

Examination Regulations

1314-21-LUGPG

Medical Sciences Board

Title of Examination/s: Degrees in Medicine and Surgery

Brief note about nature of change:

The regulations for degrees in Medicine and Surgery are being re-structured to facilitate publication in a new, on-line format. No matters of substance are being altered. Therefore, the re-ordering of (and any necessary editorial amendments to) this material requires no effective date.

Explanatory Notes

Please contact Shelley Mann (Medical Sciences Divisional Office) for further details.

Changes to Examination Regulations 2013

1314-20-LUG

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 17th September 2014

Examination: Preliminary Examination in Medicine, Part I

Brief note about nature of change: To move the Hilary Term deadline for submission of the Longitudinal Case Study back by one week.

Effective date: 1 October 2014 (for first examination in 2015)

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2013*

Details of change:

In *Examination Regulations*, 2013, p. 976, l. 39, delete 'Friday of Week 9' and substitute 'the first Friday following the end of Week 9'

Explanatory Notes

This change is required to ensure equity amongst all Part I students i.e. to ensure that each GP rotation group has sufficient time, following the last visit to their longitudinal patient, to prepare and submit their case study. To date, the last student rotation group has had less time to prepare their case report compared to the earlier rotation groups, and student feedback has indicated the need for additional time for this last group.

Changes to *Examination Regulations 2014*

1415-02-HPR

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 2nd December 2014

Title of Programme / Examination: Doctor of Philosophy in Experimental Psychology

Brief note about nature of change: To increase the word limit of Transfer of Status reports for the Doctor of Philosophy in Experimental Psychology from 3,000 words to 6,000 words, which reflects the longer thesis length for the programme.

Effective date: With effect from 1 January 2015

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2014*

Details of change:

1. In *Examination Regulations, 2014*, p. 822, l. 14, after 'candidates' insert ', with the exception of those on the Doctor of Philosophy in Experimental Psychology,'
2. Ibid., l. 18, after 'references.' insert 'Candidates on the Doctor of Philosophy in Experimental Psychology should submit a report of no more than 6,000 words which should include an abstract, introduction, results, discussion and future plans including a proposed timetable for completion. Students may add appendices as necessary of up to a further 2,000 words including methods, figure legends, and references. Further guidance on the form of report should be sought from the departmental Director of Graduate Studies.'

Changes to *Examination Regulations 2014*

1415-02-HPR

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 15th July 2014

Title of Programme / Examination: D.Phil. programmes in the Medical Sciences Division and the Medical Sciences Doctoral Training Centre

Brief note about nature of change: To amend the requirements with respect to assessors for Confirmation of Status of students for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Effective date: Immediate

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2014*

Details of change:

1. In *Examination Regulations, 2014*, p. 823, l. 14, replace 'at least one assessor will have had no direct supervisory involvement' with 'neither assessor will have had direct supervisory involvement'

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 18th March 2015

Title of Examination: Honour School of Experimental Psychology, Part II

Brief note about nature of change:

- a) to update the regulations for accuracy
- b) to require submission of an electronic copy of Research Projects and Library Dissertations
- c) to change submission deadlines

Effective date:

- For students starting FHS from Trinity Term 2014 (Part II Trinity Term 2015)
- For first examination from 2015-16

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2014*

Details of change:

1. In *Examination Regulations*, 2014, p. 209, ll. 15-20, amend as follows:

‘4. No candidate shall be admitted for the Part II examination in this school unless

(a) he or she has passed the Part I examination for Experimental Psychology;
and

(b) he or she has satisfied the Moderators for the Preliminary Examination for ~~Psychology and Philosophy in Psychology, Philosophy, and Linguistics~~ in the subject *Introduction to Probability Theory and Statistics* or has passed the Qualifying Examination in Statistics for this School.’

2. Ibid., p. 211, ll. 7-41, amend as follows:

‘1. Research Project and Library Dissertation

Whether undertaking the ~~The~~ research project, or the research project and the library dissertation, such work will normally be carried out in the Trinity Term and the following Michaelmas Term in the year preceding the Part II examinations.

Candidates will be required to undertake such ~~do project~~-work under the supervision of one of the following:

- (i) any member of the Faculty of Psychological Studies.
- (ii) any other person approved by the Divisional Board provided that such approval shall be applied for not later than Friday of fourth week of Michaelmas Full Term in the year preceding the Part II examinations.

