

Changes to Examination Regulations 2018

1718-09-TUG

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved: Jane Dale – Senior Assistant Registrar (Education) – 25th June 2018

First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine (First BM Parts I and II)

Brief note about nature of change: Re-ordering of paragraphs so that regulations for the two separate parts of the examination appear under two separate headings.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2017* <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/fbpiandii/administratorview/>

Effective date

For students starting Part I from MT 2017 and for students starting Part II from MT 2017

Detail of change

First BM Parts I and II

First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine

~~1.1~~1. The First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine shall be under the supervision of the Medical Sciences Board.

~~1.46~~~~215~~. No candidate shall be admitted to the First Examination unless he or she has been through the standard selection procedures for the standard medical course (including sitting the Biomedical Admissions Test—BMAT), has met the published entry requirements for admission to the standard medical course, and his or her name has been entered on the University Register of Medical Students.

~~310~~. A candidate shall be deemed to have passed the First Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine if they have satisfied the examiners in all the subjects of Parts I

and II as specified in clause 2 above.

Part I of the First Examination

^{1.2}~~42~~. The subjects of Part I of the First Examination shall be:

^{1.3}~~Part I~~

^{1.4}1. Organisation of the Body

^{1.5}2. Physiology and Pharmacology

^{1.6}3. Biochemistry and Medical Genetics

^{1.7}4. Population Health 1: Medical Sociology

^{1.8}~~Part II~~

^{1.9}~~5. Applied Physiology and Pharmacology~~

^{1.10}~~6. The Nervous System~~

^{1.11}~~7. Principles of Pathology~~

^{1.12}~~8. Psychology for Medicine~~

^{1.13}~~53~~. The syllabus of each subject shall be as prescribed from time to time by the Medical Sciences Board ~~by regulation~~.

^{1.27} ~~4. Part I of the First Examination~~

^{1.28}~~6~~. Subjects 1, 2, and 3 shall each be examined in three assessment units: Part A, Part B and Part C. Subject 4 forms a single assessment unit. The content and assessment format of the assessment units are provided in the Schedule below. A candidate must offer all ten assessment units in Part I at one examination, provided that the Medical Sciences Board may dispense candidates who have already passed a First Public Examination in any subject from the requirement to offer all ten assessment units at one examination. The examiners may request that a candidate attend one or more oral examinations.

7. Regulations for Part C of subjects 1, 2, and 3

For each subject, the Director of Pre-Clinical Studies or his or her deputy may request practical notebooks from any candidate in order to subsequently make available to the examiners evidence (in the form of a list of names, signed by the Director or his or her deputy) showing the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory attendance record at practical classes in that subject and the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory record of practical work in that subject. The examiners may also request practical notebooks from any candidate; such candidates will be named in a list posted in the foyer of the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre one week before the day of the first examination paper. Each notebook submitted shall be accompanied by a statement

signed by the candidate indicating that the notebook is the candidate's own work.

The practical course for subject 2 includes the course in elementary statistics defined in the Composite Syllabus for Part I.

Candidates whose attendance record and/or record of practical work is unsatisfactory will normally be required by the examiners to submit to further examination. Failure to satisfy the examiners that the candidate has a satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the practical course shall result in the candidate being failed in Part C of the relevant subject of the examination.

Evidence of satisfactory practical work and of attendance at a practical course is normally admissible by the examiners for a period extending no longer than to the end of the academic year following the year in which the course was pursued.

A candidate who is taking one or more Part C units for the second time, having failed their first attempt at those units, may be examined orally on the material covered during the practical course for that subject. However, in the case of a student exceptionally repeating the entire academic year, they will normally be expected to satisfy the Examiners by having a satisfactory record of attendance and performance in practical work.

8. Regulations for the Patient and Doctor Course

The Director of Pre-Clinical Studies or his or her deputy will make available to the examiners evidence (in the form of a list of names, signed by the Director or his or her deputy) to certify that each candidate has participated satisfactorily in the *Patient and Doctor Course*.

^{1.29}95. The outcomes of Part I of the First Examination are as follows:

^{1.30}a) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in all ten assessment units will be deemed to have passed Part I of the First Examination.

^{1.31}b) A candidate who has failed one or more assessment units but has satisfied the Examiners in four or more of the seven written or computer-based assessment units (Parts A and B of subjects 1-3, and subject 4), will be deemed to have achieved a partial pass. They will be permitted one further attempt at the units they have failed, within one year of the initial failure.

