

Mathematical, Physical, and Life Sciences Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of:

Approved by Chairman's action on behalf of Faculty of Materials Michaelmas 2018, following a detailed discussion and approval in principle at the TT18 meeting of the Faculty of Materials. Approved by Chair's action in the MPLS Division HT19.

Title of Programme:

Honour School of Materials Science

Brief note about nature of change:

Modification to FHS Part I examined coursework in order to reflect the increasing importance of computational modelling in the subject of Materials Science. Existing 'Introduction to Materials Modelling' to become compulsory. New, more advanced, 'Atomistic Modelling' optional module introduced; students now choosing between this and the existing 'Characterisation of Materials' optional module. The overall proportion of marks for FHS Part I coursework to remain unchanged in the FHS exam. Assessment weightings within the Part I FHS coursework to be altered to accommodate the additional module, which is assessed by a portfolio of work of up to 3,000 words. Net Y3 student load increased by 15h lectures, 10h classes and 40h independent study.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2018* [<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2018-19/hsofmatescie/administratorview/>]

Effective date

For students starting FHS from MT2019

For first examination from 2020-21

Detail of change

Amend citation reference 1.28 as follows:

^{1.28} 3. In addition to the written papers, the Examiners shall require evidence of satisfactory completion, over a period of five terms subsequent to the sitting of the First Public Examination, of each *element* of coursework in Materials, as detailed below. In the assessment of the Materials coursework, the Examiners shall take into consideration the requirement for a candidate to complete satisfactorily the coursework to a level prescribed from time to time by the Faculty of Materials and published in the Course Handbook. Normally, failure to complete satisfactorily all ~~five~~ six elements of Materials Coursework will constitute failure of Part I of the Second Public Examination. The coursework *elements* shall be:

Amend citation reference 1.37 ff as follows:

^{1.37} (e) *Characterisation of Materials Coursework or Introduction to Modelling in Materials Coursework*

^{1.38} Candidates shall be required to complete ~~either~~ a Characterisation of Materials course ~~or~~ an Introduction to Modelling in Materials course in ~~the first two weeks of Hilary~~ the sixth week of Michaelmas Full Term in the year of the Second Public Examination, and subsequently to ~~upload a portfolio of work from the course, as detailed in the Course Handbook, to the FHS Assignments section of the Department of Materials Undergraduate WebLearn site not later than 12 noon on Tuesday of the week following the Michaelmas Full Term.~~ Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work. ~~submit to the Chair of the Examiners in the Honour School of Materials Science, c/o the Deputy Administrator (Academic) in the Department of Materials (or their deputy as nominated in the Course Handbook), three copies of a portfolio of work from the course, as detailed in the Course Handbook. The work must be the candidate's own and the candidate shall sign and present with the written report a detachable certificate to that effect.~~

^{1.39} (f) *Characterisation of Materials Coursework or Atomistic Modelling Coursework*

^{1.40} Candidates shall be required to complete ~~either~~ a Characterisation of Materials course ~~or~~ an Atomistic Modelling course in the fourth and fifth weeks of Hilary Full Term in the year of the Second Public Examination, and subsequently to submit to the Chair of the Examiners in the Honour School of Materials Science, c/o the Deputy Administrator (Academic) in the Department of Materials (or their deputy as nominated in the Course Handbook), three copies of a portfolio of work from the course, as detailed in the Course Handbook. The work must be the candidate's own and the candidate shall sign and present with the written report a detachable certificate to that effect.

Explanatory Notes

Noting development in the subject of Materials Science, and supported both by recommendations from the external examiners and feedback gathered from the student body and alumni, Faculty has a strong desire to increase within the programme provision in computational analysis and modelling. The programme currently offers one of two option modules in Y3: 'Characterisation of Materials' or 'Introduction to Modelling in Materials'. It is the view of the Faculty that the 'Introduction to Modelling in Materials' module should now become a core element of the programme. A new module has been developed in 'Atomistic Modelling' which is to be offered as the alternative option module to 'Characterisation of Materials' module. To accommodate this change, the marks assigned to the various coursework assessments are to be altered to reflect the revised contact hours and significance of the coursework elements. The proportion of Part I FHS marks overall assigned to coursework and to the written papers will not change.

A foundation for the compulsory Y3 module 'Introduction to Modelling in Materials' is provided by the new Y1 module 'Computing in Materials Science', first delivered to the 2018/19 Prelims cohort.

This proposal was initially discussed at the meeting of JCCU in TT 2016, further reported on in MT 2016 and TT 2018, and again in HT19; the students have been keenly supportive throughout.