

Foundation Scholarship - Examination Requirements

Course of Study: Medicine

School/Discipline: Medicine

Academic Year: 2024-25

Foundation Scholarship involves a searching examination, set and assessed so as to select students of outstanding ability. The objective of the Foundation Scholarship examination is to identify students who can consistently demonstrate exceptional knowledge and understanding of their subjects. The examination requires candidates to demonstrate: skill in synthesising and integrating knowledge across the full range of the set examination materials; rigorous and informed critical thought; and, in appropriate disciplines, a highly-developed ability to solve problems and apply knowledge.

Please include a brief statement below which explains how your examinations succeed in identifying the qualities associated with Scholarship.

There will be 3 examination papers addressing the core curriculum content to date and a 4th paper on a special topic. Details of the special topic will be provided by the School.

Students are expected to demonstrate exceptional knowledge of the medical curriculum in areas of Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Infection & Immunity, Behavioural Sciences and Pharmacology. Expert faculty from each of the disciplines will set searching questions and be responsible for the assessment of the demonstration of knowledge to the level of scholarship. Students who have achieved over 65% in their JF examinations are encouraged to sit the Scholarship examination, and those who score under 65% are asked to consider how they would improve their performance from the previous year and whether this is realistic.

Students for the special topic paper, which addresses the multidisciplinary nature of Medicine, are expected to integrate and apply the knowledge they have gained over the 3 semesters in the undergraduate program to a specific research area. Students need to review the most recent clinical, biomedical and behavioural research and innovations in this area, in order to synthesise answers regarding a specific clinical area. It is necessary for students to have mastered the course work from the first and second years in order to rigorously assess the research presented in the papers and discuss its relevance to current and future medical practice.

The disciplines being assessed in the special topic will provide a reading list to guide students initially; however, they are expected to read outside the list and to add to their knowledge of current developments in the chosen area. The entire process is overseen by a clinical examiner.

Completed by: Sara Geoghegan

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