Integrated degree of PhD and MSc in Oral Sciences (Paediatric Dentistry)

Programme of study for Integrated degree of PhD and MSc in Oral Sciences (Paediatric Dentistry)¹

Year One (a total of 120 credits in taught modular courses will be taken as well as the research project)

- The candidate will commence research under the direction of their supervisor(s)
  - DSUR5055M Transferable Skills 1 (10 credits)
  - DSUR5061M Introduction to Research Methodology and Ethics (10 credits)
  - DSUR5059M Core Epidemiology (10 credits)
  - DSUR5104M Statistical Methods (10 credits)
  - DSUR5068M Medical Emergencies (10 credits)
  - DSUR5069M Dental Radiology (10 credits)
  - DSUR5125M Paediatric Dentistry 1 (60 credits)

Year Two (a total of 60 credits in taught modular courses will be taken as well as the research project)

- The candidate will continue research under the direction of their supervisor(s)
  - DSUR5055M Transferable Skills II (10 credits)
  - DSUR5126M Paediatric Dentistry 2 (50 credits)

Years Three and Four the candidate will continue research under the direction of their supervisor(s)

- Optional and compulsory non-credit bearing training and skills modules (e.g. Writing for Research Students in the Sciences, Thesis Presentation).

Changes may be made from time to time to the title of modular courses and the optional modular courses that are available².

Learning Outcomes / Transferable Key Skills / Learning Context / Assessment – overall programme PhD and MSc in Oral Sciences (Paediatric Dentistry)

1. Learning Outcomes

To meet the Learning Outcomes through a combination of taught components, transferable skills training and research components the students will:

¹ See also the general Programme of Study for the Integrated degrees of PhD and Master (MA, LLM or MSc, page 13) which specifies the overall arrangements for the University Integrated PhD and Masters programme.

² Programmes will comprise the study of 180 credits unless, as for this programme, otherwise prescribed in the programme specification, during each programme year.
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• interpret and communicate knowledge relevant to their speciality through research and scholarship of publishable quality that would satisfy peer review
• present and defend research outcomes which extend the forefront of paediatric dentistry
• demonstrate a detailed knowledge of the subject area and expertise in generic and subject or professional skills
• demonstrate competency in clinical skills and patient management where appropriate
• relate theoretical/academic knowledge to clinical practice and understand the relevance of their research and knowledge to clinical dentistry
• take a proactive and self-reflective role in working and develop professional relationships with other professionals, and with patients and carers where appropriate
• formulate ideas and hypotheses proactively and develop, implement and execute plans by which to evaluate these
• be able to articulate complex ideas and discuss them with peers and other professionals
• critically evaluate current issues, research and advanced scholarship
• understand relevant ethical and legal issues
• understand relevant health and safety issues
• demonstrate responsible working practice

2. Transferable (Key) Skills
Students will have had the opportunity to acquire the following abilities through the research training and research specified for the programme
• the skills necessary for a career as a researcher and/or for employment in a senior and leading capacity in a relevant area of professional/clinical practice or industry;
• evaluating their own achievement and that of others;
• self-direction and effective decision making in complex and unpredictable situations;
• independent learning and the ability to work in a way which ensures continuing professional development;

3. Learning Context
The learning context will include the critical analysis of, and decision making in, complex and unpredictable professional and/or clinical situations. The structure of the programme will provide research and/or professional training, breadth and depth of study and opportunities for drawing upon appropriate resources and techniques. Opportunities will be provided for students to:
• develop to a high level interests and informed opinions
• develop to a high level their design and management of their learning activities
• develop to a high level their communication of their conclusions;
• make an original contribution to the field
Students will be expected to engage in the exercise of autonomous initiative in their study and work in professional environments.
4. Assessment

Achievement will be assessed by the examination of the candidate’s thesis and performance under oral examination. Assessment will involve the achievement of the candidate in:

- evidencing an ability to conduct original and independent broad and in-depth enquiry within the discipline or within different aspects of the area of professional/clinical practice normally leading to published work;
- drawing on and/or developing a range of research techniques and methodologies appropriate to enquiries into the discipline/area of professional practice;
- demonstrating independent critical ability in the application of breadth and depth of knowledge to complex issues within the discipline or specialist area of professional/clinical practice;
- drawing on a range of perspectives on the area of study;
- evaluating and criticising received opinion;
- making reasoned and well-informed judgements on complex issues within the specialism whilst understanding the limitations on judgements made in the absence of complete data
- the written style and overall presentation of the thesis.

Learning Outcomes / Transferable Key Skills / Learning Context / Assessment for MSc in Oral Sciences (Paediatric Dentistry)

As the degree programme contains a Masters level qualification, candidates are required to achieve the Masters learning outcomes at the appropriate stage within the Integrated PhD and Masters programme.

1. Learning Outcomes

On completion of the programme students should have shown evidence of being able:

- to demonstrate in-depth, specialist knowledge and mastery of techniques relevant to the discipline and/or to demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of concepts, information and techniques at the forefront of the discipline;
- to exhibit mastery in the exercise of generic and subject-specific intellectual abilities;
- to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship;
- to take a proactive and self-reflective role in working and to develop professional relationships with others;
- proactively to formulate ideas and hypotheses and to develop, implement and execute plans by which to evaluate these;
- critically and creatively to evaluate current issues, research and advanced scholarship in the discipline.

2. Transferable (key) skills

Masters (Taught) students will have had the opportunity to acquire the following abilities as defined in the modules specified for the programme:
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- the skills necessary to undertake a higher research degree and/or for employment in a higher capacity in industry or area of professional practice;
- evaluating their own achievement and that of others;
- self direction and effective decision making in complex and unpredictable situations;
- independent learning and the ability to work in a way which ensures continuing professional development;
- critically to engage in the development of professional/disciplinary boundaries and norms.

3. Learning Context
For Masters (Taught) students the learning context will include the analysis of, and decision making in, complex and unpredictable situations. The structure of the programme will provide breadth and/or depth of study and opportunities for drawing upon appropriate resources and techniques. Opportunities will be provided for students to develop:

- interests and informed opinions
- their involvement in the design and management of their learning activities
- their communication of their conclusions

Students will be expected to progress to fully autonomous study and work.

4. Assessment
Achievement for the degree of Master (taught programme) will be assessed by a variety of methods in accordance with the learning outcomes of the modules specified for the year/programme and will involve the achievement of the students in:

- evidencing an ability to conduct independent in-depth enquiry within the discipline;
- demonstrating the ability to apply breadth and/or depth of knowledge to a complex specialist area;
- drawing on a range of perspectives on an area of study;
- evaluating and criticising received opinion;
- make reasoned judgements whilst understanding the limitations on judgements made in the absence of complete data.