

## Diploma in Tropical Nursing Frequently Asked Questions

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### 1. Is there a course schedule available?

The course content changes slightly with every course, depending on the availability of the lecturers and in line with updates to ensure relevance. There are a wide range of topics, ranging from the challenges of global health, safeguarding, public health and primary health care, mental health to more specific diseases and conditions found in low- and middle-income countries. There are also informative sessions on the nurse's role in leading change, preparation for working overseas and learning from and teaching each other.

### 2. How many hours per day I will be in class?

The course is 15 teaching days, with the summative exam on the final day. The days usually run from 9-5 with an hour for lunch and short coffee breaks in the morning and afternoon. Evenings are free, though some pre-readings are required for some lectures.

The course is intense and challenging with sometimes different topics covered in a day. You will be given a lot of support and information about helpful ways to study and to optimize your learning experience.

### 3. Q: What is the assignment load/exams?

There is a formative activity to do during the pre-course module which is highly recommended.

The summative exam is held on the final day of the course, 2 hours long and consists of short answer questions and multiple-choice questions. (50% of marks)

The summative assignment is 2000 words, submitted **3 weeks after the end of the course**

and the topics will be given to you in the first few days of the course. (50% of marks)

You will need to pass both assessments at 50%.

#### **4. What if I am unable to finish my pre-course work before the beginning of the course?**

It is a good idea to finish before this date as it will give you enough time to review each other's brief journal articles. It will also give you a practice submission to Turnitin. If you haven't had time, there is no penalty as the work is not assessed. Previous students highly recommend making time to do this study as it will prepare you well for the course.

#### **5. What if I am travelling immediately following the course and may not have the time/opportunity to complete the assignment?**

The topics are given out at the beginning of the course, so students who are travelling generally do their assignment during the course....heavy yet possible. Extensions are usually given in exceptional circumstances and not in advance. The idea is that you give yourself the best chance before applying for extension. If you do need to do this, it will be looked at sympathetically.

#### **6. What is the classroom environment like?**

Most of the classes take place in the Nuffield lecture theatre, which has more than enough space for the Diploma in Tropical Nursing (DTN) nursing students who attend the course. There is wi-fi free within the classroom and teaching will be through a variety of means, including Turningpoint, powerpoint, lecture and group-work. Having a computer or tablet can be helpful for the coursework and strongly recommended. There is no dress code. Bring your Door Access Card with you (will receive on first day of class) as it is the way to get you in and out of the building.

#### **7. Who will my peers be?**

There is a wide variety of trained nurses and midwives who enroll in this program, from those looking at entering work in the developing countries, to those who have done international work for decades. Everyone who takes the course has a unique reason for being there and adds a different perspective to what is being taught and learned. Often, it is a global audience, with nurses coming from all corners of the world. This is a great opportunity for you to network and create lifelong connections. You could start to get to know each other by using the discussion boards.

#### **8. Is there Wireless Computing?**

LSTM has EduRoam-LSTM wireless facilities available at a number of locations, including most classrooms and libraries. Your LSTM email and password will be your log in details to Wi-Fi. More information on IT support can be found on the IT support page on Student MyLSTM when you arrive.

#### **9. Are there places to study?**

The Donald Mason Library is open 24 hours and there are other areas within the building that you can use.

#### **10. Is there a café on site?**

Food is available from places around the University campus for reasonable rates and there is a student area where you can prepare and eat food and make drinks.

#### **11. Can I access health care in the UK?**

If you are studying on a course less than 6 months in duration, you will be entitled only to limited free treatment:

♣ Some emergency treatment (but not follow-up treatment). The nearest walk in centre is in the middle of Liverpool, about 15 minutes' walk. <http://www.liverpoolcommunityhealth.nhs.uk/health-services/walk-in-centres/liverpool-city-centre-nhs-walk-in-centre.htm>

- ♣ Family planning services
- ♣ Treatment of some communicable diseases
- ♣ Compulsory psychiatric treatment

Any other treatment received would have to be paid for as a private patient. Private health care can be extremely expensive, so it is important to arrange medical insurance before coming to the UK. Medical insurance cannot be arranged once in the UK.

There is charge for all dental treatment in the UK.

Some students use the LSTM Well travelled Clinic over the road to get their personal vaccinations

#### **12. Will I be able to explore Great Britain during the DTN?**

The ideal time to see the UK is before or after the course, however, it is still possible to use your time in the weekends to travel. There are no sessions on Saturday and Sunday and classes end Friday around 5:00pm and start Monday at 9:00am. If this is your first time in the UK I would advise you to take advantage of the opportunity. Some previous students were anxious about the amount of work and studying at the weekends. Their advice would be to pace yourselves, plan your work and give yourself some time off.

#### **13. What is there to do in Liverpool?**

[www.VisitLiverpool.com](http://www.VisitLiverpool.com) is a comprehensive guide to what is happening in the City of Liverpool. Pre-paid travel tickets for the bus and/or train can save money if you are regularly travelling in and around Liverpool. For more information visit: <http://www.merseytravel.gov.uk/>.

Liverpool is a fantastic student city, bursting with opportunities and lots of things to do; a legendary music scene that's bigger than just the Beatles, a city centre packed with clubs, pubs, bars, restaurants and cafes. Plus award-winning shopping facilities, museums, galleries and theatres – and that's just at the bottom of the road!

#### **14. What if I am having problems with my accommodation?**

If you need advice on finding accommodation, or if you are experiencing any problems with your

accommodation, please contact the Student Experience Officer – [saw@lstmed.ac.uk](mailto:saw@lstmed.ac.uk)

Liverpool Student Homes (LSH) offers free, confidential, independent and impartial housing rights advice to students. Some of the issues LSH can help with include contract checking, tenancy deposits, disrepair, rent arrears, illegal eviction and harassment, negotiating with landlords and complaints and legal action.

### **15. What if I have a disability?**

LSTM provides support and advice to students with a wide range of impairments. Where we refer to 'disabled students,' this is intended to include, but is not limited to:

- Physical Disability - this may be someone who is a wheel chair user or perhaps someone who is not able to use both hands.
- Sensory Disability - this includes people who are deaf or have a hearing loss. The term 'sensory' also relates to people who are blind or have some loss of vision.
- Mental Health - the term 'mental health issues' covers a range of conditions including depression, anxiety and eating disorders. The severity and length of a condition varies with every individual.
- Specific Learning Difficulty e.g. Dyslexia - This can include people who experience dyslexia, dyspraxia or non-verbal learning deficits.
- Medical Conditions and other disabilities - This covers health issues including epilepsy, diabetes,
- HIV, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and asthma.

The Student Experience Officer at LSTM is responsible for the co-ordination of support for disabled students and provides specialist guidance and support services for all prospective and current students.

We encourage you to disclose your disability as soon as possible. If you have not already disclosed your disability on your application form, you should contact the Student Experience Officer as soon as possible. You can email, phone or request a meeting at the Student Support Desk (open, 08:30 – 10:00, 13:00 – 14:00 Monday to Friday).