



ST GEORGE'S, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Regulations for the BSc (Honours) Degree Physiotherapy

Academic Year 2023-24

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1. Degree Title

The degree shall be known as the BSc Honours degree in Physiotherapy of St George's Hospital Medical School, a constituent College of the University of London.

2. Responsible Committee

The Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee within the Centre for Allied Health shall be responsible to the Senate of SGUL for the structure, content and delivery of the degree programme.

3. Entrance Requirements for academic year 2023-24

3.1 Age

Candidates will normally have attained the age of eighteen years by the start of the programme. Younger applicants are welcomed and their qualifications will be considered in line with the SGUL Under 18' Admissions and Support Policy.

3.2 English Language:

If English is not the applicant's first language, evidence of proficiency must be provided. If other academic qualifications are not deemed as sufficient evidence, the applicant must pass the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with 7.0 overall and 7.0 in the Written and Speaking Element and a minimum of 6.5 in the reading and listening element. We allow applicants to sit an English Language Test twice in the current academic year. (We also accept Pearsons Test and Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English)

3.3 Academic

3.3.1 Graduate Qualifications

3.3.1.1 Foundation Degree.

Applicants are required to achieve a minimum overall score of 75% in a related subject.

3.3.1.2 Undergraduate and Postgraduate Degrees

2:2 or higher in a related subject or, 2:1 or higher in an unrelated subject.

GCSE requirements do not need to be met in the case of applying with an Undergraduate (or post-graduate degree)

If the degree was completed more than 5 years ago, applicants may still apply provided they have successfully completed a 'recognised programme of study' within the last 5 years.

3.4 Pre-University Qualifications

Applicants must have completed their most recent qualification within the last 5 years. Applicants must meet the following academic requirements:

3.4.1 GCSEs or equivalent:

3.4.1.1 GCSEs Grades 4-9. English Language, Maths and Science must be Grade 4 or better. International equivalents will be considered.

3.4.2 Other qualifications:

3.4.2.1 A Levels

Applicants must achieve ABB in three A Level subjects. Applicants are advised that Sciences and Physical Education may be helpful but are not essential. General studies are not considered.

3.4.2.2 Adjusted A-Level criteria:

Applicants attending a non-selective state school or college in England may be eligible to receive an adjusted A Level offer two grades lower than the standard offer. Applicants must meet all other academic and non-academic criteria and attend interview. Applicants will be considered if their grades are at least 60% better than their school's average

3.4.2.3 Irish Leaving Certificate:

Applicants are required to achieve grades A2, A2, B2, B2, B2, at higher level including English and Maths.

3.4.2.3 International Baccalaureate

Applicants must achieve an overall score of 34 with a minimum 16 points at Higher Level. At Standard Level, a minimum score of 5 must be achieved in Maths and English (if the applicant does not also hold a GCSE in Maths and English at Grade 4 or above).

3.4.2.4 Cambridge Pre-U Diploma

Applicants taking the overall Diploma, we will consider an overall score of 64 with no subject less than M2.

3.4.2.5 Access courses

Applicants are required to achieve the full 60 credit Access diploma in a related subject. Of the 45 Graded credits, at least 30 must be at Distinction and the rest Merit. Access applicants must also hold GCSE Maths and English at Grade 4 or better (or equivalent).

3.4.2.6 Birkbeck College qualifications

We will consider the Birkbeck Certificate in Life Sciences for Subjects Allied to Medicine (Certificate of Higher Education). Applicants are expected to achieve 75% or above overall.

3.4.2.7 BTEC Extended National Diploma

Extended National Diploma with overall grades DDD (Distinction, Distinction, Distinction)

3.4.2.8 Scottish Highers and Advanced Highers

Five B grades at Higher Level including English Language, Maths and Science.
ABB at Advanced Higher Level.

3.5 International Qualifications

ALL International qualifications will be considered. Any qualification which is deemed to be equivalent will be considered to meet the academic requirements. The admissions team will use UK NARIC to assess International Qualifications for equivalency.

3.6 Recognition of Prior Learning / Advanced Standing and Credit Transfer

3.6.1 RPL is laid out in the SGUL Regulations. Applicants may be admitted to the second or third year of study with a maximum credit transfer equivalent to 50% of a programme for all courses. Please consult the SGUL Regulations for more details.

3.6.2 Where credit for the course is derived via RPL all of the study – including the study that led to the RPL credit – must be completed within the maximum period of registration associated with the award.

3.6.3 Where credit for the course is derived via RPL, those credits shall not contribute towards the calculation of the classification of the award.