The subject of the library dissertation and the research project should not overlap to the extent that they should not draw on substantially the same literature. Candidates are warned that they should avoid repetition in examination papers of material used in the research project or library dissertation and that substantial repetition may be penalised.

All proposed research projects or library dissertations must be approved in advance by the Head of the Department of Experimental Psychology or deputy. The procedures for obtaining this approval will be notified to students by the Head of Department of Experimental Psychology or deputy.

Two bound copies and one electronic copy of completed research projects and library dissertations must be submitted to the Chair of Examiners, Honour School of Experimental Psychology, Examination Schools, Oxford, not later than noon on ~~Friday~~ Monday of the ~~eighth-ninth~~ week and Monday of the tenth-eleventh week of Hilary Term respectively, in the year of the examination. A certificate signed by the candidate indicating that the work submitted is the candidate's own work, and a statement of the number of words in the research project or library dissertation, must be submitted separately in respect of each research project and library dissertation in a sealed envelope addressed to the Chair of Examiners. Research projects and library dissertations previously submitted for the Honour School of Experimental Psychology may be resubmitted. No research project or library dissertation will be accepted if it has already been submitted wholly or substantially, for another Honour School or degree of this University, or for a degree of any other institution.

2. Candidates will be required to undertake practical work, as specified by the Head of Department of Experimental Psychology or deputy, and this will constitute a part of the examination. In exceptional circumstances the Proctors may exempt a candidate from the specified requirements on the recommendation of the Head of Department or deputy.'

Explanatory Notes

- (a) References to the pre-requisites for entering the Part II Examination are being updated for accuracy, with regard to the relevant Prelim examination. Other changes make it clear that the Head of the Department of Experimental Psychology may nominate a deputy to carry out duties specified in these regulations.
- (b) To require the submission of an electronic copy of Research Projects and Library Dissertations, in anticipation of enabling the Department to use software applications to screen any individual's submitted work for matches either to published sources or to

other submitted work.

- (c) To enable the examiners to apply a progressive tariff of academic penalties for late submission, submission deadlines are being moved to a day in the week other than a Friday.

Note that changes (b) and (c) affect what is required of candidates taking Psychology within the Honour School of Psychology, Philosophy, and Linguistics; however, a formal change to the regulations for the joint honours programme is not required.

Medical Sciences Board**Approved:** 17th March 2015**Title of Examination:** Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, Part II**Brief note about nature of change:** To align the deadlines for publishing the lists (A and B) of Part II options *with* fundamental information about assessment methods to be used, ready for the next academic year.**Effective date:**

- For students starting FHS from MT 2013 (Part II MT 2015)
- For first examination from 2015-16

Location of change:*Examination Regulations 2014-15:*<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/hsomandcellbioc/administratorview/>,

Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry

Details of change:*In Examination Regulations, 2014-15,*<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/hsomandcellbioc/administratorview/>,

Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, Part II, citation reference 3.15, amend the clause as follows:

'The form of assessment for each Part II option offered in an academic year will be published not later than noon on Friday of the eighth week of Trinity Term in the year preceding that in which the examination is taken, including the duration of unseen written papers and the required length of submitted work. The detailed specifications for each assessment method will be published not later than noon on Friday of the eighth week of Michaelmas Full-Term in the year of the examination. ~~These~~ Both the form and the detailed specifications for the assessment of options will have been approved by the Biochemistry Steering Committee, prior to publication by the Department of Biochemistry.'

1415-04-HUG

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 17th March 2015

Title of Examination: Honour School of Neuroscience, Part II

Brief note about nature of change: To enable students to take Paper 3 as specified for the Honour School of Medical Sciences instead of a second advanced option in Psychology, if they wish.

Effective date:

- **For students starting FHS from MT 2014 (Part II MT 2015)**
- **For first examination from 2015-16**

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2014*

Details of change:

In *Examination Regulations*, 2014, p. 343, delete ll. 20-22 and substitute:

'2. Each candidate must offer Paper 1A, Neuroscience, and Paper 2 as specified for the Honour School of Medical Sciences. In addition, each candidate must offer *either* two advanced options as specified for the Honour School of Experimental Psychology Part II *or* one advanced option as specified for the Honour School of Experimental Psychology Part II and Paper 3 as specified for the Honour School of Medical Sciences.'

