



Master of Medical Sciences Dissertation Examinations

To: MMedSc Final Year Students

The dissertation shall comprise a record of substantial experimental or clinical-based research work on the project, or a review of the existing literature on the subject of the project, presented in a form suitable for publication. The dissertation (39 credit units) should be of between 6,000 (minimum) to 10,000 words (maximum) (excluding references), and include two abstracts one in plain language comprehensible to non-specialists and another a scientific abstract of about 200 words each.

I write to remind you of the following deadlines for the dissertation examinations this year:

Deadline	Action Required	Responsible Party
April 30	i. Submit the details of examiner nomination, proposed dissertation title and c.v. of the External Examiner via online.	Department/ Supervisor
	ii. Discuss the title with supervisor before submission. Once submitted, no modification is permitted without further approval by Board of Studies.	Student
July 31	i. Submit Dissertation Submission Form for First Submission (M.103/1017 amended) to MMedSc Office (Location and Opening Hour) or via email: mmedsc@hku.hk	Student (Signature of supervisor should be obtained before submission)
	ii. Upload the electronic copy of dissertation and two abstracts in one PDF file via Moodle through HKU Portal > My E-learning > e.g. MMSC7000_2A_2020 > MMSC7000 Dissertation. The dissertation should be of between 6,000 (minimum) to 10,000 words (maximum) (excluding references) with e-signature, and include two abstracts one in plain language comprehensible to non-specialists and another a scientific abstract of about 200 words each [format of abstract]. For general guidance in preparing the dissertation, please refer to the booklet, " Preparing and Submitting Your Thesis: A Guide for MPhil and PhD Students ", published by the Graduate School.	Student
To be informed by the MMedSc Office after results and comments are received by examiners	Submit the following documents to the MMedSc Office in person or by post (Location and Opening Hour):	Student (Signature of supervisor should be obtained before submission)
	i. 3 copies of CD-ROM (single PDF file) of your corrected dissertation [format of electronic dissertations can be found at: http://etd.lib.hku.hk];	
	ii. the submission form granting permission to HKU Libraries for allowing open access to your dissertation [which is downloadable at: Other HKU Degrees Thesis Submission Form]; and iii. the form Confirmation of Amendments Addressed by Student for the Degree of MMedSc (M.148/910) duly signed by your supervisor to certify that the necessary amendments are made to his/her satisfaction.	

Request for extension of the deadline for submission of the dissertation will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. If an extension is approved by the Board of Studies, the maximum period of extension to be granted will be 3 months normally and up to 4 months in exceptional circumstances. The candidate should submit [Application Form for Extension of Dissertation Submission Deadline \(M.117/717\)](#) together with the endorsement of the supervisor and Head/Director of Department/School concerned to the MMedSc Office, for consideration by the Board of Studies.

Please also note that with effect from the academic year 2012-13, a candidate who is granted an extension of the deadline to submit his/her dissertation shall pay a fee at 5% of the total composition fee for each



3-month extension or part thereof. An additional 5% of the total composition fee shall hence be charged if a candidate is granted an extension of 4 months for exceptional circumstance. Pro-rata payment is not allowed.

[Assessment Guidelines for the Dissertation \[document M.193/202 \(re-amended\)\]](#) is available at Moodle e.g. MMSC7000_2A_2020.

To avoid improper citation or potential plagiarism, you are required to conduct plagiarism check for your dissertation via Turnitin Assignment through Moodle through HKU Portal > My E-learning > e.g. MMSC7000_2A_2020 > MMSC7000 Dissertation. For Instructions, please refer to [Workflow for Compulsory Plagiarism Check on Dissertation through Turnitin](#). Please submit the Turnitin report to your supervisor together with your dissertation. The relevant information and documents/forms are available at Moodle e.g. MMSC7000_2A_2020.

In 2005, a student of the MMedSc programme was found to have committed plagiarism in his dissertation. The Board of Examiners decided that his dissertation be accorded a failure, and to refer this case of plagiarism to the Disciplinary Committee of the University. The Disciplinary Committee found the student guilty of the offence of plagiarism, and imposed upon him a penalty of a reprimand and a suspension of 3 months. You are reminded that plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Please pay particular attention to Regulation 5 of the University's Regulations governing Conduct at Examinations, which reads:

“A candidate shall not engage in plagiarism nor employ nor seek to employ any other unfair means at an examination or in any other form of work submitted for assessment as part of a University examination. Plagiarism is defined as the unacknowledged use, as one's own, of work of another person, whether or not such work has been published.”

Please refer to the following booklets for preparation of your dissertation and consult your supervisor on how to avoid plagiarism if you have any questions.

- “What is plagiarism?”
(<https://tl.hku.hk/plagiarism/>)
- “Preparing and Submitting Your Thesis”
(http://intraweb.hku.hk/reserved_1/gradsch/preparing_thesis2.pdf)
- “How to Prepare Thesis Proposal”
(http://intraweb.hku.hk/reserved_1/gradsch/thesis-proposal.pdf)
- “Regulations Governing the Format, Binding and Presentation of Dissertations for Higher Degrees by Coursework”
(<https://www4.hku.hk/pubunit/calendar/2019-2020/1551-regulations-governing-the-format-binding-and-presentation-of-dissertations-for-higher-degrees-by-coursework>)

Thank you.

MMedSc Office