3.8 Non-academic Requirements

3.8.1 Occupational Health

3.8.2 Candidates accepted onto healthcare courses are required to pass occupational health screening. When admitting candidates to study and practise as a health practitioner, St George's has an obligation to both the patients they will encounter and to the individual student. Candidates who are concerned about a health issue are strongly advised to contact the Occupational Health Team at St George's prior to applying. All offers of places at St George's/Kingston University are made subject to satisfactory health clearance and an agreement to undergo appropriate blood tests and immunisations.

3.8.2.1 All candidates will be asked to be immunised against Hepatitis B for personal safety. If an offer is made to an applicant, a confidential health questionnaire and further information about the process of screening for Hepatitis B will be sent. Occupational Health will provide and pay for vaccination to those who are not immunised or have not completed their Hepatitis B vaccination.

3.8.3 Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

3.8.3.1 As this course will include work with children and vulnerable adults, all applicants will be required to have an enhanced DBS disclosure. More information about this process will be sent to applicants as part of the Admissions process.

4. Admissions Policy

4.1 The policies governing admission to the degree shall be formulated and kept under review by the Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee and the Faculty Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee (QAEC). These policies shall be made in accordance with St George's Equal Opportunities Policy and Statement on Students with Disabilities.

5. Minimum Period of Registration

5.1 Without prejudice to the provisions above, the minimum period of registration for the award of the degree shall be 33 months and the maximum period of registration shall be 60 months.

5.2 It is recognised that some students begin a programme with previously-obtained credit. Where a student begins their studies with a significant amount of credit that is recognised prior learning (RPL) they may take less time than the minimum period of registration.

5.3 Students that have not successfully completed their study within the set maximum period set on the date of their first enrolment will be ineligible for their final award.

5.4 The maximum period of registration is not increased automatically due to periods of absence, repeat years and any deferral of assessment due to mitigating circumstances. The maximum period of registration takes precedence over any right to reassessment.

5.5 Students may apply for an extension to their maximum period of registration in line with the course regulations on the basis of mitigating circumstances. These will need to be approved by a mitigating circumstances panel and ratified by the Board of Examiners. The mitigating circumstances process is set out in the Scheme of Assessment.

6 Course Design and Content

6.1 The Academic Year

6.1.1 The academic years are divided into three terms:

Year 1		Year 2		Year 3	
Term 1	12 weeks	Term 1	16 weeks	Term 1	17 weeks
Term 2	12 weeks	Term 2	13 weeks	Term 2	12 weeks
Term 3	8 weeks	Term 3	8 weeks	Term 3	9 weeks

6.2 The Modular System

6.2.1 The course consists of 14 academic modules. Students must successfully complete 120 credits of learning in each of the three years, giving a total of 360 credits for the whole programme. A single credit shall represent 10 hours of student endeavour. Modules are 15, 20 or 30-credits. To achieve the award of BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy, students must successfully complete all modules unless RPL has been applied for specific module credits.

6.2.2 All modules shall be taught during a single academic year.

6.2.3 The total number of modules contained within the degree programme shall be 14.

6.3 Course Modules

6.3.1 The modules taught and the weighting of those modules shall be as follows:

Code	Name	Level	Credits
TBC	Essentials for Allied Health Professionals	4	30
TBC	Principles of Physiotherapy Assessment	4	30
TBC	Pathology Health Promotion and Rehabilitation	4	30
TBC	Factors Influencing Professional Practice	4	30
Total credits for year 1			120
TBC	Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy	5	20
TBC	Neurological Physiotherapy	5	20
TBC	Cardiorespiratory Physiotherapy	5	20
TBC	Evaluation and Research	5	30
TBC	Reflective Practice (placements 1 and 2)	5	30
Total credits for year 2			120
TBC	Complex Management	6	30
TBC	Research Project	6	30
TBC	Critical Practice (placements 3, 4 and 5)	6	30
TBC	Quality and Innovation in Health and Social Care	6	15
TBC	Personalised Professional Development	6	15
Total credits for year 3			120
Overall Credits			360

6.3.2 Two practice placements within the second year will fall within the 30 credit “Reflective Practice – Placements 1 and 2” module. These placements will be assessed at level 5 using the Common Placement Assessment Form (CPAF) for Physiotherapy students.

6.3.3 Three placements within the third year will fall within the 30 credit “Critical Practice – Placements 3, 4 and 5” module. These placements will be assessed at level 6 using the London and the Southeast Area Partnership (LSEAP) physiotherapy practice placements assessment form.

6.3.4 Students are required to experience a broad range of placements which are representative of the current scope of graduate physiotherapy practice (which may include but is not limited to acute, non-acute and community care, older peoples' services, cardio-respiratory, neurological, musculoskeletal).

