

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 19th July 2024****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Master of Science by Coursework in International Health and Tropical Medicine

Brief note about nature of change: Integration of the optional module Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health into the Change in International Health module taught as part of the compulsory curriculum, and assessment clarifications.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-2024* [2023-24, Master of Science by Coursework in International Health and Tropical Medicine \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Effective date**For students starting from MT2024**

And

For first examination from 2024-25**Detail of Change****Amend clause 4 of the regulations:**

4. Candidates will be examined in all of the following ways:
- (i) A-Two written examination papers relating to the Paradigms and Tools for Global Health module.
 - (ii) An examination in the form of a 2,000-2,500 word piece of written work, to be completed within 48 hours of receipt of the examination questions, relating to Challenges and Change in International Health, and Global Health Research and Practice.
 - (iii) For all options, of which candidates must take two: a 3,000-4,000-word submission (excluding bibliography, references, tables and figures). The topic of the submission must be selected from a choice of titles approved by the ~~Organising Committee~~ Examination Board and based on the optional modules studied as set out in the Schedule.

- (iv) A type-written dissertation of not more than 10,000 words (excluding references, tables, figures, bibliography and appendices) on the research project as set out in the Schedule below. The research project and the subject of the dissertation must have been approved by the Organising Placement Committee.

Amend the Schedule as follows:

B. *Options*

1. Vaccinology
2. ~~Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health~~
3. International Development and Health
4. Development, Environment and Health
5. Health Innovation and Entrepreneurship
6. Introduction to Mathematical Modelling for Infectious Diseases

Explanatory Notes

Rationale for the above changes are given below:

Removal of an optional module

In the existing MSc IHTM curriculum, teaching on Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) topics is organised in two separate modules, i.e. Challenge and Change in International Health (CCIH) and the RMNCAH option module.

We propose to create one comprehensive Life Course Module as part of the CCIH module.

In this module, we aim to integrate all stages of the life course, i.e. existing RMNCAH topics, as well as old age/aging (so far not included in the MSc IHTM curriculum).

This module would be delivered in Michaelmas Term as a week block of approximately 5 x 7 hrs of teaching, and a requirement for all MSc IHTM students (no longer an option module).

We propose this change to the existing curriculum for the following reasons:

- There is a need to teach ALL students about the challenges and opportunities for RMNCAH, using the life course and continuum of care as overarching frameworks. RMNCAH challenges are particularly complex in low resource settings and necessitate a multisectoral/systems approach.
- A well-planned Life Course week can avoid repetition and overlap of teaching content, improve efficiency, and free up teaching time for new emerging topics in global health.

Clarification of assessment for the Paradigms and Tools for Global Health

This change is a clarification that this module comprises of two parts, Paper 1A and Paper 1B.

Clarification to assessment requirements

This change clarifies that candidates are expected to complete two optional modules. The above changes also incorporate clarifications for approval of submission topic titles and dissertations.