

Medical Sciences Board**Approved:** 16th July 2015**Title of Examination:** MSc in Neuroscience**Brief note about nature of change:**

-To change one of the optional modules into a compulsory module (Journal Club) and to change the requirement for candidates to be examined on five optional modules to four optional modules and one compulsory module (Journal Club).

-To update regulations for accuracy.

Effective date:

- **For all students on course from Michaelmas Term 2015**
- **For first examination from 2015-16**

Location of change:

Examination Regulations 2014-15:

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcourinneur/studentview/>
MSc in Neuroscience

Details of change:

1. In Examination Regulations, 2014-15,
<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcourinneur/studentview/>
MSc in Neuroscience, amend clause 4 (ii) as follows:

‘(ii) each candidate will be required to submit to the examiners either two copies of a typewritten or printed essay of not more than 3,000 words on a topic approved by the Organising Committee in each of the ~~five~~ four modules chosen for study, as set out in the Schedule, or in the case of the modules specified by the Organising Committee one practical notebook in each module chosen for study; candidates must submit their titles for approval by deadlines determined by the Organising Committee and posted in the Gazette no later than the end of the preceding term;’

2. Ibid., at the end of section 4 add clause (v) as follows:

‘(v) each candidate will be required to participate in the compulsory Journal Club and give a presentation.’

3. Ibid., amend section (c) (citation reference 1.33) in the SCHEDULE as follows:

'(c) Specialist neuroscience courses

This will consist of five taught courses consisting of lectures, seminars, practicals, and demonstrations, chosen from a list of courses in neuroscience to be approved annually by the Organising Committee. These will be grouped under three headings: molecular, cellular, and systems, and candidates will be required to choose at least one course under each of the three headings. Details of the courses available in each academic year will be published in the Gazette in the preceding Trinity Term Course Handbook and on the course website not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken.'

Explanatory Notes

Regarding change 1& 2

The suggestion to change Journal Club from an optional to compulsory module came from the students in the course annual feedback meeting. Through the years it became increasingly popular with students because:

- it represents all the other modules so it exposes students to the breadth of Neuroscience;
- it is an excellent educational activity that students who enter academia will use often;
- it involves presentation skills so a different form of learning than essay writing or practical portfolio.

Taking the above into consideration the Course Committee decided that it was appropriate to approve this change.

Regarding change 3

It updates regulations for accuracy in line with departmental procedures.