

Programme Regulations

MSc Clinical Genomics

For students entering the programme in September 2016

(Approved by Senate tbc)

Title

1. The programme of study shall lead to the award of MSc in Clinical Genomics.

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 award is available with the MSc Clinical Genomics programme:
 - PgDip Clinical Genomics
4. Applicants can apply for the MSc and PGDip. In these regulations, MSc Clinical Genomics is used to refer collectively to awards of PGDip and MSc unless it is otherwise stated.
5. Some constituent modules available with the programme may be taken as stand-alone modules, with the exception of the Personal Professional Development Portfolio module and the Research Project module.

Responsible committee

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

Entrance Requirements

7. Applicants to the MSc will be required to:
 - Hold a national training number (NTN) in Clinical Genetics
 - Or hold a substantive consultant post in Clinical Genetics.
8. Clinicians from other specialties and Clinician Scientists may apply for individual modules for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accreditation purposes. Clinicians and Clinician Scientists admitted to one or more module(s) on this basis will not be eligible to transfer to the PgCert and will not be required to meet the PgCert entrance requirements.

Admissions Policy

9. 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.

10. 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

11. Applicants who have previously successfully completed the PGCert in Interpretation and Clinical Application of Genomic Data will be eligible to transfer to the MSc in Clinical Genomics.

12. There is no facility for graduates of other programmes to be admitted to the MSc with advanced standing.

Period of Study

13. The minimum period of study is 48 months by part time study.

14. The maximum period of study is 72 months by part time study.

15. 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*).

Programme Structure

16. The MSc has a modular structure and comprises the following level 7 modules:

Core modules:

- Understanding Genetic Technologies (15 credits)
- Clinical Interpretation of Genomic Data (15 credits)
- Communication of Genetic Information and Ethics (15 credits)
- Personal and Professional Development Portfolio (15 credits)
- Research Project (60 credits)

Optional modules:

- Omics techniques; their application to genomic medicine (15 credits)
- Molecular pathology of cancer and application in cancer diagnosis, screening and treatment (15 credits)
- Application of genomics in infectious disease (15 credits)
- Pharmacogenomics and stratified healthcare (15 credits)
- Bioinformatics, interpretation and data quality assurance in genome analysis (15 credits)
- Ethical, legal and social issues in applied genomics (15 credits)
- Cardiovascular genetics and genomics (15 credits)
- Teaching, learning and assessment in healthcare and science education (15 credits)
- Advanced bioinformatics (15 credits)

Assessment

17. A combination of course work assignments, examinations, Observation of Procedures, presentations, a portfolio and a dissertation are prescribed for the modules and will be detailed in the module descriptors and relevant module handbooks.
18. The dissertation will take the form of a report on the research project conducted during the course. Students can complete a secondment to GeL (Genomics England Ltd) for a minimum of 4 months as part of the research project module. The 60 credit project has a word limit of 10000 words.
19. Generic criteria for marking academic assessments will be published and set out in the Student Handbook.
20. Candidates will be given a single final percentage mark for each module, taking into account the weightings of the elements prescribed in the Scheme of Assessment, the module descriptors and relevant module handbooks.
21. The Course Committee shall agree, and from time to time make changes to, the Scheme of Assessment for the course. The Scheme of Assessment shall be approved by the Taught Postgraduate Courses Committee.
22. Students are required to make a serious attempt at all the assessments specified in the Student Handbook. Course work must be submitted by the deadlines specified in the relevant module handbook unless written permission for an extension is given.
23. The Board of Examiners will determine whether a student's progress is sufficient to merit the award of credit for each module completed.
24. The Board of Examiners will determine at the end of the year whether a student's progress is sufficient to merit the award of credit for each module completed.
25. The Board of Examiners will determine at the end of the year whether a part-time student's progress in the first year assessment is sufficient to permit continuation to the second year of the programme. 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.
26. Examiners will determine whether MSc students successfully complete module credits, but not completing the whole degree, are eligible for the Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate.
27. Examiners will determine whether Postgraduate diploma students successfully completing module credits, but not completing the whole Diploma, are eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate.

Re-Entry to Assessments

28. Students are entitled to two attempts at each assessment.
29. Course work assignments must normally be resubmitted within the timescales specified in the Scheme of Assessment. Grades for resubmitted course work will be limited to a bare pass. Students are required to pass each core module and a sufficient number of option modules to complete the course. Students who persistently fail to submit course work by the deadlines specified may have their registration terminated.
30. 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 resubmission of the dissertation will be limited to a bare pass. Students who fail the dissertation at the second attempt will fail the MSc but may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Interpretation and Clinical Application of Genomic Data at the Examiners' discretion if they have successfully completed 120 credits at level 7.

Awards

31. Candidates for the award of the MSc in Clinical Genomic must obtain a pass in the all modules undertaken within the maximum registration period specified.
32. Candidates for the award of the PGDip in Clinical Genomic must obtain a pass in the all modules undertaken within the maximum registration period specified.

Distinctions and Merits

33. Criteria for the award of distinctions and merits will be specified in the Scheme of Assessment. Outright distinctions will be awarded to MSc candidates obtaining an overall average assessment mark of $\geq 69.5\%$. Such candidates will normally be expected to pass each component at first attempt. The award of merit will be given to MSc candidates obtaining an overall average assessment mark falling in the range 59.5-69.4%. Outright distinctions will be awarded to PGDip candidates obtaining an overall average of $\geq 69.5\%$. Such candidates will normally be expected to pass each component at first attempt. There is no award of merit for postgraduate diploma, and no award of merit or distinction for the postgraduate certificate.

Date of award

34. 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

35. 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 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 Assistant Registrar (Postgraduate) or his/her nominee shall act as secretary to the Board.

36. 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.
37. Students enrolled on this programme are bound by the General Regulations in force at the time.

LH 15.07.16