



**QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST**

**SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE DENTISTRY  
AND BIOMEDICAL  
SCIENCES**

# **A Guide to Intercalated Degrees 2021/22**

This guide contains information for medical and dental students who are considering taking an intercalated degree in the academic year 2021-2022. The purpose is to provide a general overview of the intercalated degrees available. However, this is only a starting point for students who are convinced that they would like to take this option. The most comprehensive information can be obtained from the co-ordinators of the various degree courses.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION ON INTERCALATED STUDENTS

### **What is an Intercalated degree?**

An intercalated degree is a degree taken between two years of a medical or dental course.

### **Timing of Intercalated BSc degrees**

The first two years of a medical or dental course with the addition of the intercalated year fulfil the requirement of three years study for the award of an undergraduate degree. Intercalated BSc degrees are usually taken after the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the medical or dental curriculum. It is also possible to do an intercalated degree between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year, but not usually recommended as this would break up the flow of the main clinical teaching.

Intercalated Masters degrees are usually taken after the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the medical or dental curriculum.

### **Selection for Intercalated degree courses**

Acceptance onto a degree course is subject to the agreement of the relevant degree co-ordinator and final approval by the Director of the Centre for Medical Education or the Director of the Centre for Dentistry as appropriate. Students will be informed of the decision at the beginning of July.

### **Going to another university for the Intercalated degree year**

It is possible to take an intercalated degree at a university somewhere else in the U.K. or in the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere in Europe, but there are two major considerations. Firstly, the appropriate Centre in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences at QUB must authorise the course to be taken and secondly, the appropriate body in the other university must agree that the previous studies taken and the standard attained are a suitable preparation for the degree course to be undertaken. The co-ordinator in QUB in the chosen subject should be able to help you make the right contacts. Some UK Universities do not, however, accept candidates from outside their own Medical School. For initial enquiries about leaving QUB for the intercalated year, medical students should contact Ms Perpetua Lewis ([p.lewis@qub.ac.uk](mailto:p.lewis@qub.ac.uk)) in the Progress and Assessment Office of the Centre for Medical Education. Dental students should contact Mrs Helen Martin ([h.martin@qub.ac.uk](mailto:h.martin@qub.ac.uk)) in the Centre for Dentistry.

### **Considerations for students taking medical / dental courses at other universities to pursue an intercalated degree at QUB**

The content of the previous years of study in pre-clinical/clinical courses must provide an appropriate background of sufficient depth and breadth for the degree to be undertaken. Also, the previous performance of the student will be judged according to the selection criteria given for QUB students.

### **Clinical Academic Training Programme (CATP)**

Dr Cecilia O’Kane and Professor Chris Irwin are the Medical and Dental Student leads respectively on the School CATP Board. If you would like to find out more about Clinical Academic Training

opportunities within the school you can contact Dr O’Kane by email on [c.okane@qub.ac.uk](mailto:c.okane@qub.ac.uk) or Dr Gerry McKenna by email at [g.mckenna@qub.a.uk](mailto:g.mckenna@qub.a.uk).

## **INSPIRE Intercalated Degree Fair**

Each year the he School holds an intercalated fair and this year the details are as follows:

### **INSPIRE INTERCALATED DEGREE FAIR**

**Date**                **Wednesday 2 December 2020**  
**Time**                **2pm**  
**Venue**               **Via MS Teams**

The fair will be an opportunity for prospective intercalated students to come along and find out about the degrees on offer from course coordinators and intercalated students (past and present). Prospective intercalated students can obtain general information about what programmes are on offer and how to go about applying for a particular degree course.

## INTERCALATED MASTERS DEGREES ON OFFER FOR 2021-22

### **School of Medicine Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences**

1. [MSc in Bioinformatics & Computational Genomics](#)
2. [MSc \(Res\) Cancer Medicine](#)
3. [MSc Clinical Anatomy](#)
4. [MSc Experimental Medicine](#)
5. [Masters of Public Health \(MPH\)](#)
6. [MPH in Global Health](#)

### **School of Psychology**

7. [MSc Applied Developmental Psychology](#)
8. [MSc Clinical Health Psychology](#)

(These links take you to the University coursefinder page)

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATIONS AND MODULE INFORMATION

The programme specification will contain further details on programmes including the educational aims, learning outcomes and module information. Programme Specifications for 2019-20 are held on [Academic Affairs webpages](#) or can be accessed directly by clicking on the programme titles below.