^{1.32}c) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in fewer than four of the seven written or computer-based assessment units (Parts A and B of subjects 1-3, and subject 4), will be deemed to have failed Part I of the First Examination. They will be permitted one further attempt at all seven written or computer-based assessment

units, along with any Part C units failed during the first sitting, within one year of the initial failure. Part C units passed during the first sitting can usually be carried forward to the second attempt.

~~1.33 A candidate who is taking one or more Part C units for the second time, having failed their first attempt at those units, may be examined orally on the material covered during the practical course for that subject. However, in the case of a student exceptionally repeating the entire academic year, they will normally be expected to satisfy the Examiners by having a satisfactory record of attendance and performance in practical work.~~

~~1.42 101. A candidate who has passed Part I of the First Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine shall be deemed to have passed the First Public Examination.~~

~~1.34 116. No candidate may offer any assessment unit for Part I of the First Examination on more than two occasions, save in exceptional circumstances. A further exceptional opportunity to offer any assessment unit for Part I of the First Examination shall require application to and approval on behalf of the Education Committee of the University, in accordance with the General Regulations for the First and Second Public Examinations.~~

~~1.44 12. The examiners may award a Distinction to candidates of special merit in Part I of the examination, provided that all assessment units for all four subjects specified for Part I have been offered in their entirety and passed at one examination at the first scheduled opportunity which shall be the candidate's first attempt, except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate's society.~~

~~1.45 13. The examiners may award a Pass with Merit to candidates of special merit in any of the individual subjects 1, 2, or 3, provided that all ten assessment units of Part I of the examination have been offered in their entirety at one examination. The award of Pass with Merit shall be based on performance in Part B of a subject and shall be confined to candidates who have passed Parts A and C of that subject at the same sitting which shall be the first scheduled opportunity and the candidate's first attempt, except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate's society.~~

~~1.48 146. In line with the General Regulations for the First Public Examination, a person admitted for Part I of the first examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine within three terms of the term in which they were originally due to be examined for Part I of the first examination, shall be entitled to be examined in accordance with the~~

regulations pertaining to the original examination, if they so wish.

1.49 In line with the General Regulations for the First Public Examination, a person admitted for Part I of the first examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine four or more terms after the term in which they were originally due to be examined for Part I of the first examination shall normally be examined in accordance with the current regulations.

2.1 **Schedule for Part I**

2.2 1. Organisation of the Body

2.3 2. Physiology and Pharmacology

2.4 3. Biochemistry and Medical Genetics

2.5 4. Population Health 1: Medical Sociology

2.6 A Composite Syllabus (Core plus Extension) for Part I will be published annually at the start of Michaelmas Term by the Medical Sciences Board. The syllabus will make appropriate reference to related issues of clinical significance. In each subject, candidates will be expected to have a general understanding of the components specified in the syllabus, including methods of study and quantitative analysis of experimental results.

2.7 In subjects 1, 2, and 3 two papers will be set, Paper A and Paper B. Paper A shall be no longer than 1 hour and 15 minutes in duration, and shall be a computer-based assessment of breadth of knowledge and understanding of the Core Syllabus. Paper B shall be set to examine deeper knowledge and understanding of a choice of topics included in or closely relating to the Composite Syllabus. For Subjects 1, 2, and 3, Paper B shall be two hours in duration.

2.8 In subject 4, one one-and-a-half-hour paper will be set, assessing knowledge and understanding of the Composite Syllabus.

1.35 ~~7.~~ **Part II of the First Examination**

1.43 12. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination for Part II of the First Examination without first having passed all the assessment units of Part I, save in exceptional circumstances. This shall require application to and approval on behalf of the Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board.

2. The subjects of Part II of the First Examination shall be:

5. Applied Physiology and Pharmacology

6. The Nervous System

7. Principles of Pathology

8. Psychology for Medicine

3. The syllabus of each subject shall be as prescribed from time to time by the Medical Sciences Board.

^{1.36}4. Subjects 5, 6, and 7 shall each be examined in three assessment units: Part A, Part B, and Part C. Subject 8 forms a single assessment unit. The content and assessment format of the assessment units are provided in the Schedule below. A candidate must offer all ten assessments in Part II. The examiners may request that a candidate attend one or more oral examinations.

5. Regulations for Part C of subjects 5, 6, and 7

^{1.52}For each subject, the Director of Pre-Clinical Studies or his or her deputy may request practical notebooks from any candidate in order to subsequently make available to the examiners evidence (in the form of a list of names, signed by the Director or his or her deputy) showing the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory attendance record at practical classes in that subject and the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory record of practical work in that subject. The examiners may also request practical notebooks from any candidate; such candidates will be named in a list posted in the foyer of the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre one week before the day of the first examination paper. Each notebook submitted shall be accompanied by a statement signed by the candidate indicating that the notebook is the candidate's own work.

