

Susan Shelmerdine
request-861624-7ca24c16@whatdotheyknow.com

28 June 2022

Our Ref: 2022/204 – F1211084

Dear Susan Shelmerdine,

Re: Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 – Request for Information

Thank you for your email which was received by the University on 13 May 2022 timed 15:00 hours, requesting the following:

I would be most grateful if you would provide me, under the Freedom of Information Act, details in respect to the intercalated BSc degrees undertaken by medical students at your medical school.

- 1) In your undergraduate medical degree course, is it compulsory or optional for students to undertake an intercalated BSc degree during their medical studies?**
- 2) Do you offer intercalated BSc modules on any/all of the following topics (or related topics)? If so, please could you list which ones you provide options to study:**
 - a. Anatomy/ anatomical sciences/ dissection**
 - b. Radiology/ medical imaging**
 - c. Medical physics**
- 3) In the last 5 academic years of students (Sept 2016 to 2021) could you tell me how many students in total have completed an intercalated BSc (per year), and of these how many chose to undertake the above modules (relating to anatomy, radiology, medical physics).**

Please provide numbers of students per year, per subject module and whether you have information on the average mark and range of ranks achieved (e.g. % score or grade)

- 4) Is there a requirement for students to also conduct original research and produce a dissertation/thesis as part of any of these study modules/topics; or are they just examined by a written test?**
- 5) If there is a need to produce a dissertation/thesis as part of the module selected, would it be possible to provide the titles of the dissertations submitted over the last 5 years for these modules? Please provide the dissertation titles per year and per subject module.**

DATA PROTECTION AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICE

University of Glasgow, Tay House, Glasgow G12 8QQ

Data Protection: Telephone: 0141-330-3111 E-Mail: dp@gla.ac.uk

Freedom of Information: Telephone: 0141-330-2523 E-Mail: foi@gla.ac.uk

The University of Glasgow, charity number SC004401

University's Response

We apologise for the delayed response and any inconvenience caused.

1) In your undergraduate medical degree course, is it compulsory or optional for students to undertake an intercalated BSc degree during their medical studies?

This is optional.

2) Do you offer intercalated BSc modules on any/all of the following topics (or related topics)? If so, please could you list which ones you provide options to study:

- a. **Anatomy/ anatomical sciences/ dissection** Yes – Anatomical Sciences
- b. **Radiology/ medical imaging** No
- c. **Medical physics** No

3) In the last 5 academic years of students (Sept 2016 to 2021) could you tell me how many students in total have completed an intercalated BSc (per year), and of these how many chose to undertake the above modules (relating to anatomy, radiology, medical physics).

Year	Total Intercalating	Anatomical Sciences**
2016-2017	81 (Going ext*: 1)	3
2017-2018	83 (Going ext: 5)	5
2018-2019	108 (Going ext: 1)	5
2019-2020	96 (Going ext: 1)	5
2020-2021	76 (Going ext: 2)	3

*Going ext means students are going to another institution to complete their intercalated degree.

**Numbers include some external students

Please provide numbers of students per year, per subject module and whether you have information on the average mark and range of ranks achieved (e.g. % score or grade)

Please see **Appendix A**, attached, for data on intercalating students taking anatomical sciences modules.

Please note, in the University's response where there are less than five, the information has been structured in the manner '<5' as the base information could be used to identify individual students and so is considered personal data as defined in Data Protection legislation. We have also been unable to provide data on ranks achieved as this could also reveal the number

of students in a class and potentially lead to identification. The release of the information would be in breach of the data protection principles.

Therefore, the exemption from release of the information applies as specified under sections 38(1)(b) and 38(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This exemption is an absolute exemption under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

4) Is there a requirement for students to also conduct original research and produce a dissertation/thesis as part of any of these study modules/topics; or are they just examined by a written test?

Yes

5) If there is a need to produce a dissertation/thesis as part of the module selected, would it be possible to provide the titles of the dissertations submitted over the last 5 years for these modules? Please provide the dissertation titles per year and per subject module.

Dissertation titles are not currently recorded. Therefore, the University of Glasgow does not hold the information that you have requested and is not aware of any other public authority that could respond to your request. Section 17 of FOISA states that where public authorities receive requests for information that they do not hold, they must issue a notice advising that they do not hold the requested information.

The supply of documents under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 does not give the applicant or whoever receives the information any right to re-use it in such a way that might infringe the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (for example, by making multiple copies, publishing or otherwise distributing the information to other individuals and the public). The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004 ensured that Section 50 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 ("CDPA") applies to the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("FOISA").

Breach of copyright law is an actionable offence and the University expressly reserves its rights and remedies available to it pursuant to the CDPA and common law. Further information on copyright is available at the following website:

<http://www.ipo.gov.uk/copy.htm>

Your right to seek a review

Should you be dissatisfied with the way in which the University has dealt with your request, you have the right to require us to review our actions and decisions. If you wish to request a review, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office at foi@gla.ac.uk within 40 working days. Your request must be in a recordable format (letter, email, audio tape, etc). As the University of Glasgow is a Scottish Public Authority, your request is subject to the terms

of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("FOISA"). You will receive a full response to your request for review within 20 working days of its receipt.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which we have handled your request for review you may ask the Scottish Information Commissioner to review our decision. You must submit your complaint to the Commissioner within 6 months of receiving the response to review letter. The Commissioner's Office may be contacted as follows:

Online Appeal Service:

Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

By post:

The Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610

Fax: 01334 464611

E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

An appeal, on a point of law, to the Court of Session may be made against a decision by the Commissioner.

For further information on the review procedure please refer to

(<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/dpfoioffice/policiesandprocedures/foisa-complaintsandreview/>)

All complaints regarding requests for information will be handled in accordance with this procedure.

Yours sincerely,

Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office