



INTERCALATED BSc DEGREE PROGRAMME FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

REGULATIONS

Regulations for the Intercalated Degree of BSc in the College of Medicine, Biological Sciences and Psychology

- I. With the approval of the BSc Intercalated Degree Committee, students registered for the Degrees of MBChB may intercalate one year of additional study leading to the BSc Degree in the College of Medicine, Biological Sciences & Psychology. The additional year of study should be taken after completion of the second or third year of the course for the MBChB. Applications from external students who wish to intercalate at the University of Leicester will be considered, but only a limited number of places on a selection of the BSc courses and research projects in the College of Medicine, Biological Sciences and Psychology are available. Students who have not passed the examinations for the parts of the MBChB course that they have taken at Leicester, or equivalent at the respective external institution, will not be given permission to take the BSc Degree.
- II. The decision regarding who will be accepted for an intercalated BSc is made by the BSc Intercalated Committee taking into account the student's academic record, the nature of the any project they want to do, the view of the potential supervisor and a reference from the Personal Tutor. Physical/mental health issues or professionalism issues that the student has had on the medical course to date are not relevant to this decision and are not available to the Committee. Once the Committee has made its decision, it will send the list of students with their project (where relevant) and supervisor to the Head of Medical School who will then send the list to the Chair of the Professionalisms Concern Group who will ensure that any students who need continuing professionalism support during their iBSc year will receive it. The Chair of PCG will ensure that the student's BSc supervisor is aware of the need for professionalism support. The Student Support Lead will ensure that students who may need continuing pastoral support during their iBSc year will receive it.
- III. the course for the degree of BSc will extend over forty weeks.
- IV. to be admitted to the degree of BSc, a student shall have either:
 - a) attended an approved course of instruction and have satisfied the examiners in the examination prescribed for the course (BSc in Biomedical Science (Intercalated) and BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated)),

OR

 - b) undertaken supervised study and research in an approved field, having a satisfactory report from the supervisor, and have satisfied the examiners by means of a poster presentation, dissertation, and an oral examination. The examiners shall take into account such factors as the candidate's originality, clarity of expression, analysis of data, and understanding of the general implications of the study (BSc in Medical Research (Intercalated)). (See below for detailed notes).
- V. examinations for the degree (BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated) and BSc in Biomedical Science(Intercalated)) will be held at the end of each module. Examinations for BSc in Medical Research (Intercalated) will be held at the end of the year of

additional study. A student may normally sit the *viva voce* examination for BSc in Medical Research (Intercalated) once only. There is no appeals procedure within the College. However, there is an academic appeals procedure within the University. An academic appeal is a procedure which allows the student in certain circumstances to ask for a review of a decision relating to his or her academic progress or award.

VI Grounds for Appeal

The student may not appeal if his or her results are not as good as s/he had hoped or worse than s/he believe they deserved. Appeals which simply challenge the academic judgement of internal or external examiners or the Board of Examiners are not permitted. The grounds for appeal are given in the Regulations <http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/appeals-complaints/appeals>

VII the BSc degree in the College of Medicine, Biological Sciences & Psychology may be awarded with honours or as a pass degree. The names of successful candidates will be arranged in five divisions; first class honours; second class honours in two divisions; third class honours; and pass.

These Regulations and Notes for Guidance for the BSc Intercalated Degree are in conjunction with the Regulations for undergraduate taught courses.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in these notes. However, changes and developments are part of the life of the University and alterations may occur.



INTERCALATED BSc DEGREE PROGRAMME for MBChB STUDENTS

NOTES FOR STUDENTS, SUPERVISORS, MENTORS AND EXAMINERS

1. The BSc Intercalated Degree Committee and Board of Examiners

A Committee, appointed by the College Academic Committee, is responsible to the CAC for co-ordinating all aspects of the BSc Programme, for monitoring its effectiveness and for recommending the admission of students to the intercalated year of study. It also functions as a Board of Examiners to review the recommendations of all the examiners at the end of the academic year. Its current membership consists of a balance of clinicians and non-clinicians and the size of membership is between 12 and 16. The Committee includes a Chair and the Chair of the Board of Examiners. The Head of the Medical School is an *ex-officio* member. NHS staff with University honorary contracts are eligible for membership. The Committee structure is broadly representative of the departments likely to participate in the programme.

