

St George's, University of London

Scheme of Assessment and Grade Criteria - MSc Sports Cardiology For students entering the programme in 2017

Approved by TPCC (May 2018)

Overall

- 1.1 The Scheme of Assessment is presented to meet the requirements of section 7 of the General Regulations for Students and Programmes of Study which stipulates that each programme shall have a Scheme of Assessment for each major stage (e.g. year) or module, as defined in its Regulations. This Scheme of Assessment pertains to the:
- MSc in Sports Cardiology
 - PgCert in Sports Cardiology
 - PgDip in Sports Cardiology

Module Assessments

- 1.2 For each module there will be an assessment scheme setting out how many assessments are required for the module and the weighting of each assessment.
- 1.3 Topics for assessments will be devised by module leaders, in consultation with the head of assessment and the teaching team, which reflect the content and learning outcomes contained in the module descriptor.
- 1.4 Deadlines for submission will be given in the relevant module handbook.
- 1.5 Word limits will be set in accordance with the type of assessment elements and module credit rating.
- 1.6 The schemes of assessment for the modules available within the Sports Cardiology programme are summarised in the following table. The detailed assessment scheme will be set out in the module handbook and will adhere to the validated module descriptors.

Table 1: Overview of module assessments

MSc SPORTS CARDIOLOGY (CORE MODULES)					
Module Title	Credits & Level	Formative Assessment	Summative Assessment	Weighting %	Achieving a pass:
Principles of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes	15 credits at L7	Presentation & Feedback on summative assessment Quizzes/questions (SBA)	2000-3000 word case analysis & literature review	100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed

Practice of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes	15 credits at L7	Presentation & Feedback on summative assessment Quizzes/questions (SBA) Clinical assessments (CbD, mini-CEX)	Logbook 1000-2000 word case analysis	Pass/Fail 100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Principles of cardiovascular screening	15 credits at L7	Presentation & Feedback on summative assessment Quizzes/questions (SBA)	2000-3000 word screening programme design	100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Practice of cardiovascular screening	15 credits at L7	Presentation & Feedback on summative assessment Quizzes/questions (SBA) Clinical assessments (CbD, mini-CEX)	Logbook 1000-2000 word reflective essay	Pass/Fail 100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Cardiovascular anatomy and physiology	15 credits at L7	Presentation & Feedback on summative assessment Quizzes/questions (SBA)	2000-3000 word literature review	100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Cardiac rehabilitation of athletes and patients with cardiac disorders	15 credits at L7	Feedback on draft of literature review Online quizzes/questions	2000-3000 word cardiac rehabilitation programme critique or design	100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Research methods	15 credits at L7	Feedback on summative assessment	Research protocol	100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Research project	60 credits at L7	Feedback on drafts of report	10000-15000 word report in the style of a scientific paper	100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed

Emergency response planning	15 credits at L7	Feedback on draft of literature review Online quizzes/questions Immediate Care in Sport qualification	2000-3000 word reflective essay and critique or design of emergency response plan	100%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Advanced Management and Genomics of Inherited Cardiac Conditions	15 credits at L7	Online quizzes/questions Feedback on draft case study	1500-2500 word clinical case study	100%	50% pass
Ethical, Legal and Social Perspectives on Genomic Medicine	15 credits at L7	Short written piece to give experience of constructing an ethical argument (with feedback)	Timed written exam (SBA, SAQ, essay) 1500 word case analysis	50% 50%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed
Counselling skills for genomics	15 credits at L7	Feedback on role play and from group discussions	Participation in a communication skills role play Development of resource material	50% 50%	50% pass mark All elements must be passed

Coursework assignments

1.7 Coursework assignments will be marked out of 100 with the significance given below:

70-100	A	Excellent
65-69	B+	Very good
60-64	B	Good
55-59	C+	Satisfactory
54-50	C	Pass
40-49	D	Fail

0-39	E	Serious fail
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Zero marks will be awarded where plagiarism or other academic dishonesty is demonstrated, and for non-submission or non-attendance.

Students who submit work after the authorised extension deadline will be given a zero for that attempt.

- 1.8 The percentage marks for individual module assessments will be weighted according to the formula given in the module handbooks to give a single percentage mark for the module. Candidates must pass each element of the module assessments independently. The final module mark will be calculated from the numeric marks awarded as per the weightings described in Table 1.

Assessment Criteria and marking schemes

- 1.9 Detailed Assessment Criteria explaining how different levels of achievement by students will be rewarded through the allocation of marks will be developed by the course team and made available to internal and external examiners.
- 1.10 Marking schemes explaining how marks are allocated to each piece of assessed work (for a question, a group of questions or a section in an examination paper or presentation) will be developed by the course team and made available to internal and external examiners.

