Pre-clinical Medicine - First BM Parts I and II

Brief note about nature of change: Correction to number of assessment units. Changes to eligibility criteria for Merits and Distinctions so that students who have not taken all assessment units at the first available opportunity (due to extenuating circumstances) remain eligible for consideration for the award of Merits and/or a Distinction.

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2019 [http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/fbpiandii/studentview/]

Effective date
For students starting First BM Part I from MT 2020 and for students starting First BM Part II from MT 2020
And
For first examination from 2020-21

Detail of change
Part I of the First Examination

Subjects 1, 2, and 3 shall each be examined in three assessment units: Part A, Part B and Part C. Subject 4 forms a single assessment unit. The Patient and Doctor Year 1 course forms a single assessment unit. The content and assessment format of the assessment units are provided in the Schedule below. A candidate must offer all eleven assessment units in Part I at one examination, provided that the Medical Sciences Board may dispense candidates who have already passed a First Public Examination in any subject from the requirement to offer all eleven assessment units at one examination. The examiners may request that a candidate attend one or
The outcomes of Part I of the First Examination are as follows:

2.16a) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in all eleven assessment units will be deemed to have passed Part I of the First Examination.

2.16b) A candidate who has failed one or more assessment units but has satisfied the Examiners in four or more of the seven written or computer-based assessment units (Parts A and B of subjects 1-3, and subject 4), will be deemed to have achieved a partial pass. They will be permitted one further attempt at the units they have failed.[For students starting before MT 2019: , within one year of the initial failure ][For students starting from MT 2019: . This resit attempt shall normally be taken at the next opportunity, but may be deferred once, i.e. it must be taken at one of the next two opportunities].

2.16c) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in fewer than four of the seven written or computer-based assessment units (Parts A and B of subjects 1-3, and subject 4), will be deemed to have failed Part I of the First Examination. They will be permitted one further attempt at all seven written or computer-based assessment units, along with any Part C units failed during the first sitting[For students starting before MT 2019: , within one year of the initial failure ][For students starting from MT 2019: . This resit attempt shall normally be taken at the next opportunity, but may be deferred once, i.e. it must be taken at one of the next two opportunities.] Part C units passed during the first sitting can usually be carried forward to the second attempt.

2.229. The examiners may award a Distinction to candidates of special merit in Part I of the examination, provided that all assessment units for all four subjects specified for Part I have been offered in their entirety and passed at one examination at the first scheduled opportunity which shall be the candidate’s first attempt, except in one of the following exceptional circumstances: at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate’s society.

- The candidate has been given permission by the Proctors or Education Committee to split the assessment over more than one examination session.
- The candidate has withdrawn from taking the examination at the first scheduled opportunity, due to ill health or other reasons as detailed and evidenced in a Notice of Mitigating Circumstances.

2.2310. The examiners may award a Pass with Merit to candidates of special merit in any
of the individual subjects 1, 2, or 3, provided that all ten assessment units of Part I of the examination have been offered in their entirety at one examination. The award of Pass with Merit shall be based on performance in Part B of a subject and shall be confined to candidates who have offered all eleven assessment units of Part I of the examination at one examination, and who have passed Parts A and C of that subject at the same sitting which shall be the first scheduled opportunity and the candidate’s first attempt, except in one of the following exceptional circumstances: at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate’s society.

- The candidate has been given permission by the Proctors or Education Committee to split the assessment over more than one examination session.
- The candidate has withdrawn from taking the examination at the first scheduled opportunity, due to ill health or other reasons as detailed and evidenced in a Notice of Mitigating Circumstances.

Part II of the First Examination

3.8. Subjects 5, 6, and 7 shall each be examined in three assessment units: Part A, Part B, and Part C. Subject 8 forms a single assessment unit. The Patient and Doctor Year 2 course forms a single assessment unit. The content and assessment format of the assessment units are provided in the Schedule below. A candidate must offer all eleven assessments in Part II. The examiners may request that a candidate attend one or more oral examinations.

3.157. The outcomes of Part II of the First Examination are as follows:

3.15a) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in all eleven assessment units will be deemed to have passed Part II of the First Examination.

3.15b) A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in one or more of the eleven assessment units will be deemed to have achieved a partial pass. They will be permitted one further attempt at the unit(s) they have failed. [For students starting before MT 2018: , within one year of the initial failure ][For students starting from MT 2018: . This resit attempt shall normally be taken at the next opportunity, but may be deferred once, i.e. it must be taken at one of the next two opportunities]. A candidate who is taking one or more Part C units for the second time, having failed their first attempt at those units, may be examined orally on the material covered during the practical course for that subject. However, in the case of a student exceptionally repeating the entire academic year, they will normally be expected to satisfy the Examiners by having a satisfactory record of attendance and
performance in practical work.

3.19. The examiners may award a Distinction to candidates of special merit in Part II of the examination, provided that all assessment units for all four subjects specified for Part II have been offered in their entirety and passed at one examination at the first scheduled opportunity which shall be the candidate’s first attempt, except in one of the following exceptional circumstances: at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate’s society.

- The candidate has been given permission by the Proctors or Education Committee to split the assessment over more than one examination session.
- The candidate has withdrawn from taking the examination at the first scheduled opportunity, due to ill health or other reasons as detailed and evidenced in a Notice of Mitigating Circumstances.

3.20. The examiners may award a Pass with Merit to candidates of special merit in any of the individual subjects 5, 6, or 7, provided that all ten assessment units of Part II of the examination have been offered in their entirety at one examination. The award of Pass with Merit shall be based on performance in Part B of a subject and shall be confined to candidates who have offered all eleven assessment units of Part II of the examination at one examination, and who have passed Parts A and C of that subject at the same sitting which shall be the first scheduled opportunity and the candidate’s first attempt, except in one of the following exceptional circumstances: at the discretion of the Board of Examiners following application from the candidate’s society.

- The candidate has been given permission by the Proctors or Education Committee to split the assessment over more than one examination session.
- The candidate has withdrawn from taking the examination at the first scheduled opportunity, due to ill health or other reasons as detailed and evidenced in a Notice of Mitigating Circumstances.