Regulations for the BSc&MRes Degrees

(a) For students admitted to the first year in the academic year 2024-25 or before

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula, and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

Definitions

BM1[1] For the purpose of these regulations and the syllabuses for the BSc and MRes degrees, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Science course" means any course offered by the Faculty of Science, and the BIOC prefix courses offered by the School of Biomedical Sciences.

"Course" means a course of study, with a credit value expressed as a number of credit-units as specified in the syllabuses for a degree curriculum.

"Syllabus" means courses taught by faculties, departments, centres, and schools, offered under a degree curriculum.

"Credits" or "credit-units" means the value assigned to each course to indicate its study load relative to the total study load under a degree curriculum. The study load refers to the hours of student learning activities and experiences, both within and outside the classroom, and includes contact hours and time spent on assessment tasks and examinations. Candidates who satisfactorily complete courses with a credit value earn the credits assigned to these courses.

Admission to the BSc and MRes degrees

BM2 To be eligible for admission to the BSc and MRes degrees, candidates shall:

(a) comply with the General Regulations;

(b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula, and the latter with a waiver of Regulation TPG2(b); and

(c) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with these regulations and the syllabuses.

Period of study

BM3 The curriculum for the BSc and MRes degrees shall normally require eight semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than four academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of six academic years.

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[1] This regulation should be read in conjunction with UG1 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula and TPG1 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula.

Selection of courses

BM4 Candidates shall select their courses in accordance with these regulations and the guidelines specified in the syllabuses before the beginning of each semester. Any change to the selection of courses shall be made only during the add/drop period of the semester in which the course begins, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript of the candidate. Requests for changes after the designated add/drop period of the semester shall not be considered.

Curriculum requirements and progression in curriculum

BM5 To complete the curriculum, candidates shall:

(a) comply with the General Regulations;

(b) pass not fewer than a total of 303 credits, consisting of not fewer than 240 credits for the BSc degree and 63 credits for the MRes degree, in the manner specified in these regulations and the syllabuses;

(c) for the completion of the BSc degree, candidates shall
  (i) satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula[2], except that in the case of the Common Core Curriculum, only 24 credits shall be required, with one course from each Area of Inquiry; and
  (ii) take and pass not fewer than 240 credits, comprising 144 credits (or a higher credit requirement by the accredited bodies) of Science courses including all required courses in the intensive major programme of the BSc degree curriculum; and

(d) for the completion of the MRes degree, candidates shall
  (i) satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
  (ii) take and pass not fewer than 63 credits, including 21 credits of Research postgraduate courses and 42 credits of research project as prescribed in the syllabus;
  (iii) satisfy the examiners in the courses by continuous assessments and/or by written examinations; and
  (iv) complete and present a satisfactory research report on an approved research project. The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination.

BM6

(a) Candidates shall normally be required to take not fewer than 60 credits nor more than 84 credits of undergraduate or undergraduate plus postgraduate courses in any academic year with a waiver of Regulation UG4(a) to (c) of the Regulations of First Degree Curricula, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty. The maximum curriculum study load for the normative period of study and for the maximum period of registration of undergraduate courses are 288 credits and 432 credits respectively.

(b) Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, transfer credits to the BSc degree for courses completed at other institutions at any time during their candidature. The number of transferred credits will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

[2] Specific requirements are spelt out in the syllabuses.

The number of credits to be transferred shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the BSc degree of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

(c) Candidates have to achieve a CGPA of 3.6 or above at the end of Year 2 to remain enrolled in the BSc and MRes degrees, or else they have to switch to the 6901 BSc programme, and should from the next semester on refer to and comply with the relevant Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Science.

(d) Candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their BSc and MRes studies if they have:

(i) failed to complete successfully 36 or more credits of their BSc studies in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters, or
(ii) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), or
(iii) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in BM3, unless otherwise permitted by the Board of the Faculty.

(e) Candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their MRes studies only if they have fulfilled the requirements in BM5(c) for the completion of the BSc degree, but failed to fulfil the requirements in BM5(d) for the completion of the MRes degree within the prescribed maximum period of registration.