2. Outline of BSc Intercalated Programmes

BSc in Medical Research (Intercalated)

Under this programme a student undertakes independent study and research in a clearly defined area, under the aegis of a department of the College of Medicine, Biological Sciences & Psychology. The BSc Intercalated Degree Committee will accept students under this programme only when they are satisfied with

- the scientific validity of the project
- the adequacy of the supervisory arrangements
- the academic performance of the student
- the feasibility of the project within the time and resources available

Proposals need to be submitted for consideration by the Committee (see below). These will be completed by the proposed supervisor working with the student and need to be approved by the Head of Department. Any collaborative and tutorial arrangements proposed should be specified in the submission.

Students studying under BSc in Medical Research (Intercalated) will be assigned a mentor who has a role in supporting the student over the academic year.

BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated)

All students will take a common 'stem' module worth 30 credits on 'Research Methods in Medicine and Health Sciences', after which they will take additional modules worth a total of 50 credits in one of a small number of 'branches'. The final module will comprise a dissertation, worth 40 credits, on a topic drawn from the chosen branch.

Students studying under BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated) will be assigned a personal tutor who has a role in supporting the student over the academic year.

BSc in Biomedical Science (Intercalated)

A student takes a number of courses in departments within the College of Medicine, Biological Sciences & Psychology which ordinarily offer BSc courses - for example, four course units equal in content to those taken in each half-session of the third year of the single subject Biological Sciences degree - together with a research project (equivalent to two course units). With the permission of the Head of the Department and the Committee, students may choose third year courses offered by those departments in the School of Biological Sciences. In exceptional circumstances it may be possible for a student to select a second-year course unit, where it is clearly helpful for the overall course content. In the final examination the student sits the appropriate examination paper for each of the four course-unit papers, and will also submit a report on the research project.

Students studying under BSc in Biomedical Science (Intercalated) will be assigned a personal tutor who has a role in supporting the student over the academic year.

For External Students

The iBSc Programmes in Leicester are open to medical students from other medical schools within the UK who have successfully completed two or three years of the medical curriculum.

In the first instance, students should consult the iBSc website to see the choice of modules available (BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated) and BSc in Biomedical Science (Intercalated)), and details of available projects (BSc in Medical Research (Intercalated)). (The projects will have all received approval before being advertised). Students should then submit the appropriate application form electronically by the advertised date (2nd Friday in January), along with the supporting documentation (academic reference, transcript of marks to date, and a letter of permission from their home medical school). Completed forms should be returned to the Student Programmes Office by electronic submission no later than the 2nd Friday in January. A reference from the personal tutor is also required together with a transcript and a letter from the student's home institution, giving permission to take an intercalated degree in Leicester.

9. Method of Assessment

BSc in Medical Research (Intercalated)

The student's academic achievements will be assessed on the basis of a poster presentation, a report and mark from the supervisor, a written dissertation and an oral examination (viva voce). The student will be encouraged to present a report on his/her project to a staff seminar before completing his/her dissertation.

BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated)

The BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated) students will be required to take all the assessments for the stem component. The assessment and classification of the degree is in accordance with Senate Regulation 5 (Regulations governing undergraduate programmes of study) except in two small aspects. In the intercalated BSc, the MBChB course provides the equivalent of the first two years of study towards the degree and the marking for the MBChB does not lend itself to a two-year weighted classification.

For BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated), only the marks from the one-year programme are used to determine the degree classification.

Our other minor variation is that should any student be unsatisfactory in the 30-credit module 'Introduction to Research in Medicine and Health Sciences' they will be given the opportunity to continue on the iBSc in the expectation that their overall performance will be adequate for them to achieve the degree for which they are registered. The component marks for all parts of the BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated) will be numerical, so that determination of the final degree classification will follow Senate regulation 5.30 in all other respects. In line with usual practice, the module leader for each component of the BSc in Clinical Sciences (Intercalated) will have the role of moderator.

BSc in Biomedical Science (Intercalated)

Students will undertake taught modules, equivalent to 80 credits and a research project weighted at 40 credits which should represent 300 hours of work. For the project, students will submit an abstract not exceeding 500 words and a project report that should not be longer than 8,000 words for Experimental reports or 12,000 words for Analytical reports. Students will be required to submit an electronic copy of their report, which will be subjected to plagiarism detection software. The project assessment will be based on the performance in the project work (25% or 15% of the project mark for experimental or analytical projects, respectively), an oral presentation (15%) and the report itself (60% or 70% of the project mark for experimental or analytical projects, respectively).

Alternative assessment schemes will be considered by the Committee for students taking their BSc in Biomedical Science (Intercalated) outside the School of Biological Sciences.