

**PRO-FORMA FOR NOTIFICATION OF NEW OR FAST-TRACK
COURSE PROPOSALS**

THIS FORM SHOULD BE COMPLETED ONCE A FACULTY HAS APPROVED A NEW COURSE PROPOSAL (INCLUDING FAST-TRACK)

Its purpose is to ensure that relevant Offices are informed of the approval of new course proposals, in accordance with the procedures for course approval, and that the Learning, Teaching and Quality Office can report to the Learning and Teaching Committee. Please answer the questions below and return (by email or by internal mail to: Secretary, Learning & Teaching Committee)				
FACULTY	FMH	SCHOOL	MED	
FAST-TRACK	Change of course title	NEW		
DEGREE AWARD (e.g. BSc/MA)		MRes		
TITLE OF PROGRAMME		Health Research		
START DATE	2012/13	LENGTH OF COURSE	1 year full time	
PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION ATTACHED		YES		NO
(Please tick where appropriate)				
IS THIS THE TITLE OF AN EXISTING COURSE		YES	X	NO
IS THIS A CHANGE IN THE TITLE OF AN EXISTING COURSE		YES	X	NO
IF SO, WHAT IS/WAS THE COURSE CODE?		DNT1B993102		
DOES IT AFFECT ANY EXISTING COHORTS?		YES		NO X
WHICH (please specify year of entry)				
HAVE THEY BEEN CONSULTED		YES		NO
DID THEY ALL SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL		YES		NO
Course Approved by:				
Faculty Associate Dean (LTQ)		See attached		
Faculty Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee		See attached		

RELEVANT OFFICE INFORMED (please note that course code has already been notified)

Planning Office (Barrie Osborne)

MAS (Laura Carter)

LEARNING AND TEACHING OFFICE

LTQ OFFICE ONLY:

Proposal added to report for next LTC meeting

YES

NO

Date of LTC Meeting

Programme Specification loaded to website

Yes

No

Date Planning Office (PO) informed (if not already done so)

Date Marketing and Admissions Services (MAS) informed (if not already done so)

LEARNING, TEACHING AND QUALITY OFFICE

**PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR AN AWARD OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA**

PART 4: This part is only to be used in the following circumstances:

- Change to an existing degree title
- Change to School(s) of registration
- Change to Stage weightings for degree classification (provided these are within the combinations permitted under the relevant Regulatory Framework)
- New PgR provision without resource implications (provided this does NOT involve a new award)

1	<p>BACKGROUND, CONTEXT AND RATIONALE FOR CHANGE</p> <p>(Please summarise)</p> <p>The MRes in Health Research was so named firstly to align it with with what was the MSc in Health Sciences at that time, secondly as an additional degree to be offered across the then newly formed Faculty of Health and to thirdly to reflect the breadth of scope of the degree. Since that time the MSc, the Faculty and the Medical School have undergone name changes and the MRes Health Research is now out of step. Further, some lines of enquiry support the idea that Health Research is viewed less favourably as a title by prospective students and foreign institutions than the course titles of our main competitors (The MRes in Clinical Sciences – Liverpool and the MRes in Medical Sciences – Manchester). The MSc title is now “MSc in Clinical Research” we propose a new title as the “MRes in Clinical Science” which will facilitate co-marketing and convergence of these degrees in line with the recommendations of the PGT Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>The MRes currently draws the vast majority of its students from the 4th year of the MBBS degree at UEA, but our intercalation rates are low compared with established medical schools which intercalate earlier and this also inhibits demand from intercalating students of other medical schools wishing to intercalate at UEA. The largest</p>
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	<p>intercalated masters degrees offered in Manchester and London have agreed to accept Masters level intercalations after the 3rd year and as a consequence we are receiving applicants from students on other medical courses to intercalate here following completion of their 3rd Year. At this stage (following completion of their 3rd year of study), students who exit MBBS courses qualify for a bachelors degree award. The evidence from our Masters programs at UEA is that intercalating MBBS students from UEA consistently outperform all other intake groups and thus we have no concern that our students will be unable academically to perform at a Postgraduate level. Consistent with this, evidence from other intercalated Masters degrees nationally that have allowed intercalation prior to the 4th year is that student uptake is higher, but that there is no substantial loss in student ability to undertake these degrees. It is of interest that in London, Masters degrees are being offered at postgraduate medical schools such as LSHTM after completion of only the first two years of a medical degree.</p>			
2	DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL			
	<p>(Please summarise e.g. give new degree title)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Titular Change: "MRes in Health Research" to "MRes in Clinical Science" 2. MBBS students able to intercalate for the MRes in Clinical Science at UEA from Yr 3 			
3	CONFIRMATION THAT THERE ARE NO RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS			
	<p>Are there any resource implications associated with this proposal? (Please tick as appropriate – if 'Yes' a full programme document should be completed)</p>	Yes	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	EVIDENCE OF CONSULTATION OF STUDENTS AND WRITTEN CONSENT OBTAINED			
	<p>Please briefly describe what consultation has taken place and what responses there have been. Is there full support from all members of the relevant student cohort(s)?</p> <p>A questionnaire based study of all of the current (2011/2012) MBBS students and containing a specific "hot topic" of intercalation was used to investigate what factors would encourage more intercalation amongst MBBS students. The results of the questionnaire revealed that students prefer to intercalate following year 3 and not year 4. In fact the questionnaire revealed that as many as 80 percent of students who would consider intercalating are deterred from doing so if the intercalation is delayed until the end of the 4th year. The MRes, MClInEd and MSc in Molecular Medicine were seen as the preferred courses to undertake. This is in line with Manchester where 80 students per year now undertake the MRes degree and the degree is now available after completion of the 3rd Year of study.</p>			

5	INFORMING APPLICANTS	
	<p>What arrangements have been made (for informing applicants who may be affected by any change(s)? Written notification, including advice about any alternative options that may be given, must be sent to applicants holding unconditional/conditional firm or conditional insurance offers.</p> <p>MBBS students will be informed of the changes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) By email 2) On blackboard 3) In the course of careers events given to each year and intercalation seminars. 	
6	EFFECTIVE DATE	
	<p>Please give effective date of introduction of the proposed change(s), normally the start of an academic session. If the change affects existing students and/or new entrants, please make this clear (e.g. new degree title effective from 2009-10 for new entrants to Year 1 only OR new degree title effective from 2009-10 for new entrants to Year 1 and all continuing students).</p> <p>Changes to take effect from 2012-2013</p>	
7	APPROVALS, SIGNATURES AND COMMENTS	
	DATE	COMMENTS
SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF LEARNING, TEACHING AND QUALITY		
<i>M. Adams</i>	21.12.11	Approved
HEAD OF SCHOOL		
<i>[Signature]</i>	15/12/11	
FACULTY DEAN		
<i>Ian Harvey</i>	6/1/12	
FACULTY ASSOCIATE DEAN (LTQ)		
<i>[Signature]</i>	5.1.12	