Internal moderation

- 1.11 The head of assessment, in collaboration with individual module leaders, will oversee internal moderation for quality assurance purposes. Arrangements for internal moderation will comply with requirements of General Regulation 11.7 which stipulates that written assessments, whether conducted under supervised or unsupervised conditions, shall be marked in detail by one Internal Examiner or Assessor, with at least one other Internal Examiner or Assessor having an overview of the work submitted for assessment.

- 1.12 Module assignments will normally be blind marked independently by two examiners who will then compare their marks and arrive at an agreed mark. To safeguard consistency, assessments for modules delivered outside SGUL (international partners) will be marked by one examiner appointed by the partner who delivers the module and one from SGUL. Both first, second and agreed marks should be recorded on the mark sheet. Where an agreed mark cannot be reached, the head of assessment will be asked to moderate. The head of assessment may seek an additional opinion from another member of staff with suitable expertise, or from a member of the Exam Board.
- 1.13 Following internal moderation, candidates who receive a mark of $\geq 50\%$ for an assignment will pass the assignment.
- 1.14 Candidates who receive a mark of $\leq 49\%$ will fail the assignment and will be given a deadline for resubmission, normally four weeks after receiving the fail mark. Extended resubmission times may be allowed for introductory modules, in order to allow more detailed feedback and remediation as appropriate. Marks for any module that involves a resubmission or resit will be capped overall at 50%. External examiners will be asked to review both attempts before marks are confirmed by the Board of Examiners.

Re-entry to assessments

- 1.15 A student will, as of right, be permitted one re-entry for all failed assessment components. Failure at reassessment may lead to a student's registration on the programme of study being terminated. The reassessment will normally be by the same method as at the first attempt. In all cases, students who have to resubmit work or retake an examination will have the module marks capped at a bare pass (50% for all modules). The Chair of the relevant Exam Board will make this adjustment.
- 1.16 For the second attempt assessment must normally be resubmitted within four weeks of receiving an initial fail mark.

Progression

- 1.17 There are no progression points with the MSc in Sports Cardiology. Notwithstanding the absence of progression points, the Board of Examiners will determine at the end of the year whether a part-time student's progress in the preceding year's assessments is sufficient to permit continuation of study to the subsequent year of the course. Where assignments are outstanding due to agreed extensions, continuation of study within the subsequent year would be contingent on passing the assignment at the agreed revised deadline.

Research Project

- 1.18 Candidates will submit a research dissertation in the form of a scientific report. They will be allocated an individual supervisor to enable them to progress the work. The topic of study should be approved by the Research Project module leads.
- 1.19 The dissertation will be limited to a maximum of 15,000 words. Deadlines for submission will be given in the module handbook. Candidates who miss this submission date will normally be required to wait until the next examination cycle before receiving a mark for the project.
- 1.20 Research Projects will be marked by two markers. Markers will mark the work independently. If the marks allocated are within a band of 9, marks will then be averaged to give the final mark. If the marks are further apart than this, or if one mark is a pass and the other a fail, markers will be required to discuss their marks to see if they can agree on a mark. Where an agreed mark cannot be reached, the head of assessment will be asked to moderate. The head of assessment may seek an additional opinion from another member of staff with suitable expertise, or from a member of the Exam Board.
- 1.21 The examiners shall award a mark out of 100 with the significance as follows:

70-100	A	Excellent
65-69	B+	Very good
60-64	B	Good
55-59	C+	Satisfactory
50-54	C	Pass
40-49	D	Fail
0-39	E	Serious fail

Zero marks will be awarded where plagiarism or other academic dishonesty is demonstrated, and for non-submission.

- 1.22 Candidates who achieve a mark of $\geq 50\%$ will be deemed to have passed the Research Project.

- 8.8 The Board of Examiners may determine that any pass mark agreed should be subject to specific amendments to be made within a given time period (normally four weeks and not longer than twelve weeks) of receiving notification of this requirement.
- 8.9 Candidates who achieve a mark of $\leq 49\%$ at first attempt will fail the Research Project. Such candidates will normally be required to re-submit the following year. The Board of Examiners shall determine whether the project may be re-written to address any shortcomings or whether a new project is required for the re-submission. The Board of Examiners may also determine who should act as supervisor for the re-submission. Marks for re-submissions will be capped at 50%.

External examiners

- 1.23 At least one external examiner shall be appointed to the MSc in Sports Cardiology. The external examiner(s) shall be invited to participate in the setting of assessments and shall have the right to inspect any assessment material for the MSc. The detailed duties of external examiners are set out in the Quality Manual.

Board of Examiners

- 1.24 There shall be a Board of Examiners constituted in accordance with the General Regulations for Students and Programmes of Study.

