

**Medical Sciences Divisional Board**

Approved by Ros Whiteley on 20.07.20

**Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation [if general]**

Master of Science by Coursework in Pharmacology

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Minor amendments to text; insertion into text

**Location of change**In Examination Regulations 2019-20 <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/mosbcourinphar/studentview/>**Effective date**

- 1) For students starting from MT 2020
- and
- 2) For first examination starting in 2020-21

**Detail of change****1. Amend citation**

<sup>1.11</sup>Part B: Each candidate will be required to submit the dissertation on-line via a secure submission site. ~~The to the examiners three copies of a printed dissertation should be~~ of not more than 10,000 words (excluding bibliography and appendices) on the research project selected for study as set out in the Schedule. The mark will contribute to the final course mark according to the pre-specified weighting. ~~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.~~

**2) Insert citation**

<sup>1.14</sup>5. Each candidate shall be examined by giving an oral presentation (viva voce) on their research project to the examiners.

6. Each candidate must pass all assessment units, or a resit, in order for the degree to be awarded

<sup>1.15</sup>~~6-7~~. Before being given leave to supplicate, candidates must have demonstrated understanding of and competence in the topics covered by the professional development programme as set out in the Schedule, to the satisfaction of the programme organisers, who shall submit a certificate to the examiners to this effect.

<sup>1.16</sup>~~7~~ 8. The dissertation must be submitted to the Chair of Examiners, M.Sc. in Pharmacology, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford by dates to be specified by the Organising Committee and which will be published in the *University Gazette* not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken.

<sup>1.17</sup>The submission must be accompanied by a certificate indicating that it is the candidate's own work.

<sup>1.18</sup>~~8-9~~. The viva voce examination will normally be conducted in September in the year in which the candidate is examined on dates to be determined by the examiners.

<sup>1.19</sup>~~9~~ 10. The examiners shall retain one copy of each dissertation of each successful candidate for deposit in the Department of Pharmacology.

### **Explanatory Notes**

**1.** In the past, candidates were asked to submit three printed copies of their dissertations. Since the Medical Sciences Division permits PGR dissertations to be submitted on line, the MSc Course Committee would like to adopt the same form of submission and avoid paper waste together with unnecessary printing costs for students.

The MSc Course Committee would like to provide more flexible deadlines for final allocation of projects to students. Students' feedback revealed that students prefer to have enough time to visit laboratories and speak to potential supervisors before expressing their preference for a research project. The course handbook provides specific guidelines for arrangement of approval and final project allocation.

**2.** As it stands in the current Regulations, the wording 'shall be permitted' a resit is misleading since it could be argued that candidates have the option to resit an exam but this is not a requirement. The MSc Course Committee would like to clarify that it is a requirement for candidates to pass all assessment units in order to be awarded the

degree. If candidates fail at their first attempt, they are provided a second opportunity to sit the same assessment unit.