PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name</th>
<th>Health Economics and Policy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Policy &amp; Global Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Department of Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme code</td>
<td>PSHEEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of study</td>
<td>Full Time, Part Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total UK credits</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ECTS</td>
<td>90</td>
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PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The demand for specialists in health economics continues to increase as the demand for more advanced and expensive health care puts pressure on policy decision makers and health care industry managers. The MSc in Health Economics and Policy is designed to meet this demand by introducing you to the way in which microeconomics principles and concepts can be applied to the analysis of decisions by consumers, firms and governments regarding health and health care; to provide you with an understanding of the economic context within which economic evaluation takes place; to familiarise you with key economic issues confronting health systems; and, to provide you with tools and methods to analyse the economic causes and implications of health care issues.

Graduates will develop an ability to critically analyses core issues within health policy, resource allocation and planning. The program targets the national and international health policy sector for both developed and developing countries. The program’s recruitment pool is open to most cognate fields and allows students to specialize according to their interests. The MSc in Health Economics and Policy will start by building foundations in the principles of health economics with core economic topics in microeconomics and regulatory economics, econometrics, and economic evaluation applied to the analysis of health care issues. It will then allow for elective study, through a choice of taught options as well as through reading and research for a supervised dissertation.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Apply principles of economics to health and health care.
- Apply principles and methods of economic evaluation.
- Critically assess and evaluate advanced quantitative methods applied in health economics and economic evaluation.
- Define and critically discuss the main objectives of and challenges within health policy.
- Critically evaluate the socio-economic factors influencing health policy and government intervention.
Skills:

• Communicate and interact with other members of a team.
• Critically appraise quantitative health economics and policy research.
• Evaluate and employ a range of theoretical models and quantitative methods to undertake health economics and policy analysis.
• Effectively employ econometric software and data analysis tools to empirically test and interpret empirical models.
• Design, analyse and interpret economic evaluation research.
• Conduct independent research and prepare and deliver individual research projects.

Values and attitudes:

• Show respect and critical appreciation for different points of view.
• Conduct positive analysis without normative bias.
• Correctly reference the work of other people to avoid plagiarism.
• Show consideration for the rules and regulations of City UoL.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Lectures/seminars in small groups, which are highly interactive and include group work, exercises, weekly study questions and set readings. Also guest lectures by invited expert speakers from NHS, industry and policy bodies, as well as academics. As well as academic source material, you are directed to refer to the web and professional publications. The workshop module is used for modelling and problem-solving.

You will be assigned a supervisor to assist them with undertaking a piece of independent research on an approved topic. The piece of independent research will be either a dissertation worth 40 credits or a literature review worth 20 credits.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed in a variety of ways to ensure that they have met the formal learning objectives:

(1) Individual coursework - in most modules, you will be required to undertake an individual written piece of coursework in the form of an essay, report, set exercises or a piece of analysis based upon a case study.

(2) Group coursework - in some modules, the coursework will require you to work in teams of between 3 to 5 persons.

(3) Presentations: in some modules, you will make formal presentations to the class, either individually or in groups. The presentation will be assessed by the module lecturer and formal feedback will be given to the student.
(4) Computer-based exercises: for some modules, you will need to use software packages to solve problems or perform econometric estimations.

(5) Tests and examinations: some modules will require you to take a test or an examination which could be instead of or in addition to other forms of coursework.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at: https://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits.

The Pass mark for each module is 50%.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Compensation: where you fail up to a total of 20 credits at first or resit attempt (15 for a Postgraduate Certificate), you may be allowed compensation if:
   - Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the What will I Study section of the programme specification), and
   - It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme, and
   - A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
   - An aggregate mark of 50% has been achieved overall.
Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original module mark shall be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.