Please note that programme specifications, modules offered and module content are subject to change prior to the 2021-22 academic year and should be used as a guide only.

Module content is also available via the University module information site which can be found [here](#). Please then enter the subject area to search for the module of interest i.e. SCM.

PROGRAMME TITLE	MODULE TITLE <i>(Please refer to programme specification and module information for details on compulsory and optional modules etc)</i>	MODULE CODE
<b>School of Medicine, Dentistry &amp; Biomedical Sciences</b>		
<a href="#">MSc in Bioinformatics &amp; Computational Genomics</a>	Scientific Programming & Statistical Computing	SCM7047
In addition to the modules above students will also have an Introductory module (SCM7046 Introductory to Cell Biology and Computational Analysis) which is attendance only and runs at the start of Semester 1.	Analysis of Gene Expression	SCM8051
	Dissertation	SCM8053
	Genomics and Human Disease	SCM8095
	Applied Genomics	SCM8108
	Biostatistical Informatics	SCM8109
	Health and Biomedical informatics and the exposome	SCM8148
	Systems Medicine: From Molecules to Populations	SCM8152
<a href="#">MSc (Res) Cancer Medicine</a>	This programme is being reviewed for 2020-21 and further details to follow.	
<a href="#">MSc Clinical Anatomy</a>	Anatomy Project	SCM8079
	Applied Anatomy of the Trunk	SCM8112
	Applied Anatomy of the Head, Neck and Brain	SCM8113
	Applied anatomy of the Limbs and Back	SCM8114
<a href="#">MSc in Experimental Medicine</a>	Compulsory Modules	
	Fundamental Research Skills in Experimental Medicine	SCM8145
	Research Project	SCM8146
	Dissertation	SCM8147
	<b>Group A: Diabetes and Cardiovascular Medicine</b>	
	Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease: Biology Disease	SCM8110
	Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease: Medicine Translation	SCM8111
	<b>Group B: Infection and Immunity</b>	
	The Immune System in Health and Disease	SCM8097
	Inflammation: from Cell to Clinic	SCM8062
	<a href="#">Masters of Public Health</a>	Dissertation - Public Health
Medical Statistics		SCM7044

All modules are compulsory.	Determinants of Health and Disease and Health Improvement	SCM8102
	Public Health Sciences	SCM8103
	Health Protection	SCM8104
	Health and Social Care Systems	SCM8105
	Public Health Skills in Practice	SCM8135
<a href="#">Masters in Global Health</a>  Students must take 120 CATs compulsory modules and one of the Research Project Modules. There will be a competitive selective process for the Research Project: Work Placement	Global Health Development	SCM8137
	Maternal and Child Health in Low Resources Areas	SCM8136
	Non- communicable diseases from a Global Perspective	SCM8107
	Health and Social Care Systems	SCM8105
	Public Health Sciences	SCM8103
	Determinants and Improvement of Health	SCM8102
	Medical Statistics for Postgraduate Student	SCM7044
	Dissertation	SCM8154
	Global Health Work Based Research Placement Project	SCM8155
<b>School of Psychology</b>		
<a href="#">MSc Applied Developmental Psychology</a>	Theoretical Perspectives on Child and Adolescent Development	PSY7081
	Childhood Adversity: From Basic Science to Improving Outcomes	PSY70XX
	Atypical Development in an Educational Context	PSY70XX
	Dissertation	PSY7082
	Principles of Qualitative Research Methods and Data Analysis 1	PSY7063
	Quantitative Data Analysis 1	PSY7065
	Research Skills	PSY7031: Research Skills (10 CATS)
	Psychological Methods in Developmental Research	PSY7034
	Principles of Qualitative Research Methods and Data Analysis 2	PSY7064
	Quantitative Data Analysis 2	PSY7066
	Childhood Adversity in Applied Context	PSY7036
<a href="#">MSc Clinical Health Psychology</a>	Principles of Qualitative Research Methods and Data Analysis 1	PSY7063
	Principles of Qualitative Research Methods and Data Analysis 2	PSY7064
	Quantitative Data Analysis 1	PSY7065
	Quantitative Data Analysis 2	PSY7066
	Research Skills	PSY7031

