Recognition of Prior Learning Policy

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1.1 What is recognition of prior learning?

1.1.1 Recognition of prior learning (RPL) is the process whereby students are exempted from part of their chosen programme of academic study by recognition of comparable learning and attainment.

1.1.2 Students are not permitted to use credit twice, which is known as double counting. This means that credit cannot be transferred where it has previously been used for another award. Where a student has prior learning through a previous award, and therefore cannot be awarded credit, they may still be permitted exemption to those modules but must select alternative recommended modules to the credit value of the exempted module(s) as a replacement.

1.1.3 LSHTM does not recognize experiential learning at this present time.

1.2 How much recognition of prior learning can be claimed?

1.2.1 Prior learning can be recognized for up to one third of the total credit of the award, e.g. 60 credits for a Masters, 40 credits for a PGDip. and 20 credits for a PGCert; of

this total a maximum of 20 credits can be used for compulsory modules. This may require a student to select a replacement module, or credit may be transferred if it hasn't been used in a previous award.

1.2.2 Grade/mark transfer from prior study will only be permitted where the prior learning has been on LSHTM modules.

1.2.3 This Policy does not apply to Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching (PGCiLT). Please refer to the separate   Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching regulations

1.3 What is the process?

1.3.1 It is at the discretion of the Programme Director to decide whether to grant RPL, all requests will be considered on an individual basis. Offers of RPL require the approval of the Taught Programme Director.

1.3.2 Appropriate reference to applications for RPL will be included in the programme offer of Admission statements, or the RPL decision may be indicated as pending.

1.3.3 Terms and conditions of the Offer of Admission will include the assessment and inclusion of RPL.

1.4 RPL Application Procedure

1.4.1 An application form for RPL is available on our website:
https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/new-students/starting-your-course-london/regulations-policies-and-procedures

1.4.2 RPL applications should be submitted to the LSHTM Admissions team in the Registry (London-based programmes) or the University of London Worldwide Registry (DL programmes) https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/applications/applying-distance-learning-programme alongside the programme application form. No RPL requests will be considered after an offer of admission has been made.

1.4.3 All applications must include supporting evidence of the relevant prior learning. The evidence must detail how each of the intended learning outcomes for the module is met by the prior learning, and level of prior attainment.

1.4.4 Appeals against judgements on applications for RPL will be treated in the same way as appeals on admissions applications – see LSHTM's Admissions Policies