We operate a rolling admissions process so applying early increases your chances that the MSc is not full. The application process requires a short statement of interest, two references and an academic transcript or transcripts.

I have read the information on LSE’s. How do I find out more about the programme?
Once you have explored the website and reviewed the HEPM brochure, one of the best ways to learn more about the MSc in HEPM is to contact HEPM@lse.ac.uk with any questions. Please email Dr Rudisill with a preferred contact number and we will be pleased to telephone you and answer any questions you may have about the programme and LSE.
In Year 1 (compulsory courses)

**Session 1 (two weeks)**
Health Economics
- Healthcare and insurance markets
- Costs and efficiency
- Economics of financing care
- Incentive mechanisms
- Economic evaluation
- Problems of rationing health care.

Resource Allocation and Cost-effectiveness Analysis
- Theory behind health economic evaluation
- Design of cost-effectiveness analysis studies
- Measuring costs
- Calculating outcomes (QALYs, DALYs).

**Session 2 (two weeks)**
Financing Health Care
- Economic, political and philosophical perspectives on financing care
- Financing mechanisms in different countries
- Analysis on how financing choice affects providers, payers and patients.

Health Administration and Management
- Challenges of managing complex health care systems
- Leadership and strategy in healthcare
- Effective management.

In Year 2 (elective courses)

**Session 3 (two weeks)**
Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy
- Basic features of pharmaceutical markets
- Goals of pharmaceutical policies and regulations
- Impact of policies and regulations on market outcomes
- Role of country context (cultural, social factors).

Introduction to Medical Statistics, Clinical Trials and Epidemiology
- Study types – cross-sectional surveys and audits, epidemiological studies, clinical trials
- Analysis and interpretation of the different types of research studies
- Main statistical approaches
- Conducting and interpreting systematic reviews and meta-analyses
- Study conduct – ethics, regulatory, patient information and consent.

**Session 4 (two weeks)**
Measuring Health System Performance
- Measuring quality in health care
- Assessing health system and hospital performance
- Purpose and application of regulation in healthcare.

Healthcare Information Systems
- The electronic patient record and national health information infrastructures
- ICT’s transformative potential and its place in the development of healthcare policy
- State-of-the-art of information systems in the primary and secondary sectors
- Issues of implementation, evaluation and the building of an evidence base.

Note: This example course load changes based on elective choices in Year 2.
Selected course lecturers

LSE Academic staff

**Professor Gwyn Bevan**
Professor of Management Science, Department of Management, LSE

- Associated with LSE Health and the Centre for Analysis of Risk and Regulation (CARR)
- Member of the Department of Health’s two advisory groups on resource allocation
- Seconded (2001 to 2003) to the Commission for Health Improvement (CHI) as Director of the Office for Information on Health Care Performance
- He has worked for the National Coal Board, HM Treasury, and an economic consultancy; and, as an academic, at Warwick Business School, and the Medical Schools of St Thomas’s Hospital and Bristol University.

Research interests: comparative analysis of performance across the devolved NHS in the UK; developing methods and processes to set priorities for commissioning services for populations.

**Dr Joan Costa-Font**
Lecturer in European Social Policy and Political Economy, Department of Social Policy, LSE

- Associated with the European Institute and Department of Social Policy, LSE
- Advisor to the Word Bank, the European Commission, the Spanish Ministry of Health and the Catalann Ministry of Trade as well as for private organisations
- Teaches on political and fiscal integration in Europe and the political economy of South-West Europe.

Research interests: political economy of welfare state regulation, empirical analysis of social interventions (mainly in the areas of health, long term care and housing) and behavioural reactions to new risk information.

**Dr Tony Cornford**
Senior Lecturer in Information Systems, Information Systems and Innovation Group, Department of Management, LSE

- Presently a member of two teams undertaking evaluations of key aspects of the NHs National Programme for Information Technology (NPfIT) funded by the Connecting for Health Evaluation Programme.

Research interests: various aspects of healthcare information systems and has published studies on telehealth, technology and health policy, electronic prescribing systems, evaluation, and healthcare infrastructures.

**Dr Panos Kanavos**
Senior Lecturer in International Health Policy, Department of Social Policy, LSE

- Merck Fellow in Pharmaceutical Economics, LSE Health, LSE
- Visiting Professor, University of Lausanne, Switzerland. Advisor to a number of international governmental and non-governmental organisations, including the World Bank, the WHO and the OECD, the American Association for Retired Persons and Ministries of Health in over 21 transition and developing countries. Has participated in the European Pharmaceutical Forum as advisor to the European Commission.

Research interests: comparative health policy and health care reform; pharmaceutical economics and policy; quality in health care; and the socio-economic determinants of health.