Explanatory Notes

In response to feedback from students and College Tutors, the Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board has approved a recommendation from the Biomedical Sciences Steering Committee that students following the Neuroscience pathway should be able to take a Paper 3 (Critical reading, data analysis and experimental design) instead of a second Psychology Advanced Option, if they so wish.

Medical Sciences Board**Approved:** 17th March 2015**Title of Programme:** Medicine (Pre-Clinical) – standard course**Title of Examination:** First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine (First BM)**Brief note about nature of change:** Alteration of regulations concerning applications for exceptional third attempts at the First BM Part I and Part II Examinations.**Effective date:** With immediate effect**Location of change:***Examination Regulations 2014-15:*<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/fbpiandii/administratorview/>

First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Parts I and II

Details of change:

1. In *Examination Regulations, 2014-15*,
<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/fbpiandii/administratorview/>
First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Parts I and II, citation reference 1.18, amend the clause as follows:

'8. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination for Part II of the First Examination without first having passed all the subjects of Part I, save in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Medical Sciences Board following application from the candidate's society. ~~No candidate may offer any subject or Part of a subject in Parts I and II of the First Examination on more than two occasions, save in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Medical Sciences Board following application from the candidate's society.~~

2. Ibid., citation reference 1.19, insert a new clause 9 as follows:

'9. No candidate may offer any subject or Part of a subject in Parts I and II of the First Examination on more than two occasions, save in exceptional circumstances. A further exceptional opportunity to offer any subject or Part of a subject for Part I of the First Examination shall require application to and approval on behalf of the Education Committee of the University, in accordance with the *General Regulations for the First and Second Public Examinations*. A further exceptional opportunity to offer any subject or Part of a subject for Part II of the First Examination shall require application to and

approval on behalf of the Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board, according to the procedure set out in the handbook for medical students in Years 1-3.'

3. Ibid., re-number existing cl. 9-11 (citation references 1.19-1.21) as cl. 10-12 respectively.

Explanatory Notes

Changes to the General Regulations for the First Public Examination have resulted in there being two options available to students who have failed their second attempt at the First BM Part I Examination. The coexistence of two different routes of appeal is confusing and could give rise to complaints from students; this requires redress as soon as possible. The Medical Sciences Board has agreed that the University's Education Committee should deal with applications for a third attempt at the First BM Part I, in common with other First Public Examinations.

Medical Sciences Board**Approved:** 17th March 2015**Title of Programme:** Medicine (Pre-Clinical) – standard course**Title of Examination:** First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine (First BM)**Brief note about nature of change:** To enable the Director of Pre-Clinical Studies (as well as the Examiners) to request that candidates submit their practical notebooks.**Effective date:**

- **For students starting First BM Parts I and II from Michaelmas Term 2015**
- **For first examination from 2015-16 (Parts I and II)**

Location of change:*Examination Regulations 2014-15:*<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/fbpiandii/administratorview/>

First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Parts I and II

Details of change:*In Examination Regulations, 2014-15,*<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/fbpiandii/administratorview/>

First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Parts I and II, citation reference 1.23, amend the clause as follows:

'For each subject, the Director of Pre-Clinical Studies or his or her deputy ~~will~~may request practical notebooks from any candidate in order to subsequently make available to the examiners evidence (in the form of a list of names, signed by the Director or his or her deputy) showing the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory attendance record at practical classes in that subject and the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory record of practical work in that subject. The examiners may also request practical notebooks from any candidate; such candidates will be named in a list posted in the foyer of the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre one week before the day of the first examination paper. Each notebook submitted shall be accompanied by a statement signed by the candidate indicating that the notebook is the candidate's own work.'

Explanatory Notes

The regulations for Part C of subjects 1,2,3,5,6, and 7 of the First BM Examination state that the Director of Pre-Clinical Studies will make available to the Examiners evidence showing the extent to which each candidate has a satisfactory record of practical work in those subjects. In order to do this, the Director of Pre-Clinical Studies may, in some cases, need to request that candidates submit their practical notebooks, prior to any such request being made by the Examiners.