Health Behaviour Change	PSY7100
Psycho-oncology: Living with and beyond a cancer diagnosis	PSY7101
Psychological Adjustment In Chronic Physical Conditions	PSY7102
Arts In Health	PSY7103
Research Design and Essential Methods in Clinical Health Psychology	PSY7104
Clinical Health Psychology Dissertation	PSY7106
Introduction to Therapeutic Skills	PSY7109

Please note that programme specifications, modules offered and module content are subject to change prior to the 2021-22 academic year commencing and should be used as a guide only.

## CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

	Course	Programme Co-ordinator	Email
	<b>School of Medicine Dentistry &amp; Biomedical Sciences</b>		
1	MSc in Bioinformatics & Computational Genomics	Dr Jaine Blayney and Dr Guillermo Lopez Campos	<a href="mailto:j.blayney@qub.ac.uk">j.blayney@qub.ac.uk</a> & <a href="mailto:G.LopezCampos@qub.ac.uk">G.LopezCampos@qub.ac.uk</a>
2	MSc (Res) Cancer Medicine	Dr Paul Mullan	<a href="mailto:p.mullan@qub.ac.uk">p.mullan@qub.ac.uk</a>
4	MSc Clinical Anatomy	Ms Samantha Taylor	<a href="mailto:s.j.taylor@qub.ac.uk">s.j.taylor@qub.ac.uk</a>
5	MSc in Experimental Medicine	Professor Andriana Margariti and Professor Bronagh Blackwood	<a href="mailto:a.margariti@qub.ac.uk">a.margariti@qub.ac.uk</a> & <a href="mailto:b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk">b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk</a>
6	Masters of Public Health	Professor Ciaran O'Neil	<a href="mailto:ciaraneoneill@qub.ac.uk">ciaraneoneill@qub.ac.uk</a>
7	Masters in Global Health	Professor Nathan Congdon	<a href="mailto:n.congdon@qub.ac.uk">n.congdon@qub.ac.uk</a>
	<b>School of Psychology</b>		
8	MSc Applied Developmental Psychology	Dr Kostas Papageorgiou Prof Martin Dempster	<a href="mailto:k.papageorgiou@qub.ac.uk">k.papageorgiou@qub.ac.uk</a> <a href="mailto:m.dempster@qub.ac.uk">m.dempster@qub.ac.uk</a>
9	MPH in Global Health	Prof Martin Dempster	<a href="mailto:m.dempster@qub.ac.uk">m.dempster@qub.ac.uk</a>

Administrative queries to Postgraduate & Professional Development

Phone: 028 9097 2615      Email: [pgoffice.smdb@qub.ac.uk](mailto:pgoffice.smdb@qub.ac.uk)

**Schools Intercalated Webpage** - <http://go.qub.ac.uk/intercalate>



## ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR 2021-22

Intercalating medical and dental students within QUB will be considered if they have successfully completed the third year of their course at first attempt and achieved an overall profile which is 2.1 standard. Intercalating applicants should also ensure they have permission to intercalate from either the Director for Medical Education or Dentistry as appropriate.