**Dr Ela Klecun**
Lecturer in Information Systems, Department of Management, LSE

- PhD and Msc in Information Systems, both from LSE
- Member of a team evaluating the National Care Records Service in secondary care funded by the Connecting for Health Evaluation Programme.

Research interests: implementation of information systems (IS) in healthcare organisations, information policy and strategies for IS in health, evaluation of IS, societal and organisational implications of new technologies.

**Professor Julian Le Grand**
Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy, Department of Social Policy, LSE

- On secondment as Senior Policy Advisor to UK Prime Minister Tony Blair at No 10 Downing Street (2003-05)
- Currently Chairman of Health England – the National Reference Group for Health and Well Being for the UK Department of Health, and a Member of the Group of Societal Policy Analysts advising the President of the European Commission
- He has served as an advisor to the World Bank, the World Health Organisation (WHO), HM Treasury, the Department of Work and Pensions and the BBC. He has also been vice-chairman of a major teaching hospital, a commissioner on the Commission for Health Improvement, and a non-executive director of several health authorities.

Research interests: public and social policy, human motivation and public policy, public health, health and education systems.
Dr Scott L. Greer  
Assistant Professor, University of Michigan School of Public Health and Senior Research Fellow, LSE Health, LSE

- Political scientist, and author or editor of seven books about health, federalism, and politics in the EU, with research conducted in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, the UK, the US, and the EU institutions.

Research interests: EU health politics, federalism and decentralisation in health policy, devolution in the UK, member state engagement with EU health politics.

Professor Alistair McGuire  
Professor of Health Economics, Department of Social Policy, LSE

- Head of Social Policy Department, LSE
- Advisor to wide range of UK and international bodies including the Cabinet Office, UK Department of Health, WHO, World Bank, a number of international pharmaceutical companies, research councils (including the ESRC and the MRC), economic consultant to a number of foreign governments.
- Has written numerous books, articles and reports in health economics.

Research interests: economic evaluation (especially when conducted alongside clinical trials), the economics of the hospital, technological diffusion, and health care insurance.

Professor Elias Mossialos  
Brian Abel-Smith  
Professor of Health Policy, Department of Social Policy, LSE

- Director of LSE Health, LSE
- Advisor to the WHO, European Medicines Agency, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the World Bank, the UK Office of Fair Trading, Ministries of Health and Social Affairs in Belgium, Brazil, China, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Kazakhstan, Russia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain and Sweden and health insurance funds in Austria, Croatia, France, Hungary and South Korea.

Research interests: comparative health policy, addressing questions related to funding health care, pharmaceutical policies, private health insurance and the impact of EU law on health care systems.

Dr Maria Raikou  
Research Fellow, LSE Health, LSE

- MSc and PhD in Health Economics from City University, London
- Her PhD thesis was on the estimation of medical care costs under conditions of censoring.

Research interests: statistical and econometric modelling of health care costs and effects, as applied to economic evaluation (particularly within the context of clinical trials), econometric modelling of health care technology diffusion, mathematical modelling of behaviour in the health care sector and the analysis of hospital cost and quality relations.

Dr Caroline Rudisill  
Lecturer in Health Economics, Department of Social Policy, LSE and Kings College London

- Has worked as a consultant to the UK Department of Health, private hospital companies, foreign governments and various international consultancies.
- Teaches on health economics and cost-effectiveness analysis.

Research interests: applications of behavioural economics to public health risks and the intersection of public health risks and international security.

Ms Sarah Thomson  
Research Fellow, LSE Health, LSE

- Research Fellow, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, LSE
- Has advised the European Commission and the European Parliament on health system financing.

Research interests: health systems and health care reform in high- and middle-income countries, health care financing (with particular emphasis on private health insurance and medical savings accounts), user choice and equity of access to health care, the impact of population ageing on health and long-term care expenditure.
Non-LSE Academic staff

Professor Mike Drummond
Professor of Health Economics, University of York

- Consultant to the World Health Organisation, Project Leader of a EU Project on the Methodology of Economic Appraisal of Health Technology
- Served on the Boards of Directors of the International Society of Technology Assessment in Health Care and the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research
- Was Director of the York Centre for Health Economics from December 1995 to September 2005
- Has been President of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research, and will be Past-President until 30 June 2008.

Research interests: economic evaluation of health care treatments and programmes.

Allan Hackshaw
Deputy Director, Cancer Research UK Cancer Trials Centre, University College London

- Reader in Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, University College London
- Involved in the design, analysis and conduct of early and late phase trials in a variety of cancers
- Was Senior Lecturer at the Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry and one of the key research academics involved in antenatal and cancer screening, and examining the effects of active and passive smoking on health
- Has acted as a consultant and advisor to pharmaceutical companies and governmental bodies, and is a member of one of the main grant funding committees at Cancer Research UK.