Advanced standing

BM7 Advanced standing for the BSc degree may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the University in accordance with UG2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. Credits granted for advanced standing will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate but shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

Assessment

BM8 For the courses that candidates take for the BSc degree:

(a) Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework, written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits.

(b) Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the First Semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

(c) Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a D grade or above for the purpose of upgrading.

(d) Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner: repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessment, or for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

(e) There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

BM9 For the courses and research project that candidates take for the MRes degree:

(a) The assessment in any course shall consist of elements prescribed by the course teachers, and will normally comprise either written coursework alone, or coursework combined with formal examinations; in either case participation in field work or practical work may form part of the assessment.

(b) Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners
   (i) at the first attempt in any course in the examination held during any of the academic years of study may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in the course or courses at a specified subsequent examination, with or without repeating any part of the curriculum;
   (ii) at the first submission of project report may be permitted to submit a new or revised project report within a specified period;
   (iii) in any prescribed fieldwork or practical work may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in fieldwork or practical work within a specified period.

(c) Failure to take the examination as scheduled, normally results in automatic course failure. Candidates who are unable because of illness to be present at any examination of a course, may apply for permission to be present at some other time. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days of the examination.

Award of the BSc and MRes Degrees

BM10

(a) To be eligible for the award of the BSc and MRes degrees, candidates shall have:

   (i) comply with the General Regulations, the Regulations for First Degree Curricula and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and

   (ii) successfully completed the curriculum and satisfy the examiners as stipulated under BM5.

(b) Candidates who have not satisfied the completion of the MRes degree in BM5(d) but have satisfied the requirements for the award of BSc degree may be allowed to exit with a BSc, subject to the approval of the Board of the Faculty.

Grading

BM11 Individual courses shall be graded according to one of the following grading systems as determined by the Board of Examiners:

(a) Letter grading, their standards and the grade points for assessment as follows:

Grade	Standard	Grade Point
A+	Excellent	4.3
A		4.0
A-		3.7
B+	Good	3.3
B		3.0
B-		2.7
C+	Satisfactory	2.3
C		2.0
C-		1.7
D+	Pass	1.3
D		1.0
F	Fail	0

Or

* (b) 'Distinction', 'Pass' or 'Fail', or

* (c) 'Pass' or Fail'.

Courses which are graded according to (b) or (c) above will not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

***** Only applies to courses that candidates take for the MRes degree, and certain undergraduate courses with special permission given by Senate.

Honours classification of BSc Degree

BM12

(a) Honours classifications shall be awarded in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, and Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners for the Degrees of BSc & MRes in accordance with the following Graduation GPA scores, with all undergraduate courses taken (including failed courses, but not including courses approved by the Senate graded as 'Pass', 'Fail' or 'Distinction') carrying weightings which are proportionate to their credit values:

Class of honours	*GGPA range*
First Class Honours	3.60 – 4.30
Second Class Honours	(2.40 – 3.59)
Division One	3.00 – 3.59
Division Two	2.40 – 2.99
Third Class Honours	1.70 – 2.39
Pass	1.00 – 1.69

(b) Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate's Graduation GPA and the Board of Examiners for the Degrees of BSc & MRes may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Graduation GPA falls below the range stipulated in UG9(a) of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.

(c) A list of candidates who have successfully completed all degree requirements shall be posted on Faculty noticeboards.

Assessment results of MRes Degree

BM13 On successful completion of the MRes degree, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' degree diploma.

(b) For students admitted to the first year in the academic year 2025-26 and thereafter

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula, and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

Definitions

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Period of study

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Selection of courses

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  (i) satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula[2], except that in the case of the Common Core Curriculum, only 24 credits from four of the five Areas of Inquiry shall be required, with 6 credits from each selected Area of Inquiry; and
  (ii) take and pass not fewer than 240 credits, comprising 144 credits (or a higher credit requirement by the accredited bodies) of Science courses including all required courses in the intensive major programme of the BSc degree curriculum; and

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under the BSc degree of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

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Assessment results of MRes Degree

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