

Regulations Governing the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB)

The degrees of the MBChB are conferred as ordinary degrees, but may be conferred with Honours as defined by regulation and as outlined in the Programme Handbook (see point 11 below).

General

1. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (1) The term 'Faculty' means the Committee in the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health which has been duly authorised by Senate from time to time to exercise such discretions as are ascribed to it by these Regulations.
 - (2) "approved", "designated", "permitted" and "prescribed" mean respectively approved, designated, permitted and prescribed by the Faculty.
 - (3) A requirement to attend satisfactorily any course includes a requirement of satisfactory performance in any practical or clinical work which may be prescribed.
2. Candidates are required to enter upon a period of study in the University which:
 - (1) Shall normally extend over five academic years; except that
 - a) Candidates who do not qualify for exemption from the Pre-Medical (Year 0) Examination (as defined by our admissions criteria) shall be required first to present themselves for that examination as prescribed by the regulations relating to that examination;
 - b) Candidates who have satisfactorily attended and completed no less than three years of study in another approved University or other approved institution, may by special permission of the Faculty be excused from such period of attendance and such examinations as the Faculty may determine, provided that the required period of study in this University shall not in any case be less than three academic years;
 - c) Candidates who have been successfully admitted into our 4-year Graduate Entry (GEM) pathway who shall be required to present themselves to the GEM Year Assessments as prescribed by the regulations relating to those assessments prior to then presenting for the Third, Fourth and Fifth year assessments as outlined in section 3 below.
 - (2) Candidates are required to enter upon a period of study in the University which: shall be uninterrupted, except with the special permission of the Faculty but shall not normally exceed seven years from the date of entry. In exceptional circumstances, where appropriate evidence is supplied, the Faculty will consider whether a further short extension may be granted (which shall not normally exceed a further year of study). This excludes the pre-medical year or any intercalated course; study undertaken by candidates entering from another institution for the clinical element of the degree of MBChB (i.e. the final three years) which shall normally extend over three years, and shall not normally exceed five years, from the date of entry, except by special permission of the Faculty. Those students admitted via our Graduate Entry pathway shall not normally exceed six years, from the date of entry, except by special permission of the Faculty.

3. The prescribed examinations for the degrees of MBChB shall be
 - (1) The Undergraduate Foundation (Year 0) Assessments
 - (2) The First Year Assessments
 - (3) The Second Year Assessments
 - (4) The GEM year Assessments (Graduate Entry Pathway only)
 - (5) The Third Year Assessments
 - (6) The Fourth Year Assessments
 - (7) The Fifth Year Assessments.

Notes:

- (1) Before being admitted to the examination, candidates must have attended satisfactorily approved courses of study extending over one or more academic year(s) in the subjects of the examination.
 - (2) The approved courses of study leading to each examination under these regulations in any academic session will be determined annually by the MBChB Programme Committee¹ and will be published in the relevant Programme Handbook.
 - (3) The form of each examination under these regulations, including the grouping together of subjects in the papers and the scope, number and duration of the papers to be set, in any academic session will be determined annually by the MBChB Programme Committee¹ and will be published in the relevant Programme Handbook.
 - (4) The examination shall normally be in part written, in part practical and in part oral, unless determined otherwise by the Examiners.
 - (5) For the purposes of the Medical Act:
 - a) the Fifth Year Examination shall be so arranged and conducted as to be a qualifying examination held for the purpose of granting a primary United Kingdom qualification.
 - b) the standard of proficiency required from candidates in the Fifth Year Examination shall be such as has been determined by the General Medical Council's Outcome for Graduates recommendations.
 - c) before they may complete the Fifth Year Examination candidates must have undertaken approved medical studies for a period of not less than four academic years.
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4. In any examination for the degrees of MBChB the examiners shall have regard to the record of the work of candidates during the whole of the course so far completed. Candidates whose attendance of the compulsory elements of the programme (as detailed in the Programme Handbook) is less than 80% may be refused permission to sit the prescribed examinations for the degree of MBChB.
 5. A candidate who has not satisfied the examiners in any prescribed MBChB examination or in any part thereof at his/her second opportunity² shall not thereafter be admitted to courses and examinations in the MBChB Programme except by permission of the Senate.
 6. Candidates who are permitted either by these regulations or by special permission of the Faculty to present themselves again for a prescribed examination or any part thereof may be required before doing so to satisfy the examiners that they have satisfactorily attended such revision courses of study and/or gained such further practical and/or clinical experience as may be prescribed.

¹ Or its equivalent

² An "opportunity" shall be interpreted as "an occasion on which the examination is held".

7. A student should not normally progress to the next academic year of the programme until all progression criteria for their current year of study³ are met.
8. Candidates may be excluded from the MBChB Programme on the recommendation of the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health Fitness to Practise Committee, on the grounds of any health or conduct that may render the student a person not fit to be admitted to and practise as a medical professional.
9. For a candidate to be awarded the degree of MBChB they should have satisfactorily completed all elements of the Programme from point of entry and have no outstanding professionalism concerns requiring an outcome at Concerns Review Panel or Fitness to Practice Committee. Candidates who do not fulfil these requirements may qualify for an alternative exit award as detailed in the MBChB Programme Specification.
10. The Programme will award the degree MBChB with Honours to graduating final year students who have demonstrated consistent academic excellence across their assessments. The criteria for this will be set out in the Programme Handbook and may be subject to change by decision of the MBChB Programme Committee.

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³ As defined in the Programme Handbook