Research interests: design and analysis of clinical trials and epidemiological studies, medical screening and clinical trial conduct.

Special guest lectures from
- Regulatory agencies
- The European Commission
- International agencies (WHO, World Bank)
- Health Technology Assessment authorities
- Ministries of Health.
About us

Background on LSE Health

LSE Health is a Research Centre located within LSE. It is affiliated with the Departments of Social Policy, Management and Accounting. The mission of LSE Health is to advance, transmit and sustain knowledge and understanding through the conduct of research, teaching and scholarship at the highest international standards, for the benefit of the international and national health policy community. We aim to expand and improve conceptual frameworks, apply new methodologies, encourage debate about issues raised by research developments and introduce new questions or themes that will contribute to policy discussions.

The Centre is committed to interdisciplinary research that benefits policy makers and health professionals. To support this mission the Centre's key priority is to recruit, develop and retain staff of the highest quality and provide a working environment that enables staff to optimise their contribution to the Centre. The Centre's unique research base contributes to LSE's established world presence and reputation in health policy, health economics and demography. Bringing together a core team of researchers and academics, LSE Health promotes and draws upon the multidisciplinary expertise of 45 staff members, ten associated academics and a number of PhD students.

The Centre collaborates with the Centre for European Health Policy and Pharmaceutical Economics for the WHO. It is a founding member of the European Observatory on Health Care Systems, a joint initiative between the World Health Organisation Regional Office for Europe, the Governments of Finland, Norway, Spain and Sweden, the European Investment Bank, CRP-Sante in Luxembourg, the Open Society Institute, the World Bank, LSE, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. This MSc programme stems from two currently existing full-time MSc programmes run by LSE Health at the LSE: International Health Policy and Health Policy, Planning and Financing (joint leadership with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine). LSE Health staff have also run short courses about specific aspects of health economics and policy.

LSE Social Policy Department

In the national Research Assessment Exercises, the Department of Social Policy has consistently been rated as the best in the UK. In the most recent national teaching quality assessment exercise we were rated as ‘excellent’. Staff are from many different academic backgrounds – including economics, sociology, psychology, demography, geography, history and philosophy. They are continually involved in policy debate and in advising local, national and international organisations – governmental and non-governmental. Their research is frequently referred to in both the national and international media.

The London School of Economics and Political Science

Founded in 1895, LSE is a world class centre for its concentration of teaching and research across the full range of the social, political and economic sciences. LSE is truly international in its study of social, economic and political problems covering not only the UK and European Union, but also countries of every continent. From its foundation LSE has aimed to be a laboratory of the social sciences, a place where ideas are developed, analysed, evaluated and disseminated around the globe.

There are around 7,800 full-time students and over 800 part-time students at LSE. They come from 140 countries around the world: 34% from the UK, 18% from other European Union countries and 48% from other countries around the world. 49% are women and 51% are postgraduates.

LSE has over 1,460 full-time and 1,320 part-time members of staff – 97 per cent of the academic staff are actively engaged in research, and 45 per cent are from countries other than the UK, almost half of these from European Union states, the rest from other nations around the world. Fourteen Nobel Prize winners in economics, literature and peace have been either LSE staff or alumni: George Bernard Shaw (1925), Ralph Bunche (1950), Bertrand Russell (1950), Philip Noel-Baker (1959), Sir John Hicks (1972), Friedrich von Hayek (1974), James Meade (1977), Arthur Lewis (1979), Merton Miller (1990), Ronald Coase (1991), Amartya Sen (1998), Robert Mundell (1999), George Akerlof (2001) and Leonid Hurwicz (jointly) (2007).

The School has around 80,000 registered alumni. Around 30 past or present heads of state have studied at LSE, and 28 members of the House of Commons and 42 members of the House of Lords have either studied or taught at LSE.
Contact us with any questions
Dr Caroline Rudisill, deputy director
HEPM@lse.ac.uk
www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEHealth/MScHEPM.htm

For reasons beyond the control of LSE and the organisers of this programme, it may be necessary to change the content of this course, the timing of each course, teaching staff and programme options available. We will make every effort to keep to the published options here.

The London School of Economics and Political Science is a School of the University of London. It is a charity and is incorporated in England as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Acts (Reg No 70527). LSE seeks to ensure that people have equal access to studying and employment opportunities irrespective of their age, disability, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation or personal circumstances. Freedom of thought and expression is essential to the pursuit, advancement and dissemination of knowledge. LSE seeks to ensure that intellectual freedom and freedom of expression within the law is secured for all our members and those we invite to the School.