

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF RESEARCH IN MEDICINE (MRes[Med])

These regulations apply to candidates admitted to the Master of Research in Medicine in the academic year 2026-27 and thereafter.

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

M.43 Definition

The degree of the Master of Research in Medicine (MRes[Med]) is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of the curriculum of one academic year of full-time study and the completion of a satisfactory dissertation within the specified timeline before the end of the MBBS VI year of study in the Faculty of Medicine.

Any publications based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to The University of Hong Kong for award of the degree.

M.44 Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission to the curriculum leading to the degree of Master of Research in Medicine a candidate:

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
 - (b) shall comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula but with a waiver of Regulation TPG 2(b); and
 - (c) shall have completed the second year of the curriculum and passed the Second Examination of the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the University.
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M.45 Award of degree

To be eligible for the award of the Master of Research in Medicine, a candidate shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
 - (b) comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
 - (c) complete the requirements for the award of the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery; and
 - (d) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.
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M.46 Period of study

The curriculum shall normally extend over not less than one academic year of full-time study. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their study beyond the maximum period of registration of one academic year of full-time study, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

M.47 Completion of curriculum

To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall:

- (a) satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
- (b) take not less than 69 credits in the manner specified in these regulations and the syllabuses, and follow instructions in the syllabuses prescribed for the courses and complete satisfactorily all required written, practical or clinical work;
- (c) satisfy the examiners in the courses by continuous assessments and/or by written examinations; and
- (d) complete and present a satisfactory dissertation on an approved research project. The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination.

Candidates who fail to fulfil the coursework requirements within the prescribed maximum period of registration and complete and present a satisfactory dissertation on an approved research project by the specified timeline before the end of their MBBS VI year of study, shall be recommended for discontinuation under the provision of General Regulation G12.

M.48 Course selection

Selection of study patterns shall be made in consultation with the candidate's Supervisor and be subjected to approval by the Chairperson/Director/Head of the Department/School under which the candidate is registered.

M.49 Advanced standing

Advanced standing may be granted to a candidate who has successfully completed selected Research Attachment Modules in the curriculum of the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the University, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) advanced standing of up to 6 credits of taught courses may be granted; and
- (b) all applications are considered on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Studies and shall be approved by the Board of the Faculty.

Application for advanced standing shall be made prior to the candidate's admission to the curriculum.

M.50 Title of dissertation

The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval before the end of the academic year, and the dissertation shall be presented not later than the end of the twelfth semester of the curriculum of the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery. The candidate shall submit a statement to declare that the dissertation represents his own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree. The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination on the subject of the dissertation.

M.51 Assessment

- (a) A candidate who:
 - (i) fails to satisfy the examiners in any continuous assessment(s) of a course may be permitted to retake the prescribed assessment(s); or
 - (ii) fails to satisfy the examiners in the written examination(s) of a course may be permitted to re-sit the examination(s) with or without repeating the course; or

- (iii) fails to satisfy the examiners in the examination of the dissertation, but have satisfactorily completed the prescribed written, practical or clinical work, may be permitted to resubmit the dissertation and to re-present it within a specified period not more than four months after receipt of a notice that is unsatisfactory.
- (b) A candidate who:
 - (i) is not permitted to retake the prescribed assessment(s) or repeat a course which he/she has failed, or present himself/herself for re-examination(s), or re-submit a revised dissertation; or
 - (ii) fails to satisfy the examiners in a written examination at the third attempt may be required to discontinue his/her studies under the provision of General Regulation G12.

M.52 Grading system

- (a) The compulsory course MMPH7107 and the dissertation shall be graded according to the “Pass/Fail” grading system.
- (b) All other courses shall be graded by letter grades.

SYLLABUS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF RESEARCH IN MEDICINE (MRes[Med])

1. The educational objectives of the MRes[Med] are that upon the completion of the curriculum, a candidate will have
 - (a) completed a structured training programme on clinical and/or laboratory oriented research;
 - (b) demonstrated by the presentation of a dissertation that he/she has acquired an acceptable knowledge and understanding in the field of study; and
 - (c) be capable of engaging in research effectively.
2. The MRes[Med] curriculum consists of coursework and a dissertation project (capstone experience). A candidate will be required to undertake a minimum of 69 credits of prescribed work, comprising a minimum of 21 credits of coursework and a minimum of 48 credits of hands-on research training leading to a dissertation of not more than 20,000 words. The selection of study pattern shall be made in consultation with the candidate’s Supervisor and be subjected to approval by the Chairperson/Director/Head of the Department/School under which the candidate is registered.
3. The coursework component requires candidates to complete:
 - (a) the compulsory course, MMPH7107 Responsible Conduct of Research and Stream-based Responsible Conduct of Research (3 credits); and
 - (b) 18 credits of coursework (of variable total written output depending on the courses selected) from the following:

