

BSc (Hons) Medical Science - SC330 (Under Review)

1. Objectives

The BSc Honours degree in Medical Science is a significant landmark in the continuing development of medical and health sciences education in Mauritius. The degree programme has been developed in line with General Medical Council (GMC) 'Recommendations on Undergraduate Medical Education: Tomorrow's Doctors', 1993, so that it may serve as the pre-clinical phase of the full medical education programme. Thus, with the successful completion of the degree programme, with the award of at least an Upper Second Class Honours Degree, the graduate will be eligible for admission to Clinical Medical Studies (3-4 years' duration, variable) at various overseas universities.

The following possibilities exist at present:

- (i) 3 years of study at l'Université Victor-Ségalen, Bordeaux 2, France. After having successfully completed their clinical studies and obtained the "Attestation de 2e Cycle des Etudes Medicales" in France, students will be awarded the MBChB degree by the University of Mauritius. They will then be eligible to undergo two-year pre-registration training in the various hospitals of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life in Mauritius.
- (ii) 4½ years of study at the University of Cape Town (or Pretoria). After successful completion of their clinical studies in South Africa, students will be awarded the medical degree by the University concerned. They will then be eligible to undergo two-year pre-registration training in the various hospitals of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life in Mauritius.

The BSc (Hons) Medical Science degree also provides a foundation from which, following postgraduate studies, graduates would be well suited for a career in biomedical or health services research, health care administration, the medical laboratory service, the commercial medical or pharmaceutical industries, or in a range of other professions allied to medicine and health care.

2. General Entry Requirements

As per General Entry Requirements for admission to the University for undergraduate degrees.

3. Programme Requirements

At least five GCE 'O' Level Passes (or equivalent) including Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and English Language, and GCE 'A' Level Passes in three subjects, which should include Chemistry and normally Biology. The minimum grades required at 'A' Level are A, A, B.

4. Programme Duration

Normal: 3 years

Maximum: 4 years

5. General Conditions

- (i) The Programme consists of 37 core modules and two modules MED 3151 (Sémiologie Médicale) and MED 3251 (Sémiologie Chirurgicale) taught in French (compulsory for those who wish to proceed to Bordeaux).

- (ii) A module is normally 60 hours, which comprises 45 hours of lecture and 15 hours of self directed study and tutorial.
- (iii) Modules will not be assessed separately except for modules CSE 1010e (Introduction to Information Technology), MED 1161 (Biophysics), MED 1271 (Biostatistics), MED 3151 (Sémiologie Médicale) and MED 3251 (Sémiologie Chirurgicale).
- (iv) For the award of BSc (Hons) Medical Science degree, students need to pass in all exam papers including the project. In addition they must complete satisfactorily their clinical training during clinical placements at the end of each year.
- (v) The final assessment will be based on the performance of the student throughout the 3/4 years of study.
- (vi) In case of failure in any paper for papers assessed in a combined and integrated form, students will be allowed a resit examination per year. In case of failure in one resit paper, students may repeat the year unless decided otherwise by the Board of Examiners, Faculty Board and Senate.
- (vii) In case of failure in papers for modules assessed separately i.e. MED 1161 (Biophysics), MED 1271 (Biostatistics) and CSE 1010e (Introduction to Information Technology), students can retake these modules in year 2 or year 3.
- (viii) In case of failure in modules MED 3151 (Sémiologie Médicale) or MED 3251 (Sémiologie Chirurgicale), students will be allowed a resit examination in the paper(s) failed. Students wishing to proceed to Bordeaux for the second cycle (DCEM II) need to pass these modules.
- (ix) Pass mark for papers assessing MED modules is 50%.
- (x) Students will be awarded passmark (50%) in resit/retake examinations for MED modules.
- (xi) In case a student has to repeat a year, no exemptions will be allowed for papers passed in the failed year.
- (xii) A student who is sick or has been unable to take an examination for other valid reasons to the satisfaction of the Dean of Faculty and Chairman of Senate will be required to take a Special Examination.

6. Assessment

It is essential in medicine that a combined and an integrated form of assessment be implemented. Modules will NOT be examined separately except for the following modules CSE 1010e, MED 1161, MED 1271, MED 3151 and MED 3251.

- (i) Written assignments covering all modules will be given throughout semesters 1 and 2. Weighting: 100 marks per year.
- (ii) Students will be examined on clinical skills by continuous assessment. Weighting: 100 marks per year.

