

**Medical Sciences Divisional Board****Approved by Nicholas Field on 08.06.22****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation [if general]**

Honour School of Medical Sciences

**Brief note about nature of change:** Minor changes to assessment arrangements**Location of change**

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsofmediscie&srchYear=2021&srchTerm=1&year=2019&term=1>

**Effective date****For students starting on course from MT 2020**

And

**For first examination from 2022-23****Detail of change**

1. Amend citation 1.5 as follows:

5. Candidates may ~~offer themselves for examination~~ be examined in one or more *Supplementary Subjects*. The Supplementary Subjects available in any year will be notified to students annually during Trinity Term. ~~A candidate's results in any such subject shall be published and account shall be taken of those~~ a candidate's results in the production of the class list any such subject in the candidate's overall classification. Candidates awarded a pass in a Supplementary Subject examination may not retake the same Supplementary Subject examination.

2. Amend citation 1.6 as follows:

1. The list of options of the school shall be published ~~by the Faculty of Physiological Sciences Undergraduate Studies Office~~ to students not later than noon on Friday of Week 6 of Hilary Term ~~in the year preceding that in which the examination is due to be taken~~ of the second year.

3. Amend citation 1.7 as follows:

Each option shall be divided into themes. The list of themes shall be published no later than Week 0 of Trinity Term ~~in the academic year preceding that in which the examination is due to be taken~~of the second year. Most themes will be specific to a single option, but some may be shared. The total number of themes comprising each option shall be 4. Each candidate will be expected to have studied 8 themes in total in order to address the synoptic questions of Paper 2, and to have prepared sufficient of those themes in depth to be able to address the requirements of Paper 1 (see paras 2, 3, and 5 below).

4. Amend citation 1.12 as follows:

Paper 1 ~~shall be of three hours duration and~~ shall contain a choice of questions addressing in-depth knowledge and understanding within individual specified themes of each option. Paper 1 will require candidates to answer three questions on three different themes, ~~including one theme~~which must be picked from at least two different options.

5. Amend citation 1.13 as follows:

Paper 2; ~~shall be of three hours duration and~~ questions will not be specific to any option. Each question will require a synoptic approach. Candidates shall be required to answer any two questions ~~from this paper~~.

6. Amend citation 1.14 as follows:

Paper 3 ~~shall be of three hours and fifteen minutes duration and~~ shall have questions relating to pieces of primary literature. ~~The first fifteen minutes will consist of reading time.~~

7. Delete citations 1.15 and 1.16.

8. Amend citation 1.17 as follows:

In addition to the written papers, each candidate must both:

9. Amend citation 1.24 as follows:

Candidates must undertake project work under the supervision of a person approved on behalf of the Pre-clinical Medicine Steering Committee.

The project shall consist of original experiments and/or data analysis carried out by the candidate alone or in collaboration with others (where such collaboration is, for instance, needed to produce results in the time available).

10. Delete citation 1.25.

11. Amend citation 1.26 as follows:

Applications for approval of the research project must be made according to the instructions and by the deadlines given on the Virtual Learning Environment~~no later~~

~~than Friday of Week 8 of Hilary Term in the academic year preceding the examination. The candidate must submit the title of their proposed research project, provide a brief outline of the subject matter and supply details of supervision arrangements. The decision on the application shall be made by the Director of Pre-clinical Studies or their deputy and shall be communicated to the candidate as soon as possible, and work should not start on the project until approval has been given. Candidates should allow at least one week for the process of approval, and should bear in mind that an application may be referred for clarification or may be refused. Candidates who have not applied for approval by the specified deadline or who have submitted a Research Project which did not receive approval may be subject to an academic penalty, as set out in the examination conventions.~~

12. Amend citation 1.28 as follows:

If required, candidates may apply to change the title of their project through the Faculty of Physiological Sciences Undergraduate Studies Office on one occasion and no later than noon on Friday of Week 4 of Hilary Term in the ~~academic year in which they intend taking the examination~~third year.

13. Delete citations 1.29, 1.30 and 1.31.

14. Amend citation 1.32 as follows:

~~(iiiiv)~~ *Submission and assessment of the Project Report*

15. Amend citation 1.33 as follows:

Project Reports must be ~~submitted via~~uploaded to the University approved online ~~assessment platform (according to the instructions set out in the letter to candidates from the Chair of Examiners),~~submission system not later than noon on the Friday of Week 8 of the Hilary Term in ~~which the candidate intends to take the examination~~of the third year. ~~Each report shall be accompanied by a certificate of authorship indicating that the Research Project is the candidate's own work. Where work has been produced in collaboration, the certificate shall indicate the extent of the candidate's own contribution.~~

16. Delete citation 1.34.

17. Amend citation 1.35 as follows:

In exceptional cases, where through unforeseen circumstances a research project produces no useable results (i.e. not even negative or ambiguous results), the candidate may apply through their college to the Director of Pre-clinical Studies, or their a deputy, for permission to submit a concise review of the scientific context and the aims of the work that was attempted, in place of the normal Project Report. Such an application must be accompanied by supporting evidence from the supervisor of the project. The concise review to be submitted in such circumstances should be comparable in length to the Report of a successful research project, ~~will be presented orally to the examiners and will be examined viva voce in the usual way for a research project.~~ The examiners will be advised that substantive results could not be produced.

18. After citation 1.36, add:

(iv) Oral assessment of project-based written work

Each candidate shall make a brief oral presentation of their project to a group of two examiners (or examiners and assessors appointed to ensure an adequate representation of expertise) and shall be expected to answer questions on the project.

19. Amend citation 1.39 as follows:

Information on the content, The length and format of the Submitted Essay shall be according to guidelines that will be published by the Medical Sciences Board will be published on the Virtual Learning Environment.

20. Amend citation 1.43 as follows:

~~No later than noon on Friday of Week 8 of Michaelmas Term in the academic year of the examination, e~~ Every candidate must register their essay via the means specified by the Faculty of Physiological Sciences Undergraduate Studies Office by the deadline and according to the instructions on the Virtual Learning Environment. ~~A decision on the application shall be made by the Director of Pre-clinical Studies or their deputy and shall be communicated to the candidate.~~

21. Amend citation 1.45 as follows:

If required, candidates may apply to change the title of their essay through the Faculty of Physiological Sciences Undergraduate Studies Office on one occasion and no later than noon on Friday of Week 8 of Hilary term ~~in the academic year in which they intend taking the examination of the third year.~~

22. Amend citation 1.47 as follows:

The essay must be the candidate's own work. Candidates' tutors, or their deputies nominated to act as advisors, may discuss with candidates the proposed field of study, the sources available, and the method of treatment, but on no account may they read or comment on any written draft. Every candidate shall submit a certificate to the effect that this rule has been observed and that the essay is their own work; ~~and the candidate's tutor or adviser may be asked to confirm that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, this is so.~~

23. Amend citation 1.49 as follows:

Essays must be ~~submitted via~~ uploaded to the University approved online assessment platform ~~(according to the instructions set out in the letter to candidates from the Chair of Examiners),~~ not later than noon on the Friday of Week 0 of the Trinity Term ~~in which the candidate intends to take the examination of the third year.~~ Each essay shall be accompanied by a certificate of authorship as specified in the preceding paragraph.

24. Delete citation 1.52.

**Explanatory Notes**

The Examination Regulations for the Honour School of Cell and Systems Biology and the Examination Regulations for the Honour School of Neuroscience have been amended and updated following the introduction of the Integrated Masters programme. The Honour School of Medical Sciences regulations have been updated in line with the changes for these Honour Schools (which share teaching and examinations).