Determination of Final Degree Mark

- 1.25 The final percentage marks obtained for the 120 credits from taught module assessments weighted for credit value, and the weighted Research Project mark worth 60 credits will be added together and divided by 12 to arrive at a final degree mark for the MSc. Marks will be calculated to one decimal place, 0.5 being rounded up.
- 1.26 Candidates who achieve a final degree mark of 49.5-59.4% and pass the required combination of core and elective modules and pass the Research Project will pass the degree.
- 1.27 Candidates who achieve a final degree mark of 59.5-69.4% and pass the required combination of core and elective modules and pass the Research Project will pass the degree with merit.
- 1.28 Candidates who achieve a final degree mark of $\geq 69.5\%$ and pass the required combination of core and elective modules and pass the Research Project will pass the degree with distinction. Such candidates will normally be expected to pass each component at first attempt.
- 1.29 Candidates who successfully pass all core modules but achieve a final degree mark of $\leq 49.4\%$ will fail the degree but may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Sports Cardiology or Postgraduate Certificate in Sports Cardiology if they fulfil the conditions for these awards (see 12 and 13 below).
- 11.6 Candidates who fail a core module (taking into account second attempts) will fail the degree but may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Sports Cardiology if they fulfil the conditions for this awards (see 13 below).

Determination of Final Diploma Mark

- 1.30 The Final Diploma Mark will be calculated by adding together the final marks for the core and elective modules weighted according to credit value. The total will then be divided by 8. Marks will be calculated to one decimal place, 0.5 being rounded up.
- 1.31 Candidates who achieve a final diploma mark of 49.5-69.4% will pass the Postgraduate Diploma.
- 1.32 Candidates who achieve a final diploma mark of $\geq 69.5\%$ will pass the Postgraduate Diploma with distinction.

- 1.33 Candidates who have successfully passed all the core modules but have achieved a final diploma mark of $\leq 49.4\%$ will fail the Diploma but may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Sports Cardiology if they fulfil the conditions for this award (see 13 below).
- 1.34 Candidates who fail a core module (taking into account second attempts) will fail the degree but may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Sports Cardiology if they fulfil the conditions for this award (see 13 below).

Determination of Final Certificate Mark

- 1.35 The Postgraduate Certificate will be awarded without merit or distinction to candidates who successfully pass the required modules to the value of 60 credits. The Final Certificate Mark will be calculated by adding together the marks for 60 credits achieved, weighted for credit value and dividing by 4. Marks will be calculated to one decimal place, 0.5 being rounded up.
- 1.36 Candidates who achieve a final certificate mark of $\geq 49.5\%$ will pass the Postgraduate Certificate.
- 1.37 Candidates who fail a module (taking into account second attempts) or achieve a final certificate mark of $\leq 49.4\%$ will fail the Postgraduate Certificate and will be issued with a transcript detailed the credits that have been accumulated.

Recognition of Accredited Prior Learning

- 1.38 Due to the novel nature of the MSc in Sports Cardiology, which is the first post-graduate qualification in the field of Sports Cardiology, internationally, the team does not anticipate to receive RPL claims based on prior study at other UK universities. Experiential learning claims based on the knowledge and skills acquired in clinical practice may be possible in the future. Based on these considerations, the course team has decided to delay the introduction of an RPL process until the programme is well established.

Awards

- 1.39 Candidates for the award of MSc in Sports Cardiology must obtain a total of 180 credits at level 7 by achieving a pass in the following modules:

Core modules (105 credits):

- Principles of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes (15 credits)
- Practice of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes (15 credits)
- Principles of cardiovascular screening (15 credits)
- Practice of cardiovascular screening (15 credits)
- Cardiovascular anatomy and physiology (15 credits)
- Cardiac rehabilitation (15 credits)

- Research methods (15 credits)

Research Project module with a value of 60 credits.

One option module with a value of 15 credits selected from the list of option modules available within the Programme Regulations and Programme Specification.

1.40 Candidates for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Sports Cardiology must obtain 120 credits at level 7 by achieving a pass in the following modules:

Core modules (90 credits):

- Principles of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes (15 credits)
- Practice of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes (15 credits)
- Principles of cardiovascular screening (15 credits)
- Practice of cardiovascular screening (15 credits)
- Cardiovascular anatomy and physiology (15 credits)
- Cardiac rehabilitation (15 credits)

Option modules with a value of 30 credits selected from the list of elective modules available within the Programme Regulations and Programme Specification and the Research methods module.

1.41 Candidates for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate in Sports Cardiology must obtain 60 credits at level 7 by achieving a pass in four taught modules. The recommended modules are:

- Principles of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes
- Practice of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes
- Principles of cardiovascular screening
- Practice of cardiovascular screening

Students may choose to do two out of the four recommended modules (EITHER Principles of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes and Practice of cardiovascular evaluation of athletes OR Principles of cardiovascular screening and Practice of cardiovascular screening) and chose two further modules from the rest of the core or option modules offered within the MSc.

Date of Award

1.42 The date of the award of the degree, diploma or certificate shall be the date of the Board of Examiners meeting at which the award is conferred.