

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by MSD divisional officer on 15 May 2025

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Master of Science by Coursework in Clinical Trials

Brief note about nature of change:

Minor amendment to assessment title

Clarification of summative assessments

Location of change

In Examination Regulations

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=moscycliclintria&srchYear=2024&srchTerm=1&year=2024&term=1>

Effective date

For students starting from MT2025 [And]

For first examination from 2025-26

Detail of change

Amend citation reference 1.9-1.15 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

(ii) completion ~~submission of three~~ five summative assessments as follows:

a) A ~~report~~ critical appraisal ~~of not more than 2,500 words~~ to be submitted online via the approved submission system before the start of Trinity Term in Year 1.

b) An examination to be held in the Long Vacation of Year 1.

~~b) c)~~ c) An essay ~~of not more than 2,500 words~~ to be submitted online via the approved submission system in Hilary term in Year 2.

~~e) d) A recorded PowerPoint presentation of no more than 10 minutes to be submitted online via the approved submission system at the end of Trinity term in Year 2.~~

e) A dissertation on a topic selected by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor and approved by the Organising Committee. Approval must be sought no later than the end of Michaelmas term in the academic year of submission. The dissertation must be submitted online via the approved submission system, after the end of Trinity term in Year 2 on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

~~(iii) Submission of a dissertation of not more than 10,000 words, comprising a research proposal in the style of a grant application for a randomized trial, and to include a systematic review of previous evidence, on a topic selected by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor and approved by the Organising Committee. Approval must be sought no later than the end of Michaelmas term in the academic year of submission. The dissertation must be submitted online via the approved submission system, after the end of Trinity term in Year 2 on a date to be specified in the course handbook;~~

~~(iiiv) Attendance at at least one Residential School following at least 3 terms of study.~~

~~(v) An examination to be held in the Long Vacation of Year 1.~~

Explanatory Notes

The content of the first summative assessment has not changed, but 'critical appraisal' is a more accurate title for the assessment than 'report'.

The wording has also been updated to clarify that the existing exam and dissertation are summative assessments (previously they were listed separately to the three other summative assessments).

There has not been a consultation beyond the course team on these changes as there is no change to the content or nature of the assessments. The proposed changes simply provide a more accurate description of the existing assessments.