2. Resit: where you are not eligible for compensation at the first attempt, you will be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass the requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at: http://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc

**WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?**

**Postgraduate Certificate**

Upon completing the Postgraduate Certificate, you will have developed a nuanced understanding and proficiency in applying economic principles to the health sector. You will be able to apply basic economic evaluation methods designed for health care, providing you with the tools needed to analyse and improve health policies and systems. You will learn how these economic frameworks can effectively address issues within healthcare settings, assessing both cost-effectiveness and policy impact. Your skillset will also expand in communication and teamwork, essential for collaborative success in any professional setting. The program will also hone your ability to critically appraise health economics and policy research, using a variety of quantitative methods and theoretical models. This will empower you to conduct health policy analysis and contribute valuable insights to the field. Moreover, the program emphasizes the development of strong values and attitudes. You will cultivate a respect for diverse viewpoints, maintaining a curious and inquisitive approach toward learning. Ethical considerations are paramount; you will learn to conduct analyses free from bias, correctly cite sources to avoid plagiarism, and adhere to the high standards and regulations of City UoL.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught modules</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>60</td>
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</table>
Postgraduate Diploma
In addition to the above, through completion of a Postgraduate Diploma you will further enhance your expertise with a focus on more complex and specialized areas of health economics and policy. The program will allow you to critically assess and evaluate advanced quantitative methods used in health economics. You will develop a critical awareness of the key objectives and challenges within health policy, enhancing your understanding of the sector's landscape. Additionally, you will critically evaluate the socio-economic factors that influence health policy and the roles of government intervention, gaining insight into the complex interplay between economics and public health. You will gain strong skills in effectively employing econometric software and data analysis tools to empirically test and interpret complex empirical models, providing robust insights into health economics data. You will also learn to design, analyze, and interpret economic evaluation research, skills that are crucial for driving evidence-based policy decisions and strategies in health care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without classification</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taught modules</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HE Level</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
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Master's Degree (MSc)
In addition to the above, upon completion of the Master’s Degree, you will be able to prepare and deliver individual research projects from inception to completion. You will develop expertise in conducting literature reviews, allowing you to contextualize your research within the existing body of knowledge, identify gaps, and justify your research direction. You will be able to formulate research questions, design methodologies, collect and analyse data, and present your findings effectively. You will be equipped to tackle complex challenges independently, contribute original insights to your field, and communicate your findings clearly and persuasively to a variety of audiences.

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<tr>
<td>Without classification</td>
<td>50</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dissertation OR Literature Survey and one additional elective module OR Company project and one additional elective module</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HE Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Taught component

You are required to take 120 credits taught modules and have to accrue 60 extra credits through one of the following options:

a. Take one extra elective taught module of 15 credits and a Literature Survey worth 45 credits if you choose the Literature Survey option;

b. Take one extra elective taught module of 15 credits and a Company Research Project if you choose the Company Project option;

c. Take a 60 credit Economics Research Project if you choose the Dissertation option.

In order to undertake an Economics Research Project, you must have achieved a minimum mark of 60% in the Quantitative and Research Methods module.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective/Compulsory</th>
<th>Compensation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Economics</td>
<td>ECM165</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantitative and Research Methods</td>
<td>ECM321</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Evaluation</td>
<td>ECM163</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Policy Process, Politics and Power</td>
<td>HPM001</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microeconomics</td>
<td>ECM302</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Policy and Economics</td>
<td>ECM322</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macroeconomics</td>
<td>ECM170</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Econometrics</td>
<td>ECM308</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Data Econometrics</td>
<td>ECM323</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analytics and Programming</td>
<td>ECM324</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics in Development Economics</td>
<td>ECM157</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Module Title**  | **SITS Code**  | **Credits**  | **Core/Elective/Compulsory**  | **Compensation**  | **Level**
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Economics Literature Survey  | ECM307  | 45  | CE  | N  | 7
Economics Company Project  | ECM325  | 45  | CE  | N  | 7
Economics Research Project  | ECM306  | 60  | CE  | N  | 7

*Please note that this is an indicative list. These modules are subject to change depending on staff availability, student demand and some are offered on a biennial basis. There is no guarantee that every elective module listed above will run.*

**TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?**

Typical placements after this MSc are in economic consulting companies, pharmaceutical companies in the UK and abroad, and public sector institutions such as the National Institute of Clinical Excellence, Department of Health. Some students decide to pursue a PhD afterwards as well.

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: [http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates](http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates).

**WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

During the second term we invite companies to come to City and talk to our students about potential dissertation projects that can be done within Summer internships. We do not guarantee placements but we put firms and students in touch; the selection process is entirely up to the company. About three quarters of our students get placements to write the dissertation. Upon the end of the placement some students are offered a job with the company.

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**Literature survey/Dissertation/Company project component**

In order to achieve a distinction overall for the MSc, a minimum mark of 70% overall has to be achieved.

To progress to dissertation you are normally required to have passed all modules.
HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Dissertation option:

You should have a:

*2:1 (or 2.2 with evidence of compensating strengths) from a UK university or its foreign equivalent in Economics or related subjects with intermediate level exposure to economic theory, econometrics, and mathematical methods;

OR a 2.1 (or foreign equivalent) undergraduate degree in a quantitative discipline (such as mathematics, engineering, computer science or a natural science) with exposure to probability theory, optimisation and advanced calculus. If you have a good 2.2 in one of the above disciplines, you might be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Literature Survey/Company Project option:

You should have a:

*a 2:2 (or foreign equivalent) in Economics, Finance or a quantitative discipline (such as mathematics, engineering, computer science or a natural science).

OR a 2.1 or high 2.2 (or foreign equivalent) in Business Studies, Accounting, Management without exposure to core economic theory or econometrics but with at least introductory economics and statistics and mathematical methods;

OR a very good 2.1 degree in arts, social science, or humanities related subjects, such as Law, History, Psychology, Sociology, Political Science or Journalism with clear motivation to study for the degree to which application is made.

Prior to the beginning of the academic year there will be a number of optional pre-sessional courses offered. These courses are intended to be a refresher on key subjects to level up the economic knowledge of students. Pre-sessional courses on Macro, Micro, Excel, Probability and Maths will be taught.

Economics pre-sessional courses

You will benefit from having a working knowledge of economics principles, mathematics and statistics. The Economics Department will offer pre-sessional courses (i.e. on campus or online asynchronously) prior to the start of the academic year that will provide the necessary background. The official course offer letter will state whether the Economics pre-sessional courses are compulsory for students enrolling on the program, as well as the corresponding tuition fee for such pre-sessional courses.

These courses are primarily aimed at those who have not studied economics to introduce them to the concepts of maths, statistics and/or economics required. The courses are designed and assessed to ensure that you have a minimum acceptable level of knowledge in each area prior to commencing the course, so that once the full MSc course starts, all students share a common core of basic knowledge.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT
For students whose first language is not English, the following qualifications will meet the English language requirement for entry to a postgraduate course of study:

* A first degree from a UK university or from the CNAA.
* A first degree from an overseas institution recognised by City as providing adequate evidence of proficiency in the English language, for example, from institutions in Australia or the USA.
* GCE O-level/GCSE English language or English literature, grade C minimum.
* Cambridge ESOL CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English) at grade C or above.
* An overall score of 6.5 in the English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum of 6.0 for each subtest.
* Satisfactory standard in the verbal section of the Princeton Test (GMAT).
* US SAT with 500 in verbal performance.
* Warwick English Language Test (WELT) with pass grades of BBC minimum.
* Other evidence of proficiency in the English language which satisfies the board of studies concerned.

OVERSEAS QUALIFICATIONS
Equivalent qualifications from an overseas university will be considered.

IT SKILLS
All students are expected to be computer literate.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
The Programme is committed to equal opportunities. The admissions decision will rest on the qualifications, needs and aspirations of the applicant.

RPL/RPEL Requirements

RPL/RPEL: Students may apply for RPL/RPEL for a minimum of one module and a maximum of 25% of the overall credits for the programme (taught modules only). Exemptions are not awarded for programmes/qualifications that were awarded five years ago or longer, prior to the enrolment date for the intended programme of study at City. Programmes/qualifications which were awarded over five years ago may be considered towards RPL/RPEL requests if the candidate can provide supporting evidence which gives an account of ways in which learning achieved through the programme/qualification has been applied actively and updated within the past five years.

Former students of City who have been withdrawn from a programme due to academic failure are not normally permitted to RPL/RPEL any awarded credits back onto the same programme within the School.