St George's, University of London

Master of Science (MSc) Translational Medicine

PROGRAMME REGULATIONS - For students entering the programme in 2020
Approved by TPPC (08-April-2020)

Degree Title

1.   The programme of study shall lead to the award of MSc in Translational Medicine.

Awarding body

2.   The awarding body is St George's Hospital Medical School, a constituent college of the University of London.

Intermediate awards

3.   The following intermediate awards are available within the MSc in Translational Medicine: Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Translational Medicine; PGDip in Bioscience; Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in Translational Medicine; PGCert in Bioscience.

4.   Applicants can apply for the PGDip or the PGCert in Translational Medicine. In these Regulations, MSc Translational Medicine is used to refer collectively to awards of PGCert, PGDip and MSc unless it is otherwise stated.

5.   Some constituent modules available within the programme may be taken as stand-alone modules (Big Data in Biomedicine, Case Studies in Drug Discovery and Development, Clinical Trials, Genomic Technologies in Clinical Diagnostics, Population Health Research).

Responsible Committee

6.   The Course Committee is responsible for the delivery of the MSc Translational Medicine. The Course Committee is responsible to the Taught Postgraduate Courses Committee (TPCC) for quality monitoring.

Entrance Requirements

Academic

7.   Applicants who have obtained a higher degree from a UK or Republic of Ireland university must have obtained this degree at a minimum of 2:2 honours.

8. Additional eligibility criteria include:

8.1. An Honours degree equivalent to a 2:2 or above from an approved institution of higher education outside the UK and Republic of Ireland will be accepted. Advice on equivalence of overseas awards will be obtained from the National Recognition and Information Centre for the UK (NARIC).

8.1 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 MSc from the course director of their medical degree.

9. The procedure for application will also include:

9.1. Submission of a personal statement.

9.2. Two satisfactory references. One of these should be a recent academic reference and the other should be either a second academic reference or a professional/employer reference. For those unable to provide an academic referee a second professional/employer reference will be permitted.

10. The procedure for application may include:

10.1. An interview with SGUL course staff.

10.2. A written admission test.

Applications for stand-alone modules

11. Applications for stand-alone modules will be subject to entry requirements 7. and 8. as described above. The deadline for application will be one month before the start date of the module and suitable applicants will be admitted on a first-come first-served basis until the maximum capacity for that module is reached.

IELTS

12. If English is not the applicant's first language, he or she must sit and pass the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a score of 7 overall and no less than 6.5 in each components, or an equivalent test and scores as approved by SGUL.

13. 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.

Admissions Policy

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

15. The admissions policy shall be made in accordance with St George's Equal Opportunities Policy and Statement on Students with Disabilities.

Recognition of Prior Learning

16.   Applications for the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for all taught modules will be considered. RPL applications for the Research Project will not be considered. Applicants who are able to show evidence of relevant prior learning that has been assessed and credit-rated at level 7 in accordance with SGUL requirements may apply for that learning to be recognised subject to the limits set out the St George's Quality Manual.

Period of Study

17.   Ordinarily the minimum and maximum periods of study required are:

	Full-time	
	Minimum	**Maximum**
MSc	1 year	2 years
PGDip	1 year	2 years
PGCert	1 year	2 years

18.   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 4.14 *General Regulations).*

Programme Structure

19.   The structure of the programme is as follows:

Taught modules (compulsory):

Big Data in Biomedicine	(30 credits)
Case Studies in Drug Discovery and Development	(15 credits)
Clinical Trials	(15 credits)
Genomic Technologies in Clinical Diagnostics	(15 credits)
Personalised Medicine	(15 credits)
Population Health Research	(15 credits)
Research Methods & Management	(15 credits)

Research project: (60 credits)

MSc Translational Medicine (180 credits)

Students will complete all taught modules and the research project.

Core modules

Two of the taught modules, "Case Studies in Drug Discovery and Development" and "Clinical Trials" are considered as cores modules when deciding on the title of exit awards.

Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits)

PGDip in Translational Medicine candidates must successfully pass all seven taught modules.

MSc candidates who fail one or more modules will be eligible for a PGDip if they have passed other modules worth at least 120 credits;

- such candidates are eligible for a PGDip in Translational Medicine if they successfully passed both core modules;

- such candidates are eligible for a PGDip in Bioscience if at least one of the core modules was not successfully passed.

Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits)

PGCert in Translational Medicine candidates must successfully complete taught modules worth 60 credits, including the two "core" modules.

MSc candidates who fail several modules worth more than 60 credits or PGDip candidates who fail one or more taught modules will be eligible for a PGCert if they have passed other taught modules worth at least 60 credits;

- such candidates are eligible for a PGCert in Translational Medicine if they successfully passed both core modules;

- such candidates are eligible for a PGCert in Bioscience if one or both of the core modules were not successfully passed.

Assessment

20. A combination of course work assignments, examination, and research dissertation are prescribed and will be detailed in the module descriptors, scheme of assessments and relevant module guides.

21. The dissertation will take the form of a report on the research project conducted during the course. The length of the dissertation must be 6,000 to 10,000 words.

22. Generic criteria for marking academic assessments will be made available to students.

23. Candidates will be given a single final percentage mark for each module, taking into account the weightings of the elements prescribed in the module descriptors and relevant module guides. The pass mark for each assessment will be 50%.

24. The Course Committee shall agree, and from time to time make changes to, the Scheme of Assessments for the course. The Scheme of Assessments shall be approved by the Taught Postgraduate Courses Committee.

25. Students are required to make a serious attempt at all the assessments specified in the Student Handbook (published as web pages on the Canvas virtual learning environment). Coursework must be submitted by the deadlines specified in the relevant module regulation unless written permission for an extension is given.

26. The Board of Examiners will determine whether a student's progress is sufficient to merit the award of credit for each module completed.

27. Examiners will determine at the end of the programme whether a student's progress is sufficient to merit the award of the qualification for which the student has registered.

28. Examiners will determine whether MSc students successfully completing module credits, but not completing the whole degree, are eligible for the Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate.

Re-Entry to Assessments

29. Students are entitled to repeat assessments they have failed at first attempt.

30. Course work assignments must normally be resubmitted within twenty working days of receiving an initial fail mark. Marks for any assessment that involves a resubmission or resit will be capped overall at 50%. Students are required to pass each taught module to complete the course. Students who persistently fail to submit course work by the deadlines specified may have their registration terminated.

31. Students who fail the dissertation at the first attempt will be permitted to resubmit the dissertation on one occasion at a date determined by the Board of Examiners. Marks for the re-submission of the dissertation will be limited to a bare pass (50%). Students who fail the dissertation at the second attempt will fail the MSc but may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma at the Examiners' discretion if they have successfully completed 120 credits as detailed in paragraph 19.

Attendance

32. Records of attendance will be kept for all taught sessions, and attendance at a minimum of 75% of sessions will be expected. In addition, students will be expected to

spend at least 600 hours on their research project over the year.

Awards

33. Candidates for the award of MSc Translational Medicine must obtain a pass in all modules undertaken within the maximum registration period as specified in paragraphs 17 and 18.

34. Candidates for the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Translational Medicine must obtain a pass in all modules detailed in paragraph 19 within the maximum registration period as specified in paragraphs 17 and 18.

35. Candidates for the award of Postgraduate Certificate in Translational Medicine must obtain a pass in all modules detailed in paragraph 19 within the maximum registration period as specified in paragraphs 17 and 18.

Distinctions and Merits

36. Criteria for the award of distinctions and merits will be specified in the scheme of assessment. Outright distinctions will be awarded to MSc and PGDip candidates obtaining an overall rounded average assessment mark of greater than 69.4%. Such candidates will normally be expected to pass each component at first attempt. The award of merit will be given to MSc or PGDip candidates obtaining an overall rounded average assessment mark falling in the range 59.5-69.4%. There is no award of distinction or merit for the Postgraduate Certificate**.**

Date of award

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

Board of Examiners

38. A Board of Examiners shall be appointed annually to serve from 1 October – 30 September with membership agreed by the Course Committee and approved by Senate. This membership shall include the SGUL Course Director, Chair of the Board (who shall not be the Course Director) and at least three other 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 Head of Postgraduate Administration or his/her nominee shall act as secretary to the Board.

39. 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, diplomas, 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.

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