Medical Sciences Board**Approved:** 18th March 2015**Title of Examination:** Preliminary Examination in Biomedical Sciences**Brief note about nature of change:** Substitution of the 'Mathematics and Statistics' paper with an 'Introduction to Probability Theory and Statistics' paper.**Effective date:**

- **For students starting from Michaelmas Term 2015**
- **For first examination from 2015-16**

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2014***Details of change:**

1. In *Examination Regulations*, 2014, p. 72, l. 23, delete 'Mathematics and Statistics' and substitute 'Introduction to Probability Theory and Statistics (as specified for the Preliminary Examination in Psychology, Philosophy, and Linguistics)'
2. Ibid., ll. 37-38, delete 'one written paper of two hours' duration will be set' and substitute 'one written paper will be set, as specified for the Preliminary Examination in Psychology, Philosophy, and Linguistics'
3. Ibid., ll. 41-44, delete 'A list of recommended calculators will be provided by the Chairman of the Moderators not later than the Wednesday of the fourth week of the Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination. The use of calculators may not be permitted in certain papers.' and substitute 'The letter sent to all candidates by the Chairman of the Moderators will specify in which papers the use of calculators is permitted, and which calculators candidates will be permitted to use.'
4. Ibid., p. 73, l. 28, delete 'Mathematics and Statistics' and substitute 'Introduction to Probability Theory and Statistics (as specified for the Preliminary Examination in Psychology, Philosophy, and Linguistics)'

Explanatory Notes

The Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board has recently approved a change to the teaching and examining arrangements for Mathematics

and Statistics in Year 1 of the Biomedical Sciences programme. Under the new arrangements, candidates will no longer take the examination paper 'Mathematics and Statistics' which is shared with the Preliminary Examination in Biochemistry, but will sit the 'Introduction to Probability Theory and Statistics' paper from the Preliminary Examination in Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics.

1415-08-TPT

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 28th May 2015

Title of Examination: MSc in Integrated Immunology

Brief note about nature of change: To clarify the timing of re-sits for the computer-based examinations.

Effective date:

- **For all students on course from Michaelmas Term 2015**
- **For first examination from 2015-16**

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2014*

Details of change:

1. In *Examination Regulations*, 2014, p. 664, l. 43, after 'one further occasion' insert '(normally in Week 0 of Hilary Term)'
2. Ibid., l. 47, after 'one further occasion' insert '(normally in Week 0 of Trinity Term)'

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 28th May 2015

Title of Examination: MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences

Brief note about nature of change: To update the regulations for accuracy, and to change the timing of the course to a standard academic year (October – September) instead of a calendar year (January – December).

Effective date:

- For students starting from Michaelmas Term 2016
- For first examination from 2016-17

Location of change:

Examination Regulations 2014-15

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinmuscscie/administratorview/>

MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences

Details of change:

1. In *Examination Regulations, 2014-15*,
<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinmuscscie/administratorview/>
 MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences, citation references 1.2-1.4, amend the clauses as follows:
 - '2. The Organising Committee shall appoint for each candidate ~~an~~two academic ~~supervisors~~supervisors.
 3. Candidates will hold a first degree in medicine, or exceptionally a biomedical science degree or equivalent.
 4. Candidates shall follow a course of study in Musculoskeletal Sciences on a part-time basis for at least six terms, and including vacations, as determined by the course timetable. The course commences every two years ~~in January and runs until December of the following year.~~
2. Ibid., citation references 1.6-1.13, amend the clauses as follows:

'(i) Year 1 (~~January to December~~)

(a) Each candidate shall submit a literature review of no more than 4,000 words on a topic selected by the candidate and approved by the Organising Committee. The review must be submitted ~~during Week 2 of Michaelmas term~~ in Week 4 of Trinity Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

(b) Each candidate must pass an examination during the Long Vacation (normally in September)~~in Michaelmas Term~~. The examination will comprise two elements: the first of these will consist of a one-hour computer-based assessment comprising multiple-choice questions; the second of these will constitute a two-hour written paper. The dates of the examination will be specified in the course handbook.

(ii) Year 2 (~~January to December~~)

(a) Each candidate must submit, for assessment of their progress, an outline research proposal. The outline must be submitted in ~~Hilary~~ Michaelmas Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

(b) Each candidate will be assessed on their presentation skills by means of a public oral presentation on his or her research topic. The presentation must take place in ~~Trinity~~ Hilary Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

(c) Each candidate must submit a written research proposal of no more than 10,000 words on a topic selected by the candidate and approved by the Organising Committee. The proposal must be submitted in ~~Michaelmas~~ Trinity Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

(d) Each candidate must pass an examination during the Long Vacation (normally in September)~~in Michaelmas Term~~. The examination will comprise two elements: the first of these will consist of a one-hour computer-based assessment comprising multiple-choice questions; the second of these will constitute a two-hour written paper. The dates of the examination will be specified in the course handbook.'