- (iii) A True/False paper examination of 2-hour and 30 minutes duration will be given at the end of semester 2 of each year (Papers 1, 4, 7). Negative marking will be applied for these papers.
Weighting: 100 marks per year.
- (iv) A data interpretation paper examination of 3 hours based on the ability to interpret various medical data at the end of semester 2 of each year (Papers 2, 5, 8).
Weighting: 100 marks per year.
- (v) A 3-hour examination consisting of a paper of short notes on 10 topics chosen from a set of 12 at the end of semester 2 of each year (Papers 3, 6, 9).
Weighting: 100 marks per year.
- (vi) The two modules MED 1161 (Biophysics) and MED 1271 (Biostatistics) will each be assessed by a 2-hour written examination at the end of semester 2 in year 1.
Weighting: 30 marks per paper.
- (vii) The two modules taught in French MED 3151 (Sémiologie Médicale) and MED 3251 (Sémiologie Chirurgicale) will each be assessed by a 2-hour written examination at the end of semester 2 in year 3.
Grades A, B, C or F will be awarded for these modules.
- (viii) For the module CSE 1010e, a 2-hour examination consisting of a paper of short notes on 4 topics chosen from a set of 6 at the end of semester 1 of Year 1 and continuous assessment throughout that semester.
Weighting: 40 marks
- (ix) Clinical placement: under supervision of staff from the Ministry of Health.
Students have to satisfactorily complete their clinical training during hospital placement (Grade S or U)
- (x) The project submitted towards the end of sixth semester (3rd year) will be worth 24% of the total marks allocated for the 3 years.

7. Grading

Grade	Marks, x (%)
A	≥ 70
B	$60 \leq x < 70$
C	$50 \leq x < 60$
F	< 50

Grade S Satisfactory completion
Grade U Unsatisfactory completion

8. Classification of Award

First Class: $\geq 70\%$
Second Class: Upper Second $60 \leq x < 70$
Lower Second $50 \leq x < 60$

9. Programme Plan - BSc (Hons) Medical Science

YEAR 1			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Code	Module Name	Code	Module Name
MED 1111	Medicine in Society 1	MED 1211	Medicine in Society 2
MED 1121	Basic Cell Biology	MED 1221	Basic Pharmacology
MED 1131	Tissue and Organ Biology	MED 1231	Cardiovascular System
MED 1141	Molecular Biology and Genetics	MED 1241	Lungs and Respiratory Tract
MED 1151	Blood	MED 1251	Basic Microbiology
CSE 1010e	Introduction to Information Technology	MED 1261	Clinical Skills 1
MED 1161	Biophysics	MED 1271	Biostatistics

YEAR 2			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Code	Module Name	Code	Module Name
MED 2111	Medicine in Society 3	MED 2211	Medicine in Society 4
MED 2121	Nutrition, Metabolism and Endocrinology	MED 2221	Kidney and Urinary Tract
MED 2131	Gastrointestinal and Hepatobiliary Systems	MED 2231	Human Reproduction
MED 2141	Central Nervous System (Head and Neck)	MED 2241	Pathology
MED 2151	Central Nervous System and Peripheral Nervous System	MED 2251	Skeletal and Locomotor Systems
MED 2161	Immunology	MED 2261	Clinical Skills 3
MED 2171	Clinical Skills 2		

YEAR 3			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Code	Module Name	Code	Module Name
MED 3000	Project	MED 3000	Project
MED 3111	Medicine in Society 5	MED 3211	Medicine in Society 6
MED 3121	Clinical Microbiology	MED 3221	Parasitology
MED 3131	Clinical Immunology	MED 3231	Tropical Medicine
MED 3141	Clinical Skills 4	MED 3241	Clinical Skills 5
MED 3151	Sémiologie Médicale	MED 3251	Sémiologie Chirurgicale

Clinical placement

As from year 1, students are placed during a specific period to undergo training in nursing care under the supervision of nursing administrators as well as charge nurses. Students are expected to acquire basic nursing skills to enable them to cope with future modules.

During year 2 and year 3, students are placed in hospitals under the supervision of consultants and specialists. Students are expected to acquire basic clinical skills and make use of the acquired knowledge during clinical skills classes.

At the end of each placement, students are expected to submit a comprehensive report of the work experience acquired to the programme coordinator.

January 2010