

ORDINANCE 43: Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

1. The University shall offer two programmes of study leading to the award of the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB), as follows:
 - a) MBChB Five-Year Programme (A100, A105)
 - b) MBChB Four-Year Graduate Entry Programme (A101)
2. The University may award the degrees of MBChB to students who have pursued the approved programme of studies, as set out in the programme specification for the degree, to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners. The programme specification for each programme shall set out the aims, learning outcomes, structure, subjects of study and the assessment and re-assessment requirements of the programme. The subjects of study for the MBChB programmes shall be as required by the appropriate regulatory/validating bodies. The Five-Year Programme may commence with a Year 0, the requirements for which shall be set out in the relevant Year 0 programme specification.
3. Candidates for the degrees of MBChB shall, before entry upon the degree programme, have obtained entrance qualifications of a type and standard deemed appropriate by the University.
4. The University may recognise the programmes of study and examinations for other degrees in the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, or programmes of study and examinations of other approved universities and institutions as, in part, qualifying a student for the award of the degrees of MBChB, provided that at least three years of the student's studies have been taken under the supervision of the University.
5. The programmes shall be full-time. The maximum period for which a student may be registered for the degrees of MBChB, including periods of suspension of study and repeated years of study, but excluding any Year 0 taken for admission to the Five-Year Programme, shall normally be eight years for students on the Five-Year Programme and seven years for students on the Four-Year Graduate Entry Programme. Where a student enters directly into Year 2 or Year 3 of the programme, the maximum period of registration shall be adjusted accordingly.
6. Students on the Five-Year Programme may elect to undertake an additional year of studies as a 'Year in China', as provided for in the relevant programme specification. Students who opt to undertake a Year in China must still complete the programme within the maximum registration period for the Five-Year Programme detailed in clause 5 above.
7. Students shall be required to attend the compulsory components of the programme as specified in the relevant programme specification and the programme handbooks. The Board of Examiners, or a Progress Panel acting on behalf of the Board of Examiners and University, shall be empowered to exclude from an examination any student who has not attended, to the satisfaction of the Head of the School of Medicine, the approved programme of study or who has not properly completed written or other work, including clinical work.
8. All assessments shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Practice on Assessment and the programme specification for the degree. The

assessments shall include written, practical and clinical examinations, as detailed in the programme specification and the programme handbooks.

9. Students who fail assessments in any year, except the final year, of the programme shall be required to present themselves for re-assessment normally on one further occasion only in the component or components they have failed. Students who fail to satisfy the Examiners at the second attempt may have their studies terminated. In exceptional circumstances, students may be permitted to repeat the appropriate year of study, provided that no student may repeat more than one year of the programme¹. Students who are permitted to re-take a year must demonstrate clinical competence before proceeding to the following year of study.
10. Students must provide evidence of satisfactory completion of the required clinical attachments before they are permitted to progress to the final year of the programmes (Year 5 for the Five-Year Programme and Year 4 for the Four-Year Graduate Entry Programme).
11. Students must provide evidence of satisfactory completion of the clinical attachments in the final year. Students who have not satisfactorily completed the clinical attachments shall be allowed to repeat the attachments on one further occasion only, immediately following the final year. Students who do not satisfactorily complete the second period of attachments shall be required to terminate their studies.
12. The rules governing the award of the degrees of MBChB, MBChB with Commendation and MBChB with Honours shall be as set out in the relevant programme specification.
13. Where a student's studies are terminated or they otherwise fail or withdraw from the programme, they may be entitled to an exit award of either the degree of Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences, or a Diploma in Higher Education, or a Certificate in Higher Education. The BSc in Health Sciences, with or without Honours, will be awarded when students have successfully completed the first three years of their programme, in accordance with the Ordinance governing the degree of BSc in Health Sciences. The criteria for the award of the degree with and without Honours shall be specified in the relevant MBChB programme specification. A Diploma in Higher Education shall be awarded to students who have passed the first two years of their programme. A Certificate in Higher Education shall be awarded to students who have passed the first year of their programme.
14. Subject to any overriding considerations of patient safety in relation to clinical assessments, the Board of Examiners shall be empowered to take account of mitigating circumstances affecting students' performance in determining the conditions relating to re-assessments (and, in the case of the exit award of BSc in Health Sciences, in determining their final results) in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Practice on Assessment and the Mitigating Circumstances Policy.
15. The Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, in consultation with the Head of the School of Medicine, has the right to require any student to withdraw from a clinical placement with immediate effect if the Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellor considers that the student's presence is against the interest of patients or of the establishment concerned. The student will be suspended for a

¹ This restriction on the number of years of a programme that may be repeated is not applicable to students who commenced their studies prior to 2015-16.

specified period of time pending full consideration of the circumstances by the Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellor under the University's Fitness to Practise procedures. The Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellor has the right to extend the period of suspension if s/he considers that action to be justified.

The Code of Practice on Assessment (including the Mitigating Circumstances Policy) can be found at: <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/agsd/academic-codes-of-practice/code-of-practice-on-assessment/>

The Fitness to Practise Procedures can be found at: <http://www.liv.ac.uk/student-administration/student-administration-centre/policies-procedures/fitness-to-practise/>