

Module code

SPB-3407

Type of module

Undergraduate: Biological Sciences – Elective

Tropical Parasitology



Modular credits

4

Total student
engagement

56 hours

Prerequisite

SPB-1201 Diversity of
Life OR SPB-1202
Organisms and
Environment OR SPB-
1203 Skills in Biological
Sciences

Anti-requisite

None

Aims

To provide students with an understanding of the biology and immunological aspects of host-parasite interactions, pathogenicity, epidemiology and molecular biological aspects of selected parasites.

Module learning outcomes (MLO)

On successful completion of this module, a student will be expected to be able to:

MLO 1

Analyse the basic body plans of parasites.

MLO 2

Analyse structure-function relationships and parasite life cycles.

MLO 3

Analyse the principles governing host-parasite interactions and their evolutionary origins.

MLO 4

Connect the concepts and approaches in parasitology to gain a deep understanding of the evolution of life cycles in parasites and learn the tools of predictive modelling.

Module contents

Parasite life-histories and their natural history	Epidemiology	Malaria and other protozoan parasites of humans
Human immunology	Microscopic structures and functions of selected examples of parasites that colonise different organ-systems of the host with an emphasis on tropical parasites	Biochemical and immunological factors involved in the pathogenesis of parasitic diseases
Microscopic identification of blood and intestinal parasites	Pathoparasitology	Immunoparasitology

Assessment

50%

Examination

50%

Coursework

Examination
50%

20%

20%

10%

■ Examination — 50%

■ Written practical reports — 20%

■ Class tests — 20%

■ Written assignment — 10%

Formative assessment

Weekly tutorials and problem-based learning sessions for discussion and feedback

Summative assessment

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING
Examination	50%
Coursework	50%
Individual	50%
Written practical reports	20%
Class tests	20%
Written assignment	10%

Graduate attributes and skills

Programme learning objectives (PLO) addressed

1

PLO 1 (Fundamental Theoretical Knowledge in Biology)

2

PLO 2 (Application of Scientific Methods and Data Analysis)

3

PLO 3 (Integrated Laboratory, Field and Technical Skills)

4

PLO 4 (Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills)

5

PLO 5 (Sustainability and Responsible Practice)

Sustainability concept addressed

1

SDG 1 No Poverty

3

SDG 3 Good Health and Well-Being

15

SDG 15 Life on Land

Digital skills/software used (not limited to)

- Microsoft Office software (e.g. Word, Excel)
- Application software (e.g. Web browsers, statistical programs, cloud-based storage, file sharing platform)
- eLearning platforms (e.g. CANVAS, MS Teams, Zoom)
- EMOD, the Environmental and Ecological Modelling Platform

Micro-credentialling option

No

Stackable towards GenBESTARI Undergraduate Degree Programme or other relevant Lifelong Learning Programmes

No

Document details

Office ODVCE

Document date 29 June 2026

Status New