3. Ibid., citation reference 1.16, amend the clause as follows:

'8. Candidates will be allowed one opportunity to retake or resubmit each of the required elements, normally within ~~six~~ two months of the original failure, should they fail to reach the necessary standard. Candidates failing to pass any element at the second attempt will normally be judged to have failed to reach the necessary standard for the award and will not be permitted to continue.'

4. Ibid., citation reference 1.19, amend the clause as follows:

'11. The examiners may award a ~~postgraduate diploma~~ Postgraduate Diploma to candidates who have satisfied the requirements for ~~the award of the Postgraduate~~

Diploma (comprising all assessments with the exception of the written research proposal), and who do not wish to continue their studies, or who fail to meet the required standard for the written research proposal.'

Explanatory Notes

1. Since its inception, the course has appointed two academic supervisors for each candidate; this amendment improves the accuracy of the regulations. The other amendments constitute a minor adjustment for clarity, and removal of a reference to the course taking place over a calendar rather than an academic year.
2. These amendments adjust deadlines so that they correspond with an academic year rather than a calendar year.
3. It is preferable for candidates who need to re-take assessments to do so at the earliest opportunity, instead of waiting six months to do so.
4. Since the introduction of the programme, the Postgraduate Diploma has only been intended for use as an exit award from the Master's, rather than as a stand-alone award. The MSc regulations are being clarified to reflect this, and the separate postgraduate diploma regulations are being removed (see regulation change 1415-10-TPT) because they duplicate the existing MSc regulations.

1415-10-TPT

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 28th May 2015

Title of Examination: Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Sciences

Brief note about nature of change: Removal of separate regulations for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Sciences, as the requirements are covered within the special regulations for the MSc of the same name.

Effective date:

Location of change: *Examination Regulations 2014*

Details of change:

In *Examination Regulations, 2014*, delete from l. 1 on p. 916 to l. 25 on p. 917 inclusive.

Explanatory Notes

The Postgraduate Diploma was originally intended to be made available to students only as an exit award from the MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences. It is not a separate course leading to a separate qualification. Hence, separate diploma regulations are unnecessary as the requirements for the exit award are covered within the special regulations for the MSc (see also regulation change 1415-09-TPT).

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 15th July 2015

Title of Examination: MSc in Endovascular Neurosurgery (Interventional Neuroradiology)

Brief note about nature of change:

- (1) To update the regulations for accuracy and amend it to increase clarity.
- (2) To clarify arrangements for setting the deadline for submission of the dissertation and logbook.

Effective date:

- **For all students on course from Michaelmas Term 2015**
- **For first examination from 2015-16**

Location of change:

Examination Regulations 2014-15:

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcien-ineur/studentview/"](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcien-ineur/studentview/) }

MSc in Endovascular Neurosurgery (Interventional Neuroradiology)

Details of change:

1. In Examination Regulations, 2014-15,
<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcien-ineur/studentview/>
 MSc in Endovascular Neurosurgery (Interventional Neuroradiology), amend clause 5 as follows:

‘5. Candidates must be registered with the General Medical Council, hold an appropriate contract with the National Health Service, and have had appropriate experience in Diagnostic Radiology and/or Neurosurgery or Neurology.’

2. Ibid., delete clauses 6, and substitute:

‘6. Each candidate will be required to submit a logbook of 10,000-15,000 words (excluding references, legends and acknowledgements) for examination describing a minimum of 10 cases in which the student has participated in the patient’s diagnosis and/or treatment.’

3. Ibid., amend clause 7 as follows:

‘7. Each candidate will be required to submit a dissertation of no more than 15,000 words (excluding legends and citations) on a subject selected in consultation with the

candidate's supervisor and approved by the Organising Committee. The dissertation may vary from an account of original research work to a survey of the literature. Dissertations which reproduce substantially work submitted in the other written assignments will not be admissible.'

4. Ibid., delete clause 8 and substitute:

'8. Three printed copies of each of the required written submissions (dissertation and log book) must be delivered to the Department, c/o Chair of the Examiners. These must be submitted by a date to be specified by the Organising Committee and which will be published in the student handbook (not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken) as a date that would usually fall after the two week period following the end of the written examinations in Trinity term of the same academic year. Each written submission must be accompanied by a Declaration of Authorship signed by the candidate confirming that it is his or her own work.'

