

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved at the meeting of the Graduate School Committee on 27.05.22****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Master of Science by Coursework in Pharmacology

Brief note about nature of change

Amendments to text to reflect a change in format for one assessment and other minor changes

Location of change[2021-22, Master of Science by Coursework in Pharmacology \(ox.c.uk\)](#)**Effective date**

- 1) For students starting from MT 2022
and
- 2) For first examination starting in 2022-23

Detail of change

1. Amend citation 1.7 as follows:

(i) each candidate must pass a computer-based qualifying examination at the end of Michaelmas Term. The test shall consist of multiple choice questions on the topics covered by the Pharmacology Introductory Course, as set out in the Schedule, ~~and must be completed in two and a half hours. Candidates who fail the qualifying examination once shall be permitted to take it again before the end of the Hilary Term of the year of the final examination.~~

2. Amend citation 1.8 as follows:

(ii) each candidate will sit a ~~three-hour~~ theory and data handling and experimental design examination (also known as the quantitative examination) before the end of Hilary term. ~~Candidates who fail once (<50% of the maximum mark) shall be permitted to sit the examination on one further occasion before the end of the Trinity Term of the year of the final examination.~~

3. Delete citations 1.9-1.12

4. After citation 1.8 add:

(iii) each candidate will sit an Advanced Pharmacology paper as a two part examination at the beginning of Trinity Term:

Part A: essay paper on the material covered in the Advanced Pharmacology course;

Part B: critical analysis of a research paper.

(iv) each candidate will be required to complete a dissertation and upload this to the University approved online assessment platform, by dates to be specified by the Organising Committee and which will be published in the *University Gazette* not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken. The dissertation should be of not more than 10,000 words on the research project selected for study as set out in the Schedule.

5. Amend citation 1.13 as follows:

(iv) each candidate will be required to keep a record of practical work using the designated electronic system for review by the examiners.

6. Amend citation 1.14 as follows:

5. Each candidate shall be examined by giving an oral presentation (viva voce) on their research project to the examiners. The viva voce examination will normally be conducted in September in the year in which the candidate is examined on dates to be determined by the examiners.

7. Delete citations 1.17-1.19

Explanatory Notes

1. The name of the essay examination has been changed to the Advanced Pharmacology paper and the assessment is now divided into two parts: in part A, students will have three hours to type 2 essays from a choice of titles drawn from four of the five Advanced Pharmacology course themes. In Part B, students will have three hours to read and critically analyse a research paper, by typing their answers to a series of questions. The research paper will be chosen based on its relevance under the 5th advanced pharmacology theme. Changes have been made to make the assessment format more accessible and more aligned with the intended learning outcomes.
2. Other changes are made to remove information not required in subject-specific Regulations as provisions are already made in General Regulations or details included in the MSc Pharmacology Examination Conventions