2021-11-TPT

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of Graduate School Committee on 29.04.21

Master of Science by Coursework in Radiation Biology

Brief note about nature of change: minor amendment to assessments as agreed by Division; simplification of regulations by removal of detail covered in the Conventions

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2020*:
https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=mosbcinradibiol&srchYear=2020&srchTerm=1&year=2020&term=1

Effective date

For students starting from MT 21

For first examination from 2021-22

Detail of change

1. The Medical Sciences Board shall elect for the supervision of the course an Organising Committee, which shall have the power to arrange lectures and other instruction.

2. The Organising Committee shall assign a ~~project~~ Dissertation supervisor for each candidate.

3. Each candidate shall follow a course of study in Radiation Biology for at least three terms and for a substantial part of the three subsequent vacations, as determined by the course timetable.

4. ~~Candidates shall be examined in all of the following ways:~~

- ~~(i) Each candidate must pass a qualifying examination at the end of Michaelmas Term. The examination shall be on modules 1-6 in the Schedule. Candidates who fail the qualifying examination shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only in Week 0 of Hilary Term.~~
- ~~(ii) Each candidate will be required to submit to the examiners an assignment of 3,000 words (excluding figures and figure legends, tables and bibliography) by uploading it to the Assignments Section of the MSc in~~

~~Radiation Biology Canvas site by noon, Friday of Week 7 of Hilary Term. A choice of assignment titles will be provided to students by Week 8 of Michaelmas Term. Candidates must pass this assignment in order to proceed with the course. Those who fail the assignment shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only. The assignment should be re-submitted by noon, Friday of Week 8 of Trinity Term. The assignment will account for 15 per cent of the final marks.~~

- ~~(iii) Each candidate must pass a three-hour written examination at the end of Hilary Term (normally in Week 9). The examination shall be on the modules set out in the Schedule. In order to proceed with the course, candidates who fail the examination shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only in Week 0 of Trinity Term. The examination will account for 25 per cent of the final marks.~~
- ~~(iv) Each candidate shall undertake an original laboratory research project of approximately six months. Candidates will be examined on their project in three ways:~~
  - ~~a. Each candidate will be required to submit to the examiners three copies of a typewritten or printed research dissertation of not more than 10,000 words (excluding figures and figure legends, tables, bibliography and appendices) based on the research project. The dissertation must be submitted by a date to be specified by the Organising Committee and which will be outlined on the MSc Radiation Biology Canvas site not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken.~~
  - ~~b. Each candidate will be expected to give a presentation to the examiners and assessors on his or her research project after submission of the dissertation.~~
  - ~~c. Each candidate will be examined viva voce by the examiners.~~

~~(v) The dissertation, presentation and viva voce will be given a single grade and account for 60 per cent of the final marks. Candidates must pass this component and those who fail this component once shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion with submission, presentation and viva voce only at the times these elements are examined during the following academic year.~~

4. Each candidate will be required pass all of the following assessment components:

(i) A qualifying examination at the end of Michaelmas Term. The examination shall be on modules 1-4 in the Schedule.
(ii) A short essay submitted at the end of Michaelmas Term, selected from a choice of essay titles based on modules 1-4 in the Schedule.
(iii) An extended essay submitted in Hilary Term, selected from a choice of essay titles based on modules 5-10 in the Schedule.
(iv) A written examination in Trinity Term. The examination shall be on modules 5-12 in the Schedule.
(v) An original research project of approximately five months. Candidates will be examined on their project in three ways:
  a. Submission to the examiners of a research dissertation based on the research project.
  b. Presentation to the examiners and assessors on the research project.
  c. Examination *viva voce* by the examiners.

5. Candidates must pass each component in order to pass the examination overall.

6. Candidates who fail any component shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only.

7. Candidates who fail a component on the second attempt will be deemed to have failed the requirements of the MSc and will not be permitted to continue on the course.

8. The essays and dissertation will be submitted via an authorised online submission platform, details of which will be notified to students by the Course Administrator, by dates to be specified by the Organising Committee and published in the Course Handbook.

~~5. The required written submissions must be sent to the Chair of Examiners, M.Sc. in Radiation Biology, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.~~

~~6.~~ 9. The examiners shall retain one copy of each dissertation of each successful candidate for deposit in the Radcliffe Science Library.

~~**Schedule**~~

~~The modules for study will be:~~

- ~~Physics and Chemistry of Radiation Action~~
- ~~Molecular Radiation Biology~~
- ~~Cellular Radiation Biology~~
- ~~Normal Tissue and Applied Radiation Biology~~
- ~~Whole Body Exposure and Carcinogenesis~~
- ~~Radiation Epidemiology~~
- ~~Imaging Technologies~~
- ~~Tumour Microenvironment~~
- ~~Applications of Radiation Therapy~~
- ~~Translational Radiation Biology~~
- ~~Clinical Radiation Biology~~
- ~~Radiation Protection~~

Schedule

1. Physics and Chemistry of Radiation Action
2. Molecular Radiation Biology
3. Cellular Radiation Biology
4. Normal Tissue and Applied Radiation Biology
5. Whole Body Exposure and Carcinogenesis
6. Radiation Epidemiology
7. Imaging Technologies
8. Tumour Microenvironment
9. Applications of Radiation Therapy
10. Translational Radiation Biology
11. Clinical Radiation Biology
12. Radiation Protection

Explanatory Notes

The changes have been made to make the regulations clearer and easier to understand along with a minor addition to the assessment schedule to allow for application and deeper understanding of knowledge.