7 Assessment

7.1 Forms of Assessment

Assessment shall take various forms. Written examinations shall include short answer and multiple choice exams. Practical examinations shall include interactive practical examinations (IPE) and objective structured practical examinations (OSPE). Continuous assessment may include extended essays, reviews, reports, research proposals, seminar and oral presentations, poster presentations, practice placement assessments, reflective portfolios, critical reviews, research projects, peer and self assessments.

7.2 Timing of Assessments

Assessments shall be distributed throughout the year in order to moderate the students' workload. Detailed information on the timing of assessments can be found in the Scheme of Assessment.

8. Scheme of Assessment

The Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee in Physiotherapy shall prescribe a Scheme of Assessment for each component part of the degree course in accordance with Regulation 7 of the General Regulations for Students and Programmes of Study.

Please see the **Scheme of Assessment**

9. Rules for Progression

Please see the **Scheme of Assessment**

10. Re-entry to Assessments

Please see the **Scheme of Assessment**

11. Award of Degree

To qualify for the award of the degree, students must complete all the course requirements and must pass all modules. The marks from Year Two and Year Three assessments only will contribute to the final classification of the degree in accordance with the Scheme of Assessment.

12. Classification of Honours

The relationship between grades, marks and their interpretation in the award of honours classifications is set out in the **Scheme of Assessment**

13. Date of Award

The date of the award of the degree shall be the date of the Board of Examiners meeting at which the award is conferred.

14. Course Syllabus

A detailed syllabus for each component part of the degree course shall be prescribed by the Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee and shall be published to staff and students.

15. Intermediate Awards

Please see the **Scheme of Assessment**

16. Constitution of the Board of Examiners

16.1 Appointment and Accountability

The Board of Examiners for the BSc (Honours) Degree in Physiotherapy is appointed by the Senate for each academic year (starting 1 October) to conduct examinations for that degree at St George's in accordance with the Regulations and the Schemes of Assessment for that course.

16.2 Membership

The Board shall consist of:

- a. A Chair who shall be an Internal Examiner
- b. At least two further Internal Examiners
- c. At least two External Examiners

16.3 Appointment of the Board

16.3.1 In October of each year the Vice Chancellor, acting on the advice of the Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee, shall nominate the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Board.

To be eligible for nomination, a person must be a member of the academic staff of SGUL and have at least three years' experience of examining. These nominations shall be confirmed by the Senate in April.

16.3.2 Each year the Academic Registrar shall invite the Undergraduate Course Committee for Physiotherapy to nominate Internal Examiners and External Examiners for the coming academic year.

16.3.3 To be eligible for nomination as an Internal Examiner, a person must be a member of the academic staff of SGUL or hold an honorary academic appointment.

16.3.4 To be eligible for nomination as an External Examiner, a person must be a member of the academic staff of another university or equivalent institution or hold an honorary teaching appointment with that university or institution and must have at least three years' experience of examining within their own institution. Nominations as External Examiners should not be made unless it has first been ascertained that they are in principle willing and able to serve. An External Examiner may not serve on the Board for more than four consecutive years and after retiring from membership shall not be eligible to serve again until a period of five years has elapsed.

16.3.5 Nominations for External Examiner must be approved by Senate following scrutiny at the QAEC.

16.3.6 The complete list of the nominated Board shall be forwarded by the Academic Registrar to the Senate in July for appointment.

16.3.5.6 Following confirmation by the Senate, letters of appointment shall be sent by the Academic Registrar to all members of the Board, with the relevant Scheme(s) of Assessment, Instructions for Marking, dates of examinations, and advice as to the duties of examiners.

16.4 Duties of Examiners and Conduct of Examinations

16.4.1 The General Regulations for Students and Programmes of Study of St George's, and the Schemes of Assessment for each stage of the degree, detail the duties of examiners and the rules for the conduct of the examinations.

16.4.2 Assessors may be appointed by the Chair of the Board to assist with the setting of examinations or the marking of candidates' work. Assessors need not be members of staff of SGUL and are not members of the Board but shall be invited to meetings of the Board where they may speak but not vote.

16.5 Meetings of the Board

16.5.1 At the conclusion of examinations for each stage, the Board shall meet to determine the results for that stage. These meetings shall be chaired by the Chair of the Board or, in their unavoidable absence, by the nominee of the Vice Chancellor.

16.5.2 Except in the most extreme situations (e.g. in an emergency where the results of an examination are likely to be seriously prejudiced) the Board is not empowered to alter examination protocols including Schemes of Assessment but only to recommend amendment to the Undergraduate Course Committee in Physiotherapy and Senate.

16.5.3 Any emergency amendments to procedures will be reported to the Senate.