

1516-03-MPT

**Medical Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved at the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**MSc Clinical Embryology**

**Brief note about nature of change:** Amendment to method of submission of written work and addition of regulation relating to the resubmission of a failed dissertation.

**Effective date**

**For students starting from [e.g. MT 2015]**

**For first examination from [e.g. 2015-16]**

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* 2015-16

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2015-16/mosbcinclinembr/administratorview/>

**Detail of change**

[numbered list if more than one change to a programme]

**1) P1, 1.6**

~~(ii)~~(i) Each candidate must pass a qualifying examination at the end of Michaelmas Term.

The examination shall normally consist of a two-hour computer-based assessment on the topics covered in modules I–V, as set out in the Schedule (see below). Candidates who fail the qualifying examination shall be permitted to take it on one further occasion in Week 0 of Hilary Term. ~~The Organising Committee shall submit to the examiners a list of candidates who have satisfactorily completed the qualifying examination not later than the end of the Hilary Term preceding the examination.~~

**2) P1, 1.7**

~~(iii)~~(ii) Each candidate must submit a ~~typewritten or~~ printed essay of between 3,000 and 4,000 words on a topic approved by the Organising Committee. The arrangements for approval will be notified to candidates not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken. The essay must be submitted by noon, Thursday of Week 9 of Hilary Term. In the event that they are deemed not to have achieved the required standard in this element of the examination, candidates will have the opportunity to revise and resubmit ~~their essay by noon, Friday of Week 3 of Trinity Term on one further occasion at a time notified by the Board of Examiners.~~

**3) P1, 1.8**

~~(iv)~~(iii) Each candidate must pass a written examination in Week 0 of Trinity Term. The examination shall consist of a three-hour written paper on the topics covered in modules VI-X, as set out in the Schedule. Candidates who fail the examination shall be permitted to take it on one further occasion, at a time notified by the Board of Examiners. ~~no sooner than three weeks after the first occasion. Candidates must pass this examination in order to proceed with their research project.~~

**4) P2, 1.9**

~~(v)~~(iv) Each candidate must submit a typewritten or printed dissertation of not more than 10,000 words (excluding bibliography and appendices) on the research project as set out in the Schedule below.

**5) P2, 1.10**

Candidates shall be examined viva voce on their dissertation, or on any other element of the examination, and shall also give poster and oral presentations on their research project. The viva voce examination will normally be conducted in September of the year in which the candidate is examined on dates to be determined by the examiners.

In the event that they are deemed not to have achieved the required standard in this element of assessment, candidates will have the opportunity to revise and resubmit the dissertation within a specified time after the viva, normally set by the Examination Board at three weeks. Candidates resubmitting the dissertation will not repeat the viva voce or the laboratory component of this piece of assessment.

**6) P2, 1.14**

5. Each written submission must be accompanied (in a separate sealed envelope addressed to the Chair of Examiners) by a certificate indicating that it is the candidate's own work and a ~~CD~~ USB memory stick containing an electronic copy of each written submission. This electronic copy will be used to check for Plagiarism using 'Turnitin' software.

**Explanatory Notes**

i) Minor amendment to the submission method to ensure essays are printed (word processed) only and an electronic copy is provided to the Chair of Examiners to facilitate plagiarism checks.

ii) Following University guidance to ensure resit arrangements for all postgraduate taught programmes are set out in the relevant exam regulations; the Course Director secured local committee agreement for the introduction of dissertation resit arrangements that are based on the University's DPhil thesis regulations. Candidates will have three weeks to revise and resubmit the dissertation which ensures that the same board of examiners, with knowledge of the candidate and the candidate's original dissertation, are involved in the re-examination process.

In such instances, the candidate will resubmit his/her dissertation to the Chair of Examiners by an agreed date and the resubmission will be re-examined by the internal examiners within a set timescale. There will be no repeat viva voce. Plans for the resubmission of the research dissertation were discussed by the local organising committee, in the presence of the Chair of Examiners, during August 2015, at the specific request of the Medical Sciences Division.