An external medical or dental student wishing to intercalate must have successfully completed the third or fourth year of their course and passed all assessments in the year in which they are applying. External intercalating applicants should also ensure they have the permission of the Head of Undergraduate Medical/Dental Education or equivalent from their home University, which should be submitted to QUB Admissions Office.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Students should apply via the Queen's online portal [https://dap.qub.ac.uk/portal/user/u\\_login.php](https://dap.qub.ac.uk/portal/user/u_login.php)
2. Students should also submit a 'permission form for a year out'. Please contact Ms Perpetua Lewis, Student Support and Guidance Officer, Centre for Medical Education, Whitla Medical Building ([p.lewis@qub.ac.uk](mailto:p.lewis@qub.ac.uk)) for further information and for a copy of this form if required. Dental students should contact Mrs Helen Martin ([h.martin@qub.ac.uk](mailto:h.martin@qub.ac.uk)) in the Centre for Dentistry.
3. Applicants applying for funding must submit their application by Thursday 28 January 2021 via the online portal. Closing date for all remaining applications is Wednesday 31 March 2021. Late intercalated applications may be considered if spaces are still available. Intercalated students should email [pgoffice.smdb@qub.ac.uk](mailto:pgoffice.smdb@qub.ac.uk) to enquire prior to submission of an application.

## FUNDING FOR INTERCALATED MASTERS

### General Advice on funding arrangements for Intercalated Students

A Student Financial Advisor from the University will be speaking at the Intercalated Fair on the 2 December 2020 and will be able to answer your questions on the financial implications for Undergraduate and Postgraduate when taking an Intercalated degrees. Further information is also available on our [webpages](#).

### Mathews Family Scholarship for Medical students

Details on this scholarship, entrance criteria and application process will be published on the [intercalated webpages](#).

### Kidney Research UK

Kidney Research UK offers grants of £5,000 to medical students undertaking research that is directly relevant to the kidney and kidney disease as part of an intercalated degree

This annual competition for Intercalated degrees for medical students aims to encourage and capture undergraduates with an interest in renal medicine at this early stage in their career development.

The £5,000 award is paid directly to the student, who can use this for living costs and fees, (award not allocable to research costs). The level of funding was agreed so as to be on a par with that offered by other funders providing intercalated year funding.

Further information will be posted on [Kidney Research UK](#) website when the call for applications opens. This will normally be in December of each year.

### **The Pathological Society**

The Society funds up to ten medical, dental or veterinary undergraduates who wish to take an Intercalated Degree and are undergraduate members of the Society based in UK and/or Ireland. The grant will cover the cost of university fees of up to £9,000, £4,500 stipend & 1500 consumables. The closing date for this scholarship is normally 31 March each year. Further information on these grants and applications forms can be found available on the [Pathological Society webpages](#).

### **Other Scholarship**

Additional Scholarships may become available during the year. Full details on these will be advertised on our [intercalated webpages](#).

## INTERCALATED BSc DEGREES ON OFFER FOR 2021-22

The following programme are available to students who have successfully completed the courses of studies for second/third year of Medicine or Dentistry. The consent of the Director of the appropriate Education Centre is required.

- BSc Medical Science

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATIONS AND MODULE INFORMATION

The programme specification will contain further details on programmes including the educational aims, learning outcomes and module information. Programme Specifications are held on [Academic Affairs Webpages](#) Academic Affairs Webpages or can be accessed directly by clicking on the programme titles below.

Module content is also available via the University module information site which can be found [here](#). Please then enter the subject area to search for the module of interest i.e. BMS.

PROGRAMME TITLE	MODULE TITLE <i>(Please refer to programme specification and module information for details on compulsory and optional modules etc)</i>	MODULE CODE
<a href="#">BSc Medical Science</a>	<b><u>Compulsory</u></b>	
	Research Project	BMS3112
	<b><u>Optional (student choice of 2 of the below modules)</u></b>	
	Embryology & Developmental Biology	BMS3105
	Sports and Exercise Physiology	BMS3103
	Advanced Neurosciences	BMS3102
	Cardiovascular Pathobiology & Treatment	BMS3107
	Principles of Pharmacology & Therapeutics	BMS3106

Please note that programme specifications, modules offered and module content are subject to change prior to the 2021-22 academic year and should be used as a guide only.

## CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Intercalated BSc Subject	Degree co-ordinator	Location	Telephone	Email
Medical Science	<i>Dr Sharon Parkinson</i>	01/025 WMB	9097 2136	s.parkinson@qub.ac.uk

### General inquiries to:

**Academic Co-ordinator -**

***Dr Sharon Parkinson* for Intercalated BSc**

Email: s.parkinson@qub.ac.uk

**Administrative Secretary -**

Phone: 028 9097 2677

***Mrs Anne O'Neill* for Intercalated BSc**

Email: [BIOMEDSCI@qub.ac.uk](mailto:BIOMEDSCI@qub.ac.uk)

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON INTERCALATED BSc DEGREES

### **The Intercalated BSc in Medical Sciences degree**

The Centre for Biomedical Sciences Education delivers undergraduate Bachelor of Science degrees in Biomedical Science and Human Biology, and Intercalated Degrees are part of this organization. An intercalated degree is a degree taken between two years of a medical or dental course. The year is equivalent to the final year of a degree in science or biomedical pathways. The degree awarded is a Bachelor of Science (Honours) and depending on performance, this is graded as a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours or Second Class Honours, Upper Division (2.1) or Second Class Honours, Lower Division (2.2) or 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Honours.

### **Timing of Intercalated BSc degrees**

The first two years of a medical or dental course with the addition of the intercalated year fulfil the requirement of three years study for the award of an undergraduate BSc degree. Intercalated degrees are usually taken after the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the medical or dental curriculum. It is also possible to do an intercalated degree between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year, but not usually recommended as this would break up the flow of the main clinical teaching.

### **Selection for Intercalated BSc degree courses**

At the time when places are finally agreed (end June) for the following academic year, there should normally be no resit examinations outstanding. Acceptance onto a degree course is subject to the agreement of the relevant degree co-ordinator and final approval by the Head of School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences. Students will be informed of the decision in early July.

### **Project work: iBSc in Medical Science**

Project work is carried out under the direct supervision of a member of academic staff, and on a day to day basis, research or technical personnel are available to provide support. The areas available for project work reflect the research interests of the academic staff in the teaching area involved. Most research is laboratory-based, but there are limited opportunities for clinical projects in a number of areas. Allocation of projects occurs prior to the beginning of the academic year, often during the summer vacation or much earlier if funding is sought (see later), and preliminary discussions should take place with supervisors during the previous academic year. In the organization of projects, particular interests of the student will be taken into consideration, if at all possible. If a particular project of interest has already taken up, degree co-ordinators will suggest alternatives.

Details of project areas / specific projects for 2021-22 will be posted on the intercalated degree website in December 2021. Additional projects may become available as the academic year progresses and will be added to this list.

### **Assessment and examinations**

The taught modules are assessed using a mixture of coursework and written examinations. Students will normally be allowed to present themselves once only for the examinations during the intercalated year of study. The research project is assessed by means of a dissertation and usually also by an oral presentation given as part of a research symposium. Dissertations are normally read by the external examiner in the subject.

### **Student mentoring**

At the beginning of the year, each new student is put in contact with a student who has just completed an intercalated BSc. The student mentor will draw on their recent experience to give general support and guidance when required.

In the context of peer group mentoring, intercalated students are encouraged to develop and maintain a social network with a view to providing a mutual support structure and to share general knowledge and skills.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The consent of the Course Co-ordinator concerned and the Head of the School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences is required before enrolment. For initial enquiries about leaving QUB for the intercalated year, medical students should contact Ms Perpetua Lewis ([p.lewis@qub.ac.uk](mailto:p.lewis@qub.ac.uk)) in the Progress and Assessment Office of the Centre for Medical Education. Dental students should contact Mrs Helen Martin ([h.martin@qub.ac.uk](mailto:h.martin@qub.ac.uk)) in the Centre for Dentistry.

Forms to apply for an intercalated degree are available on the intercalated degree website: <http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/mdbs/Study/IntercalatedDegrees/IntercalatedBSc/> Returns are made to the Centre for Biomedical Sciences Education (Ground floor, Whitla Medical Building).

