

ST GEORGE'S, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

MRes IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE – REGULATIONS FOR PROGRAMME OF STUDY FOR STUDENTS ENTERING IN 2024 AND ONWARDS

1. The programme of study shall lead to the award of the MRes in Biomedical Science with the suffixes (Infection and Immunity, Antimicrobial Resistance, Clinical Biomedical Research, Molecular Mechanisms of Cancer, Reproduction and Development) of the University of London.

2. Course management

2.1 The MRes Biomedical Science Course Committee is responsible for the programme of study. Quality monitoring of the programme is the responsibility of the Taught Postgraduate Courses Committee.

2.2 The Course Committee will be chaired by the Course Director. The Director of Academic Administration (Postgraduate) or his/her nominee will act as secretary to the Committee. Membership will include the Chair of the Board of Examiners and module leaders from each of the specialist pathways. A representative will be nominated each year by the students and entitled to attend sessions of unreserved business. The Course Committee will meet at least once a term. Minutes will be forwarded to TPCC.

3. Entry requirements

Entry requirements for the programme are a first degree in an appropriate subject with a classification of at least class 2 division (ii) or an equivalent overseas qualification. Degrees should normally have been obtained within the last five years. Applicants with non-standard entry qualifications may be considered for entry at the discretion of the Course Director. Applicants who do not have an undergraduate degree but are currently medical students who have successfully completed 360 credits (or equivalent) including at least 120 credits at Level 6 (or equivalent) of their medical degree are also eligible to apply. They must also have permission to apply for an intercalated MRes from the Course Director of their medical degree.

4. Admissions

The Course Committee shall agree and from time to time prescribe changes to the admissions policy. The Course Director is responsible for determining who is eligible for admission to the programme within this policy.

5. Exemptions

5.1 Academic Credit transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is permitted.

5.2 Applications for credit transfer will be reviewed in relation to Masters Level 7 learning where this has been undertaken within the previous five years prior to registration at St George's University of London and which is directly related to the enrolled programme of study.

5.3 Claims for credit transfer are limited from a minimum of 15 Level 7 credits to a maximum of 60 Level 7 credits. Credit transfer does not exempt students from participation in module / programme activity.

5.4 Application will be reviewed by a panel comprising the Course Directors, a member of Course Committee, including Pathway Leaders as available, the Director of Academic Administration (Postgraduate), and a nominated Administrative Clerk.

5.5 The module credits from the Research Methods, Statistics, Practical Data Analysis and Research Project Planning and Management from the Healthcare Research Skills and Methods PgCert are

directly transferrable.

6. Period of study

The minimum period of study shall be 12 months full-time. The maximum period of study shall be 36 months full-time. A student who wishes to request an extension to the maximum period of study shall do so in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Senate (see 4.13 *General Regulations*)

7. Course structure

The structure of the programme is as follows:

Two core modules

Research Methods	15 credits
Research Project Planning & Management	15 credits

One optional module to be chosen from

Statistics	15 credits
Practical Data Analysis	15 credits
Global Governance for Health	15 credits
Case Studies in Drug Discovery and Development	15 credits
Clinical Trials	15 credits

One specialist module

One to be chosen from those set out in the course handbook for the relevant years of study	30 credits
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Research project

105 credits

8. Assessment

8.1 The course assessment will be weighted as follows:

Taught module assessments	41.3%
Research project	58.6%

8.2 Course work assignments will be prescribed for taught modules. Submission deadlines will be specified in the course handbooks. Module coordinators shall prescribe the topics and guidelines for each assignment and communicate these to students.

8.3 A written examination will take place (online and onsite) for the module in Statistics. It will be a 85 minutes of unseen paper evaluating topics covered during the module.

8.4 The dissertation will be submitted by August. This will take the form of a 15,000-25,000 word report on the research project conducted during the course.

8.5 An attendance requirement of 75% at taught sessions is specified.

9. The Course Committee shall agree, and from time to time make changes to, a scheme of assessment for the course.

10. Students are required to make a serious attempt at the assessments specified in 8 above. Course work must be submitted by the deadlines specified in the course handbook unless written permission for an extension is given. The Board of Examiners will determine at the end of the year whether a student's progress is sufficient to merit award of the degree.

11. Re-entry to assessments

11.1 Students are entitled to two attempts at each assessment.

11.2 Course work must normally be re-submitted within four weeks of receiving an initial fail mark. Marks for re-submitted course work are limited to bare pass (50%). Students are required to pass each of the taught modules to complete the course. Students who persistently fail to submit course work by the deadlines specified may have their registration terminated.

11.3 Students who fail an optional module after two attempts are permitted to replace the module with an alternative module (see 10.10 General Regulations) subject to still meeting programme structure requirements. Substitution of compulsory research or core mandatory modules is not permitted. Students will have to pay an additional fee for the alternative module. Students who fail the formal written examination in Statistics at first attempt will be able to re-sit on one occasion. Marks for re-sit examinations will be limited to bare pass (50%).

11.4 Students who fail the dissertation at first attempt will be permitted to re-submit the dissertation on one occasion at a date determined by the Board of Examiners. Marks for the re-submission of the research project will be limited to the bare pass (50%). Students who fail the dissertation at second attempt will fail the degree, irrespective of marks gained in other assessments but may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate at the Examiners' discretion.

12. Award

12.1 Candidates for the award of the degree must:

- obtain a pass mark in each of the taught modules
- pass the dissertation
- complete the attendance requirement satisfactorily
- within the maximum registration period specified.

12.2 Candidates who achieve 60 credits, but do not complete the research project may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Biomedical Science at the Examiners' discretion.

12.3 Candidates who pass the Research Project module (105 credit) and the Research Methods module (15 credit) thus achieve 120 credits, but do not complete other taught modules may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Biomedical Science at the Examiners' discretion.

13. Distinctions and Merits

Criteria for the award of distinctions and merits will be specified in the scheme of assessment. Outright distinctions will be awarded to candidates obtaining overall average of >70%.

14. The date of the award of the qualification to successful students will be the date of the Board of Examiners meeting at which their final result is determined.

15. The detailed arrangements for the course and overall course plan will be published each year in the course handbook. Detailed syllabuses for each module will be published in module handbooks.

16. Board of Examiners

16.1 A Board of Examiners shall be appointed annually to serve from Mid-September for 12 months with membership agreed by the Course Committee. The membership shall include the Course Director, Chair of the Board (who shall not be the Course Director) and at least three internal examiners (as defined in General Regulations 8.2.1.) deemed appropriate. At least one external

examiner will be appointed each year as a member of the Board. Assessors may be invited to attend the Board where appropriate. The Director of Academic Administration (Postgraduate) or his/her nominee shall act as secretary to the Board.

16.2 The Board of Examiners shall have the power to determine all final marks awarded to students, to decide on students' progression within the course, to decide on the award of degrees, certificates, merits and distinctions and to make recommendations concerning changes to the scheme of assessment where necessary. The Board of Examiners shall meet at least once a year to fulfil these purposes.

17. Students enrolled on this programme are bound by the General Regulations in force at the time.