

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of Education Committee 3rd October 2024

Research Degrees in the Medical Sciences Division

Brief note about nature of change: amendments to numbers of part-time research programmes, and removal of pre-2009 information regarding integrated theses.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2024-25* [2023-24, Research Degrees in the Medical Sciences Division \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Effective date

For students starting from MT24.

Detail of change

Amend citations as follows:

[1.3] *Special provisions for part-time students*

[1.4] In assessing applications from candidates seeking to undertake a research degree through part-time study in Clinical Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, Clinical Medicine, Clinical Neurosciences, Experimental Psychology, Medical Sciences, Molecular and Cellular Medicine, Musculoskeletal Sciences, Oncology, Population Health, Psychiatry, Primary Care Health Sciences, Psychiatry, Translational Health Sciences, and Women's and Reproductive Health, the responsible admitting body shall have regard to evidence that:

7. THESES

~~[1.39] For students admitted prior to 1 October 2009.~~

~~[1.40] A set of scientific papers that concern a common subject may exceptionally constitute an acceptable thesis, but only if with the addition of an introduction, general discussion, and general conclusion they constitute a continuous theme. Joint papers may not be included unless the supervisor certifies the extent of the candidate's own contribution. Joint papers may be included as appendices in a thesis. Approval to submit~~

~~a thesis using this format should be sought from the divisional board (via the Chair, Medical Sciences Graduate School Committee, c/o Medical Sciences Office, Level 3 John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford OX3 9DU) as soon as possible after admission and not later than the date at which the appointment of examiners is requested.~~

The length and scope of theses in each subject area in the Division is set out in the Graduate School Canvas site <https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/22105>. This webpage also provides advice as to how, in exceptional circumstances, permission can be sought from the Board to exceed these word limits.

~~[1.41] Candidates with some published work may also include that as part of a traditional thesis, normally as an appendix.~~

~~[1.42] The length and scope of theses in each subject area in the Division is set out in the Graduate School Canvas site <https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/22105>.~~

Explanatory Notes

The above changes reflect the increase in the number of research programmes the division offers part-time (previously approved). There is also a re-ordering to ensure Psychiatry is in the right place in the list alphabetically.

The pre-2009 information regarding integrated theses is now unnecessary, as a student would need to have both started before MT 2009 and want to submit an integrated thesis (if truly exceptionally this occurred now, reference would be made to Regs from when a student started). The addition of guidance about page lengths and how to apply for an extension is more useful for inclusion in this section.