## FUNDING FOR THE INTERCALATED BSC

There are a small number of grants available as given below. If you wish to be considered for funding you must make a preliminary application, which includes a CV and outline of the research project. It is important to initiate discussion with the relevant degree co-ordinator by at least the beginning of January to obtain a suitable project and supervisor, and then submit a completed application by **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

Scholarships are allocated by the School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences. Those awards that are not project-related will be made strictly on merit. If a greater number of preliminary applications are received in any area than there are awards available, applications will be selected to go forward on the basis of the student's marks in previous years. Only marks for core modules taken in 1<sup>st</sup> year (Semester I and II) and 2<sup>nd</sup> year (Semester I) will be taken into consideration. Selection will be made on rank order. ***Making an application does not, unfortunately, guarantee success.***

If you do not wish to be considered for an award, the application deadline is **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021**, although later applications may be considered.

**The Wolfson Foundation:** The Wolfson Foundation Intercalated Awards Programme is open to medical and dental students, who can demonstrate outstanding academic performance in their previous career. Wolfson Foundation awards currently provide a maximum award of £5000, and only a small number (1 or 2) are granted to each university. Submissions to The Wolfson Foundation must include CV details and an outline of the research project to be carried out, which is enabled by a project supervisor. The deadline for application is at the end of March 2021.

**The Medical Undergraduate Intercalated Scholarship:** This Award is open to medical students who have completed two years of their undergraduate degree and applying to do an intercalated BSc degree. Ideally this award will be made to a student who will find it difficult to finance an additional year of study in accordance with existing practice for ascertaining 'hardship'. All applicants will submit a 500 word application as to why they want to undertake an intercalated degree and a summary of their chosen area of study. This Award can be made in conjunction with another award. In the event of a tie the Award can be split between candidates

**Association of Physicians:** One / two bursaries are available (not every year) and will be allocated on academic merit by the School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences in June.

**British Association of Dermatologists:** Fellowships (£5,000 towards fees and living expenses) are awarded for the duration of projects that are relevant to dermatology and skin biology. Details can be found at [www.bad.org.uk/healthcare-professionals/education/medical-students/undergraduate-awards](http://www.bad.org.uk/healthcare-professionals/education/medical-students/undergraduate-awards)

**Pathological Society:** Support is available (not every year) for students who wish to undertake a project in Pathology / Microbiology. Details can be obtained from the course coordinator.

**Core (Digestive Disorders Foundation):** Bursaries of £1000 are available for medical students doing a project in an area relevant to gastroenterology. The deadline for applications is January 2021, so it is necessary to make your intention known earlier than the usual deadline for general awards (see above).

#### **Department of Health and Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS)**

The DHSSPS will provide a bursary for every year of study beyond the 4<sup>th</sup> year. Students will be entitled to have their tuition fees paid, without means testing, and will be eligible to apply for meanstested non-repayable bursaries towards living costs as well as supplementary grants. In addition, these students will continue to have access to reduced loans for the balance of their living costs.

**Students will not receive final confirmation that they have been accepted for an intercalated degree until July when all the examination results are known. At this stage the School Office should know of the outcome of studentship funding applications. The Education and Library Boards will then be informed which students are taking intercalated degrees and whether they are in receipt of sponsorship.**

### **PRIZES FOR WHICH INTERCALATED STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE**

**British Pharmacological Society Prize:** This prize of £1000 is awarded to the student obtaining the best performance in Pharmacology.

**The Physiological Society Prize:** This prize of £100 is awarded to the student obtaining the best performance in Physiology.

**The Ann Green Bequest Prize (Anatomy):** This prize of £50 is awarded to the student who produces the best Level 3 research project submission.

**Shirodaria Prize (Microbiology):** This prize is awarded for performance in the Level 3 course in Virology (BBC3028).

**Foundation Scholarship:** An amount of £200 is awarded on the basis of the best final mark used for degree classification purposes.

### **INTERCALATED BSC SEMESTER DATES**

Please refer to the University's webpages for up-to-date dates  
<http://www.qub.ac.uk/about/Semester-dates/>