

Ordinance 48: Degree of Bachelor of Science in Dental Therapy

1. The University may award the degree of Bachelor of Science in Dental Therapy 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 aims, learning outcomes, structure, subjects of study and the assessment and reassessment requirements of the programme shall be as detailed in the programme specification for the degree.
2. Candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Dental Therapy shall, before entry upon the degree programme, have obtained entrance qualifications of a type and standard deemed appropriate by the University.
3. The University may recognise the programmes of study and examinations for the degree of Bachelor in the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences and other Faculties of the University, or programmes of study and examinations of other approved universities and institutions as, in part, qualifying for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Dental Therapy with or without Honours.
4. The normal length of the programme will be three years of full-time study or equivalent.
5. The maximum period for which a student may be registered for the degree, including any periods of interruption of study and repeated year of study, shall normally be six years.
6. Students shall be required to attend the compulsory components of the programme as specified in the relevant programme specification. 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 Dean of the School of Dentistry, the approved programme of study or who has not properly completed written or other work, including clinical work.
7. All assessments shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Practice on Assessment and the relevant programme specification. The assessments shall include written, practical and clinical examinations, as detailed in the programme specification.
8. Students who fail in re-sit assessments in Years 1 or 2, at the second attempt, may, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners:
 - be required to terminate their studies; or
 - be permitted to repeat failed components of study, with or without attendance, and present themselves for re-assessment at the next available opportunity in the examination cycle.
9. Exceptionally, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners, a student may be allowed to repeat a year of the programme, with the qualification that no student may repeat more than one year of the programme.

10. Subject to any overriding considerations of patient safety, the Board of Examiners shall be empowered to take account of extenuating circumstances affecting students' performance in determining the conditions relating to re-assessments in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Practice on Assessment and the Extenuating Circumstances Policy.
11. The rules governing the calculation of final marks and the award of the degree of BSc and BSc with Honours shall be as set out in the programme specification for the degree.
12. Where a student's studies are terminated or they otherwise fail or withdraw from the programme, they may be entitled to an exit award, dependent on the year of exit, of either: the Bachelor's degree in Health Sciences, with or without Honours, or a Diploma in Health Sciences, or a Certificate in Health Sciences. The criteria for the award of the degree with and without Honours shall be specified in the relevant programme specification.
13. The Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, in consultation with the Dean of the School of Dentistry, 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 specific 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 interruption if they consider that action to be justified.

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

The Fitness to Practise Policy can be found at:
<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentadministration/policies-procedures/fitness-to-practise/>

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS MADE TO ORDINANCE 48

1. Original amended Ordinance approved on behalf of Senate and Council October/November 2015.
2. Amendments approved on behalf of Senate and Council in June 2019 to:
 - Remove the term 'Dental Hygiene' from all references to the BSc Dental Therapy.
 - Add a new clause 5 to indicate the maximum period of registration to match the standard period for three year non-clinical degrees.
 - Replace the term 'module' with 'component' in the renumbered clauses 8 and 11.
 - Add BSc Health Science as an exit award in the renumbered clause 11.

- Replace references to 'mitigating' circumstances with 'extenuating' circumstances, in accordance with the most recent Code of Practice on Assessment terminology.
 - Replace 'Head' of School with 'Dean' of School.
3. Amendments approved via Chair's action on behalf of Senate and Council August/September 2022 to ensure alignment between the approved Programme Specification and Ordinance.
 4. April 2025 - minor amendment approved via Chair's action to reflect revisions in nomenclature (replace 'suspension' with 'interruption').