^{1.53}The practical course for subject 2 includes the course in elementary statistics defined in the Composite Syllabus for Part I.

^{1.54}Candidates whose attendance record and/or record of practical work is unsatisfactory will normally be required by the examiners to submit to further examination. Failure to satisfy the examiners that the candidate has a satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the practical course shall result in the candidate being failed in Part C of the relevant subject of the examination.

^{1.55}Evidence of satisfactory practical work and of attendance at a practical course is normally admissible by the examiners for a period extending no longer than to the end of the academic year following the year in which the course was pursued.

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^{1.57}6. Regulations for the Patient and Doctor Course

^{1.58}The Director of Pre-Clinical Studies or his or her deputy will make available to the

examiners evidence (in the form of a list of names, signed by the Director or his or her deputy) to certify that each candidate has participated satisfactorily in the *Patient and Doctor Course*.

^{1.37}~~7~~⁸. The outcomes of Part II of the First Examination are as follows:

^{1.38}a) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in all ten assessment units will be deemed to have passed Part II of the First Examination.

^{1.39}b) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in one or more of the ten assessment units will be deemed to have achieved a partial pass. They will be permitted one further attempt at the unit(s) they have failed, within one year of the initial failure. A candidate who is taking one or more Part C units for the second time, having failed their first attempt at those units, may be examined orally on the material covered during the practical course for that subject. However, in the case of a student exceptionally repeating the entire academic year, they will normally be expected to satisfy the Examiners by having a satisfactory record of attendance and performance in practical work.

^{1.40}~~8~~⁹. No candidate may offer any assessment unit for Part II of the First Examination on more than two occasions, save in exceptional circumstances. A further exceptional opportunity to offer any assessment unit for Part II of the First Examination shall require application to and approval on behalf of the Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board, according to the procedure set out in the handbook for medical students in Years 1-3.

^{1.41}~~10~~. ~~A candidate shall be deemed to have passed the First Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine if they have satisfied the examiners in all the subjects of Parts I and II as specified in clause 2 above.~~

^{1.42}~~11~~. ~~A candidate who has passed Part I of the First Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine shall be deemed to have passed the First Public Examination.~~

^{1.43}~~12~~. ~~No candidate shall be admitted to the examination for Part II of the First Examination without first having passed all the assessment units of Part I, save in exceptional circumstances. This shall require application to and approval on behalf of the Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board.~~

^{1.44}13. The examiners may award a Distinction to candidates of special merit in ~~either Part I or Part II~~ of the examination, provided that all examinations assessment units for all four subjects specified for that Part II in clause 2 above have been offered in their entirety and passed at one examination at the first scheduled opportunity which shall

be the candidate's first attempt, except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate's society.

^{1.45}14. The examiners may award a Pass with Merit to candidates of special merit in any of the individual subjects ~~1, 2, 3,~~ 5, 6, or 7, provided that all ten assessment units of ~~Part I or of~~ Part II of the examination have been offered in their entirety at one examination. The award of Pass with Merit shall be based on performance in Part B of a subject and shall be confined to candidates who have passed Parts A and C of that subject at the same sitting which shall be the first scheduled opportunity and the candidate's first attempt, except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate's society.

^{1.46}~~15. No candidate shall be admitted to the First Examination unless he or she has been through the standard selection procedures for the standard medical course (including sitting the Biomedical Admissions Test – BMAT), has met the published entry requirements for admission to the standard medical course, and his or her name has been entered on the University Register of Medical Students.~~

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^{1.48}~~16. In line with the General Regulations for the First Public Examination, a person admitted for Part I of the first examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine within three terms of the term in which they were originally due to be examined for Part I of the first examination, shall be entitled to be examined in accordance with the regulations pertaining to the original examination, if they so wish.~~

^{1.49}~~In line with the General Regulations for the First Public Examination, a person admitted for Part I of the first examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine four or more terms after the term in which they were originally due to be examined for Part I of the first examination shall normally be examined in accordance with the current regulations.~~

^{1.50}A person admitted for Part II of the first examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine within three terms of the term in which they were originally due to be examined for Part II of the first examination, shall be entitled to be examined in accordance with the regulations pertaining to the original examination, if they so wish. A person admitted for Part II of the first examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine four or more terms after the term in which they were originally due to be examined for Part II of the first examination shall normally be examined in accordance with the current regulations.