5. Ibid., amend clause 9 as follows:

'9. An oral examination will be held and this may include questions on the candidate's dissertation, logbook, or written examination papers.'

6. Ibid., add clause 11 as follows:

'11. The examiners shall retain two copies of the dissertation of each candidate who passes the examination, for deposit in the departmental library.'

Explanatory Notes

1. To update the regulations for accuracy in line with departmental procedures (change 1, 4 and 5).
2. As from year to year candidates may be assigned a different number of cases to describe in their log books (depending on the number of students in a cohort) it was decided that a 'from-to' word limit prescribed for a log book would be more appropriate to avoid students with a bigger number of cases being penalised for going over the originally prescribed limit of 10,000 words. It was also necessary to clarify which parts of log book are included in the prescribed word limit (change 2).
3. To clarify which parts of dissertation are included in the prescribed word limit (change 3).
4. To update place of submission of the dissertation and log book (in line with current departmental procedures) and to clarify arrangements for setting the deadline for submission of these assignments (change 4).
5. To move a section of examination regulations to a sequentially more appropriate place (change 6).

Medical Sciences Board**Approved:** 16th July 2015**Title of Examination:** MSc in Neuroscience**Brief note about nature of change:**

-To change one of the optional modules into a compulsory module (Journal Club) and to change the requirement for candidates to be examined on five optional modules to four optional modules and one compulsory module (Journal Club).

-To update regulations for accuracy.

Effective date:

- **For all students on course from Michaelmas Term 2015**
- **For first examination from 2015-16**

Location of change:

Examination Regulations 2014-15:

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcourinneur/studentview/>
MSc in Neuroscience

Details of change:

1. In Examination Regulations, 2014-15,
<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcourinneur/studentview/>
MSc in Neuroscience, amend clause 4 (ii) as follows:

‘(ii) each candidate will be required to submit to the examiners either two copies of a typewritten or printed essay of not more than 3,000 words on a topic approved by the Organising Committee in each of the ~~five~~ four modules chosen for study, as set out in the Schedule, or in the case of the modules specified by the Organising Committee one practical notebook in each module chosen for study; candidates must submit their titles for approval by deadlines determined by the Organising Committee and posted in the Gazette no later than the end of the preceding term;’

2. Ibid., at the end of section 4 add clause (v) as follows:

‘(v) each candidate will be required to participate in the compulsory Journal Club and give a presentation.’

3. Ibid., amend section (c) (citation reference 1.33) in the SCHEDULE as follows:

'(c) Specialist neuroscience courses

This will consist of five taught courses consisting of lectures, seminars, practicals, and demonstrations, chosen from a list of courses in neuroscience to be approved annually by the Organising Committee. These will be grouped under three headings: molecular, cellular, and systems, and candidates will be required to choose at least one course under each of the three headings. Details of the courses available in each academic year will be published in the Gazette in the preceding Trinity Term Course Handbook and on the course website not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken.'

Explanatory Notes

Regarding change 1& 2

The suggestion to change Journal Club from an optional to compulsory module came from the students in the course annual feedback meeting. Through the years it became increasingly popular with students because:

- it represents all the other modules so it exposes students to the breadth of Neuroscience;
- it is an excellent educational activity that students who enter academia will use often;
- it involves presentation skills so a different form of learning than essay writing or practical portfolio.

Taking the above into consideration the Course Committee decided that it was appropriate to approve this change.

Regarding change 3

It updates regulations for accuracy in line with departmental procedures.

Medical Sciences Board

Approved at the meeting of the Graduate School Committee on 30 April 2015

Title of Programme:

Master of Science by Coursework in Psychological Research

Brief note about nature of change:

- a. To update the regulations for accuracy.
- b. To make the instructions for submission clearer and to require electronic submission.
- c. To update the regulations to reflect changes to the programme approved by the Medical Sciences Board in Trinity Term 2015, namely removal of the Mini Project.
- d. To amend the assessment of the MatLab to change the word limit of the report to bring it in line with the other submissions for the programme and to introduce a presentation and viva voce assessment for this module.
- e. To move the course requirements previously included in the Examination Conventions into the Examination Regulations.

