

**INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL AND BIOMEDICAL ALLIED EDUCATION and the CENTRE FOR ALLIED
HEALTH (IMBAE)**

ST GEORGE'S, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Regulations for the MSc in Physiotherapy (pre-registration)

Version 1 - Academic Year 2020-21 (reviewed 2024)

(These regulations were approved by the Chair of Senate on **XXXXX**)



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1. Degree Title

The degree shall be known as the MSc in Physiotherapy (pre-registration) 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 of Allied Health, shall be responsible to the Senate of SGUL for the structure, content and delivery of the degree programme.

3. Entrance Requirements

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:

3.2.1 If English is not the applicant's first language, he or she must sit and pass the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with 7.0 overall and 7.0 in the Written Element (with no other section less than 6.5).

3.2.2 Applicants who have sat the IELTS test more than twice in one year will not be considered.

3.2.3 Test certificates should be dated within the last two years to be considered valid. Applicants will only be permitted to submit two test attempts undertaken within a 12-month period

3.3 Academic

3.3.1 Graduate qualifications:

3.3.1.1 Applicants are required to have obtained a minimum 2:1 honours degree in a subject related area such as Biological or Behavioural Science, Sports Science, Physiology, Health Science or Health Related Profession and ideally contain human anatomy and physiology within its programme of study.

3.3.1.2 Applicants who obtain lower than 2:1 honours undergraduate degree, or have completed their undergraduate degree outside a five-year period including the year of application, will be considered if their application is supported by another master's degree or doctorate in a related subject behavioural or biological science,



sports science, physiological, health science or health profession. These applicants are required to obtain a merit/distinction at master's level or a doctorate.

3.3.1.3 Those degrees that do not contain human anatomy and physiology may be required to complete an Open University Anatomy and Physiology module, recommended by the university, over the summer period prior to commencing the course.

3.3.1.4 Experience of the research process and/or completion of an undergraduate dissertation is essential.

3.4 Pre-university Qualifications

3.4.1 GCSE or equivalent

3.4.1.1 All entry qualifications must be completed within a five year period including year of application. If the last academic qualification is over the five year limit, then a further period of study will be required.

3.4.1.2 Professional or work based qualifications are not considered to be academic and therefore these are not acceptable for entry.

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.

3.6 Recognition of Prior Learning / Advanced Standing and Credit Transfer

In accordance with the SGUL regulations, there is no facility for applicants to transfer credits or receive Recognition of Prior Learning when undertaking the MSc Physiotherapy (pre-registration)

3.7 Non-academic Requirements

3.7.1 Occupational Health

3.7.1.1 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 University London are made subject to satisfactory health clearance and an agreement to undergo appropriate blood tests and immunisations.



3.7.1.2 All candidates will be asked to be immunised against Hepatitis B for personal safety. If an offer is made to by the Centre 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.

3.7.2 Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

3.7.2.1 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

The policies governing admission to the degree shall be formulated and kept under review by the Taught Post-Graduate Courses Committee. 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 22 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 | |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| Term 1 | 17 weeks | Term 1 | 17 weeks |
| Term 2 | 13 weeks | Term 2 | 13 weeks |
| Term 3 | 9 weeks | Term 3 | 9 weeks |

6.2 The Modular System

6.2.1 The course consists of 12 academic modules. Students must complete 210 credits of learning for the whole programme. A single credit shall represent 10 hours of student endeavour. Modules are 15 or 30-credits. To achieve the award of MSc Physiotherapy (pre-registration), students must successfully complete all modules unless RPL has been applied for specific module credits.

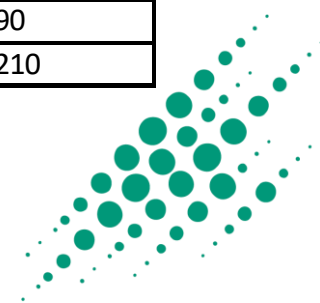
6.2.2 All modules shall be taught during a single academic year.

6.2.3 The total number of modules contained within the degree programme shall be 12.

6.3 Course Modules

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

| Code | Name | Credits |
|------|--|--------------|
| TBC | Foundations of Physiotherapy | 0 |
| TBC | Human Behaviour and Rehabilitation | 30 |
| TBC | Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy | 20 (level 5) |
| TBC | Neurological Physiotherapy | 20 (level 5) |
| TBC | Cardiorespiratory Physiotherapy | 20 (level 5) |
| TBC | Evaluation and Research | 30 |
| TBC | Reflective Practice (placements 1 and 2) | 0 |
| | Total credits for year 1 | 120 |
| TBC | Complex Management | 30 |
| TBC | Research Project | 30 |
| TBC | Critical Practice (placements 3, 4 and 5) | 0 |
| TBC | Quality and Innovation in Health and Social Care | 15 |
| TBC | Personalised Professional Development | 15 |
| | Total credits for year 3 | 90 |
| | Overall Credits | 210 |



- 6.3.2 Two practice placements within the first year will fall within the non-credit bearing “Reflective Practice – Placements 1 and 2” module. These placements will be assessed at level 5 using the National [Physiotherapy Common Placement Assessment Form](#) (CPAF).
- 6.3.3 Three placements within the second year will fall within the non-credit bearing “Critical Practice – Placements 3, 4 and 5” module. These placements will be assessed at level 6 using the National [Physiotherapy Common Placement Assessment Form](#) (CPAF).
- 6.3.4 Students are required to experience a broad range of placements which are representative of the current scope of graduate physiotherapy practice (e.g. acute, non-acute and community care, older peoples’ services, cardio-respiratory, neurological, musculoskeletal, education, leadership, research).

7. Assessment

7.1 Forms of Assessment

Assessment shall take various forms. Written examinations shall include short answer and multiple choice exams, and essays. Practical examinations shall include interactive practical examinations (IPE) and objective structured practical examinations (OSPE) seen practical vivas. 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' load. 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 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.

12 Classification of Award

The relationship between grades, marks and their interpretation in the award of degree 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 MSc (pre-registration) 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 March 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 Taught Post Graduate Course Committee for



MSc 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 his or her 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 shall have elapsed.

1.a.1

16.3.5 Nominations for External Examiner must be approved by Senate following scrutiny at the Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee.

1.a.1

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

16.3.7 Each year the Academic Registrar shall invite the Taught Post Graduate Course Committee for MSc Physiotherapy, to nominate Internal Examiners and External Examiners for the coming academic year.

16.3.8 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.

16.3.9 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 his or her 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 shall have elapsed.



16.3.10 Nominations for External Examiner must be approved by Senate following scrutiny at the Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee.

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

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 his or her unavoidable absence, by the nominee of the Principal.

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 Pre-Registration Physiotherapy Courses Committee and Senate.

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

March 2024