^{1.51}~~**17.] Regulations for Part C of subjects 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7**~~

~~1.52 For each subject, the Director of Pre-Clinical Studies or his or her deputy may request practical notebooks from any candidate in order to subsequently make available to the examiners evidence (in the form of a list of names, signed by the Director or his or her deputy) showing the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory attendance record at practical classes in that subject and the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory record of practical work in that subject. The examiners may also request practical notebooks from any candidate; such candidates will be named in a list posted in the foyer of the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre one week before the day of the first examination paper. Each notebook submitted shall be accompanied by a statement signed by the candidate indicating that the notebook is the candidate's own work.~~

~~1.53 The practical course for subject 2 includes the course in elementary statistics defined in the Composite Syllabus for Part I.~~

~~1.54 Candidates whose attendance record and/or record of practical work is unsatisfactory will normally be required by the examiners to submit to further examination. Failure to satisfy the examiners that the candidate has a satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the practical course shall result in the candidate being failed in Part C of the relevant subject of the examination.~~

~~1.55 Evidence of satisfactory practical work and of attendance at a practical course is normally admissible by the examiners for a period extending no longer than to the end of the academic year following the year in which the course was pursued.~~

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~~1.57~~ **18. Regulations for the Patient and Doctor Course**

~~1.58 The Director of Pre-Clinical Studies or his or her deputy will make available to the examiners evidence (in the form of a list of names, signed by the Director or his or her deputy) to certify that each candidate has participated satisfactorily in the *Patient and Doctor Course*.~~

~~2.1~~ **Schedule for Part I**

~~2.2~~ **1. Organisation of the Body**

~~2.3~~ **2. Physiology and Pharmacology**

~~2.4~~ **3. Biochemistry and Medical Genetics**

~~2.5~~ **4. Population Health 1: Medical Sociology**

~~2.6 A Composite Syllabus (Core plus Extension) for Part I will be published annually at the start of Michaelmas Term by the Medical Sciences Board. The syllabus will make appropriate reference to related issues of clinical significance. In each subject, candidates will be expected to have a general understanding of the components~~

~~specified in the syllabus, including methods of study and quantitative analysis of experimental results.~~

~~^{2.7}In subjects 1, 2, and 3 two papers will be set, Paper A and Paper B. Paper A shall be no longer than 1 hour and 15 minutes in duration, and shall be a computer-based assessment of breadth of knowledge and understanding of the Core Syllabus. Paper B shall be set to examine deeper knowledge and understanding of a choice of topics included in or closely relating to the Composite Syllabus. For Subjects 1, 2, and 3, Paper B shall be two hours in duration.~~

~~^{2.8}In subject 4, one one and a half hour paper will be set, assessing knowledge and understanding of the Composite Syllabus.~~

3.1 Schedule for Part II

^{3.2}5. *Applied Physiology and Pharmacology*

^{3.3}6. *The Nervous System*

^{3.4}7. *Principles of Pathology*

^{3.5}8. *Psychology for Medicine*

^{3.6}A Composite Syllabus (Core plus Extension) for Part II will be published annually at the start of Michaelmas Term by the Medical Sciences Board. The syllabus will make appropriate reference to related issues of clinical significance. In each subject, candidates will be expected to have a general understanding of the components specified in the syllabus, including methods of study and quantitative analysis of experimental results.

^{3.7}In subjects 5, 6, and 7 two papers will be set, Paper A and Paper B. Paper A shall be no longer than 1 hour and 15 minutes in duration, and shall be a computer-based assessment of breadth of knowledge and understanding of the Core Syllabus. Paper B shall be set to examine deeper knowledge and understanding of a choice of topics included in or closely relating to the Composite Syllabus. For Subjects 5, 6, and 7, Paper B shall be three hours in duration.

^{3.8}In subject 8, one one-and-a-half hour paper will be set. The paper shall consist of two sections: (1) multiple-choice questions (45 minutes), assessing breadth of knowledge and understanding of the Core Syllabus; (2) essay questions (45 minutes), examining deeper knowledge and understanding of a choice of topics included in or closely related to the Composite Syllabus.

Explanatory Notes

Paragraphs have been re-ordered so that the regulations for the two separate parts of the examination appear under two separate headings.

In addition, regulations which applied to both parts of the examination have been duplicated and appear under both headings.

These change have been made to make the regulations easier to navigate and understand, and to facilitate the process of making future changes to the regulations.