Effective date:

- For students starting the programme from Michaelmas Term 2015
- For first examination from 2015-16

Location of change

*Examination Regulations 2014-15: { HYPERLINK
"http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinpsycrese/studentview/" }*

Detail of change

In *Examination Regulations 2014-15* { [HYPERLINK](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinpsycrese/studentview/)

"<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinpsycrese/studentview/>" } :

- Delete clause 3, and substitute:

' 3. Each candidate shall follow a course of study in Psychological Research for at least three terms and for a substantial part of the three subsequent vacations, as determined by the course timetable.'

- Delete Clause 4, A, I and substitute:

'I. *Research Evaluation*

Each candidate shall be required to submit two hard copies and one electronic copy of a 2,000 word review of a journal article assigned by the Organising Committee to the Chair of Examiners, MSc in Psychological Research, c/o Examination Schools, Oxford. The deadline for submission shall be notified to students at the start of the course.'

- Delete Clause 4, A, II and substitute:

'II. *Statistical Theory and Methods*

(a) Each candidate shall be required to submit two hard copies and one electronic copy each of the four Statistical Workshop assessments based on data analyses carried out during statistical workshops to the Chair of Examiners, MSc in Psychological Research, c/o Examination Schools, Oxford. The deadline for each submission shall be notified to students at the start of the course.

(b) Each candidate shall also be required to sit a two-hour written examination. The examination will be marked on a pass/fail basis and candidates failing to reach the required standard will have one further opportunity to enter for the examination before the end of the academic year.'

- Delete Clause 4, A, III and substitute:

'III. *MatLab Programming for Experimental Psychology*

Each candidate shall be required to submit one electronic copy of a piece of MatLab code that they have produced, as well as two hard copies and one electronic copy of a report of no more than 3,000 words that explains the code to the Chair of Examiners, MSc in Psychological Research, c/o Examination Schools, Oxford. The deadline for submission shall be notified to students at the start of the course. Each candidate shall make a brief oral presentation of their code to a group of two assessors, after which, the candidate shall be assessed *viva voce* on the code. The form of the presentation to the assessors shall be specified in the course information at the beginning of the academic year of the examination. Candidates who do not give a presentation and do not pass the *viva voce* assessment to a satisfactory standard will be deemed to have failed the module.'

- Delete Clause 4, A, IV and substitute:

IV. Computer Modelling of Brain Function

Each candidate shall be required to submit two hard copies and one electronic copy a portfolio of reports based on practical work completed during the module and an essay of no more than 3,000 words ~~Committee~~ to the Chair of Examiners, MSc in Psychological Research, c/o Examination Schools, Oxford. Essay topics must be approved by the Organising Committee. The deadline for submission shall be notified to students at the start of the course. Candidates who fail to submit a portfolio will be deemed to have failed the module.’.

- Delete Clause 4, A, V and substitute:

V. Project Design

Each candidate shall be required to submit two hard copies and one electronic copy of a 3,000 word review of relevant literature and methods relating to their chosen research project to the Chair of Examiners, MSc in Psychological Research, c/o Examination Schools, Oxford. The deadline for submission shall be notified to students at the start of the course. Each candidate shall make an oral presentation on the methodological aspects of their own research project. Candidates who fail to give a presentation will be deemed to have failed the module.’.

- Delete Clause 4, A, VI
- Delete Clauses 4, B and 4, C and substitute:

B. Optional Modules

Candidates shall be assessed in each of three optional modules, selected from the following list:

I. Philosophical Foundations of Psychology

II. Brain and Cognition

III. Emotion, Personality and Social Behaviour

IV. Language and Development

For each optional module undertaken, candidates shall be required to submit two hard copies and one electronic copy of an essay of no more than 3,000 words to the Chair of Examiners, MSc in Psychological Research, c/o Examination Schools, Oxford. Essay topics must be approved by the Organising Committee. The deadlines for submission shall be notified to students at the start of the course.’.

C. Research Project

Candidates shall be required to submit not later than noon on the first Monday in September, three bound copies and one electronic copy of a typewritten or printed dissertation of not more than 10,000 words in length (excluding bibliography and any

appendices) on his or her research project to the Chair of Examiners, MSc in Psychological Research, c/o Examination Schools, Oxford.

Candidates shall also be required to deliver a poster presentation based on their research project. However, this shall not contribute to the overall result for this module. The date on which candidates are required to deliver their presentations will be in the Long Vacation.'