Research Postgraduate Courses (3 credits each): The assessment is based on a combination of coursework/in-course assessment (0-100%) and final examination (0-100%)

Department	Course Code	Course Title
Medicine	MMPH6196	Cell Metabolism
	MMPH6205	Current Therapeutic Strategies for Metabolic Diseases
Microbiology	MMPH6119	Current Topics in Medical Microbiology
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	MMPH6120	Assisted Reproduction Technology (Laboratory)
	MMPH6147	Research Seminars in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Department	Course Code	Course Title
	MMPH6186	Research Methodologies in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Orthopaedics & Traumatology	MMPH6124	Basic Medical Bioengineering
Pathology	MMPH6001	Laboratory Methods and Instrumentation
	MMPH6016	General Cytopathology
	MMPH6020	Molecular Medicine
	MMPH6139	Techniques and Applications of Molecular Pathology
	MMPH6140	Molecular Genetics and Cytogenetics of Cancer
	MMPH6176	Current Topics and Techniques in Immunology
Pharmacology & Pharmacy	MMPH6127	Principles of Drug Action
	MMPH6172	Advances in Vascular Biology and Therapeutics
	MMPH6185	Advanced Drug Delivery and Drug Development
	MMPH6022	Therapeutic Antibodies
Psychiatry	MMPH6194	Neurocognitive of Dysfunctions in Psychosis
	MMPH6195	Neurobiological Processes in Psychosis
	MMPH6198	Descriptive Psychopathology
	MMPH6199	Early Intervention of Psychosis
	MMPH6200	Introduction to Psychotic Disorders: Epidemiology and Aetiology
	MMPH6201	Pharmacological Interventions for Psychosis
	MMPH6202	Psychosis and Society: Stigma, Legal and Ethical Issues
	MMPH6203	Psychosocial Interventions for Psychosis
	MMPH6204	Specialized Case Intervention for Psychosis
School of Biomedical Sciences	MMPH6005	Practical Bioinformatics
	MMPH6007	Advanced Cell Biology
	MMPH6008	Genes and Gene Functions in Diseases
	MMPH6009	Integrative Perspectives of Body Functions
	MMPH6134	Biomedical Sciences Seminar
	MMPH6149	Recent Advances in Biomedical Technology
School of Chinese Medicine	MMPH6187	Current Research and Development of Chinese Medicines
School of Public Health	MMPH3017	Time Use and Health
	MMPH6002	Introduction to Biostatistics
	MMPH6003	Introduction to Epidemiology
	MMPH6108	Principles of Public Health
	MMPH6109	Health Behaviour and Communication
	MMPH6116	Health Economics
	MMPH6117	Advanced Statistical Methods I
	MMPH6146	Health Policy and Politics
	MMPH6157	Intermediate Epidemiology
	MMPH6159	The Practice of Public Health
	MMPH6167	Infectious Disease Epidemiology
	MMPH6180	Public Health Ethics and Law
	MMPH6206	Emerging Infectious Diseases and “One Health”
	MMPH6207	Infectious Diseases in Public Health
HKU Pasteur Research Pole	MMPH6171	HKU - Pasteur Virology Course
	MMPH6174	HKU - Pasteur Immunology Course

Undergraduate Courses (6 credits each, a maximum of 12 credits may be selected from the courses below): The assessment is based on a combination of coursework/in-course assessment (20-60%) and final examination (40-80%)

Programme	Course Code	Course Title
Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences [BBiomedSc]	BBMS3001	Medical Microbiology
	BBMS3003	Mechanisms and Pathology of Diseases
	BBMS3005	Infection and Immunity
	BBMS3007	Cancer Biology
	BBMS3008	Essential Proteomics
	BBMS3009	Genome Science
	BBMS3011	Molecular Neuroscience
	BBMS4003	Developmental Genetics
	BIOC3605	Sequence Bioinformatics
	BIOC3606	Molecular Medicine
	BIOC4612	Molecular Biology of the Gene
Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Global Health and Development [BASc(GHD)]	GHAD1005	Introduction to Epidemiology
	GHAD1006	Introduction to Biostatistics

Remarks: The above information is subject to change. For the most updated courses and programme information, please visit the programme website at <https://www.med.hku.hk/en/teaching-and-learning/postgraduate/tpg/mresmed>.