



Registrar's Office

Queen's University Belfast
Belfast
BT7 1NN
Northern Ireland
Tel +44 (0) 28 9097 2500
www.qub.ac.uk

Our ref: FOI-22-170

27 June 2022

Susan Shelmerdine

Email: request-862896-77b5676c@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Susan

Further to your FOI request received on 18 May 2022 please find below the University's response to your request.

The information requested:

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?**

It is optional for students to undertake an intercalated BSc degree.

- 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 in 2016-17 but not from 2017-18 and thereafter due to a programme change

b) Radiology/ medical imaging

No.

c) Medical physics.

No.

2016-17:

Students must take the following compulsory module:

- Research Project

And a choice of four taught modules from the following:

- Topographical Anatomy
- Neuroscience
- Integrated Pharmacology
- Cardiovascular Pharmacology
- Molecular Pharmacology
- Tissue Biology and Pathology
- Cellular and Molecular Pathology
- Vascular Biology
- Advanced Cardiovascular Physiology

2017-18 to present:

Students must take the following compulsory module:

- Research Project

And a choice of two taught modules from the following:

- Advanced Neurosciences
- Cardiovascular Pathobiology and Treatment
- Embryology and Developmental Biology
- Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- Sports and Exercise Physiology

- 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).**

2016-17: 14 students (11 students completed an anatomy-based module)

2017-18: 10 students (the second part of the question is not applicable).

2018-19: 7 students (the second part of the question is not applicable).

2019-20: 12 students (the second part of the question is not applicable).

2020-21: 13 students (the second part of the question is not applicable).

- 4. 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)**

Information is provided for the research project module as all students are required to undertake this module. However, information is not provided for taught modules. As this is a small subset of students that have a choice of taught modules, there may only be 1-2 students taking a specific module. This information is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore withheld. Under S40(2) of the Act, a public authority is exempt from disclosing personal information where it may breach any of the data protection principles. In this case, it is considered that disclosure of the information to you would contravene the requirement of the first data protection principle. The first data protection principle states that personal data must be processed "lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner".

2016-17: Mean = 75%; Range = 64-85%

2017-18: Mean = 72%; Range = 62-80%

2018-19: Mean = 74%; Range = 72-78%

2019-20: Mean = 78%; Range = 68-82%

2020-21: Mean = 75%; Range = 72-79%

- 5. 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?**

Students are required to complete the Research Project module. This module gives them the opportunity to conduct original research and produce a dissertation on their research at the end of the academic year

- 6. 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.**

The University's response is attached at Appendix 1.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of part of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of receipt of the response to your original request and should be addressed to the Information Compliance Manager c/o info.compliance@qub.ac.uk. Please remember to quote the reference number FOI-22-170 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Information Compliance Unit