- Delete clauses 5 and 6, and substitute:

'5. Candidates must achieve a pass in each of the modules in order to pass the examination overall. In the event that a candidate is deemed not to have achieved the required standard in an element of the examination, he or she will have the opportunity to re-submit or re-sit the relevant assessment on one further occasion.

6. Each written submission must be accompanied by a statement signed by the candidate confirming that it is his or her own work.'

- Delete A, VI of the **Schedule**

Explanatory Notes

To make some updates for accuracy and to ensure that the examination regulations and conventions are aligned.

To require an electronic copy of each submission, in anticipation of enabling the Department to use software applications to screen any individual's submitted work for matches either to published sources or to other submitted work.

To update the regulations to reflect changes to the programme which were approved by the Medical Sciences Board in Trinity Term 2015, namely:

- To eliminate the one-term Mini-Project, which has received negative feedback from students for not being of long enough duration and not adding sufficient value, and instead allow students to engage with their major Research Project and to integrate with their group/lab earlier in the course.

The introduction of a presentation and viva voce assessment for the MatLab module will assist the assessors in their understanding of the students' application of the MatLab code.

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 10th July 2015

Title of Examination: MSc in Radiation Biology

Brief note about nature of change:

- (1) To update the regulations for accuracy.
- (2) To clarify the timing of re-sits for each component and to amend submission deadline of the 3,000 word assignment.
- (3) To create a new sub-paragraph for greater clarity.
- (4) To remove redundant (due to the introduced changes) clause.

Effective date:

- **For all students on course from Michaelmas Term 2015**
- **For first examination from 2015-16**

Location of change:

Examination Regulations 2014-15:

{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinradibiol/studentview/) "http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinradibiol/studentview/" }
MSc in Radiation Biology

Details of change:

1. In Examination Regulations, 2014-15,
{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinradibiol/studentview/) "http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/mosbcinradibiol/studentview/" }

MSc in Radiation Biology, delete clause 3, and substitute:

‘3. Each candidate shall follow a course of study in Radiation Biology for at least three terms and for a substantial part of the three subsequent vacations, as determined by the course timetable. The Course Director will provide a list showing the extent to which each candidate has satisfied these requirements.’

2. Ibid., delete clauses 4(i)-4(iii), and substitute:

‘(i) Each candidate must pass a qualifying examination at the end of Michaelmas

Term. The examination shall be on modules 1-6 in the Schedule. Candidates who fail the qualifying examination once shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only in Week 0 of Hilary Term.

(ii) Each candidate will be required to submit to the examiners two copies of a typewritten or printed assignment of 3,000 words by noon, Friday of Week 6 of Hilary Term. A choice of assignment titles will be provided to students by Week 8 of Michaelmas Term. Candidates must pass this assignment in order to proceed with the course. Those who fail the assignment shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only. The assignment should be re-submitted by noon, Friday of Week 8 of Trinity Term. The assignment will account for 15 per cent of the final marks.

(iii) Each candidate must pass a three-hour written examination at the end of Hilary Term (normally in Week 9). The examination shall be on the modules set out in the Schedule. In order to proceed with the course, candidates who fail the examination shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only in Week 0 of Trinity Term. The examination will account for 25 per cent of the final marks.'

3. Ibid., delete clause c. (citation reference 1.11), and substitute:

'c. Each candidate will be examined viva voce by the examiners.

The dissertation, presentation and viva voce will be given a single grade and account for 60 per cent of the final marks. Candidates must pass this component and those who fail this component once shall be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only at the times these elements are examined during the following academic year.'

4. Ibid., delete clause 5 and renumber clauses 6, 7, and 8 accordingly.

Explanatory Notes

1. To update the regulations for accuracy in line with departmental procedures.
2. It has been decided that moving the submission deadline of the extended essay from week 8 to 6 of Hilary Term will benefit both students and examiners. It minimises overlap with revision and revision tutorials towards the written examination (timing outlined in clause 4(iii)) and facilitates marking of exam questions, to enable candidates that have failed to be informed in good time and maximise revision time prior to second attempt.

Timings of re-sits were clarified in response to request issued by the Education Policy Support Section.

3. A new sub-paragraph was created to improve clarity of regulations relating to the component incorporating dissertation, presentation and viva voce examination and to introduce clarification relating to timing of re-sits for this component.
4. Due to the above clarifications of timings for re-sits, clause 5 became redundant.