

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

Programme name	Economic Evaluation in Healthcare
Award	MSc
School	School of Policy & Global Affairs
Department or equivalent	Department of Economics
Programme code	PSEEH
Type of study	Full Time Part Time
Total UK credits	180
Total ECTS	90

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

This programme is designed to produce professionals who can undertake economic evaluation research in the healthcare sector. The programme offers academic and professional training in conceptual bases for economic evaluation and in advanced quantitative methods relevant to healthcare decision-making. You will be competent in applying economic theories, principles and models to the analysis and evaluation of health care, including needs assessment and quality of life, epidemiological studies and clinical trials, and employ a range of statistical and quantitative tools.

You will gain vital quantitative and analytical competencies demanded for major decision-making roles in the healthcare sectors of developed and developing countries. The program will prepare you for jobs in economic evaluation in all relevant sectors, namely pharmaceutical industry, consultancy firms and government bodies. The program has national and international remit as the tools and skills taught are applicable irrespective of country setting or context.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

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

Knowledge and understanding:

- Analyse health and health care through principles of microeconomics.
- Define and evaluate the welfare economics theories underpinning economic evaluation in health care.
- Evaluate principles and methods of economic evaluation.
- Critically assess and synthesize advanced quantitative methods used in economic evaluation modelling, including epidemiological analysis.

Skills:

- Work both independently and in teams.
- Design, conduct and interpret economic evaluation research.
- Present and effectively communicate ideas and concepts.

- Apply health economics methods and models developed to explain and evaluate resource allocation in health-care.
- Apply epidemiological tools to clinical endpoints and cost data.
- Identify and collect relevant data, use appropriate software packages and advanced quantitative methods to solve complex problems in economic evaluation research.
- Conduct independent research, prepare and deliver high standard 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?

The programme is designed to be flexible in the range of teaching methods used. Each module will be delivered through a mixture of lectures, class discussion/seminars, student presentations, analysis of case studies and interactive computer-based exercises particularly in relation to the quantitative elements of the course. Lectures are used to introduce students to key theories, concepts and knowledge, which is then discussed in seminar groups or classes. Students are encouraged to engage in discussion and reflect on issues raised by the lectures, to expand further specific topics and develop communication and analytical skills. Computer laboratory teaching provides students with practical experience of using software packages to develop statistical and econometric skills that are formatively assessed by computer-based exercises. Group work involves student presentations as well as group-based problem solving.

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, students are directed to refer to the web and professional publications. The workshop module is used for modelling and problem-solving.

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 to 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 completion of a Postgraduate Certificate, you will have the ability to analyse health and healthcare scenarios through the lens of microeconomics, enabling you to understand the intricate dynamics of healthcare systems. You will also learn to evaluate the principles and methods of economic evaluation, which are crucial for assessing health interventions and policies. The program is designed to make you adept at working both independently and as part of a team and will enhance your ability to present and communicate ideas effectively, an essential skill in any professional setting. You will learn to apply specialized health economics methods and models to assess and evaluate resource allocation in healthcare. This includes identifying and collecting relevant data, utilizing appropriate software packages, and employing advanced quantitative methods to tackle complex problems in economic evaluation research. 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.

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Taught modules	7	60	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
Without classification	50

Postgraduate Diploma

In addition to the above, through completion of a Postgraduate Diploma you will be able to define and critically evaluate the welfare economics theories that underpin economic evaluations in healthcare. This theoretical grounding will ensure that you can make informed judgments about the efficiency and equity of health interventions. Additionally, you will develop the ability to critically assess and synthesize advanced quantitative methods used in economic evaluation modelling, including sophisticated techniques in epidemiological analysis. You will learn to design, conduct, and interpret economic evaluation research, enabling you to provide actionable insights into the cost-effectiveness of health policies and treatments. Moreover, you will apply epidemiological tools to clinical endpoints and cost data, enhancing your capability to integrate clinical outcomes with economic assessments.

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Taught modules	7	120	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
Without classification	50

Master's Degree (MSc)

In addition to the above, upon completion of the Master's Degree, you will have learned to prepare and deliver individual research projects from inception through completion. This includes formulating research questions, designing methodologies, collecting and analysing data, and presenting 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.

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Dissertation	7	60	33.3
Taught	7	120	66.7

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
Without classification	50

WHAT WILL I STUDY?					
<u>Taught component</u>					
Students are required to pass taught modules worth 120 credits.					
Module Title	SITS Code	Credits	Core/ Elective/ Compulsory	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Quantitative and Research Methods	ECM321	30	Compulsory	Y	7
Advanced Economic Evaluation in Health Care	ECM154	15	Core	N	7
Economic Evaluation	ECM163	15	Core	N	7
Economic Evaluation Workshops	ECM150	15	Compulsory	Y	7
Public Policy and Economics	ECM322	15	Compulsory	Y	7
Epidemiology	ECM164	15	Compulsory	Y	7
Health Economics	ECM165	15	Compulsory	Y	7
<u>Dissertation component</u>					
Students must take the Economics Research Project (60 credits) in order to qualify for the MSc.					
Students 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 a dissertation worth 60 credits.					
Module Title	SITS Code	Credits	Core/ Elective/ Compulsory	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Economics Research Project	ECM306	60	Core	N	7

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

You are normally required to pass all taught modules before progressing to the dissertation.

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>.

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.

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Students should have a Bachelor degree in social sciences, health related sciences, medicine or science. We also welcome applications from those with a good honours degree in any discipline supplemented by relevant work experience, and from those with suitable professional backgrounds.

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.

Version: 9.0

Version date: June 2024

For use from: 2024-25