

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHINESE MEDICINES (MScChinMeds)

These regulations are applicable to candidates admitted in the academic year 2016-17 and thereafter.

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

The degree of Master of Science in Chinese Medicines is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of the curriculum of 2 academic years or equivalent in the School of Chinese Medicine, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, on a part-time basis.

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

Admission requirements

MSCM1 To be eligible for admission to the curriculum leading to the degree of Master of Science in Chinese Medicines, a candidate shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations but with a waiver of Regulation G2(b);
 - (b) comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
 - (c) hold
 - (i) the degree of Bachelor of Pharmacy in Chinese Medicine of this University, or a qualification of equivalent standard from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; or
 - (ii) a Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, biology, chemistry, biochemistry or another healthcare related programme, and a certificate or diploma in Pharmacy in Chinese Medicine from a University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose or at least one year's relevant work experience in the field of Chinese medicines as deemed appropriate by the Board of Studies; or
 - (iii) the degree of Bachelor of Chinese Medicine (BChinMed) of this University or an appropriate qualification of equivalent standard from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose, and a certificate or diploma in Pharmacy in Chinese Medicine from a University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose or at least one year's relevant work experience in the field of Chinese medicines as deemed appropriate by the Board of Studies.
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Award of degree

MSCM2 To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Science in Chinese Medicines, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
 - (b) comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
 - (c) complete the curriculum requirements and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.
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Period of study

MSCM3 The curriculum shall normally extend over two academic years of part-time study. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of three academic years of part-time study, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

Completion of curriculum

MSCM4 To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall

- (a) satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
- (b) take not less than 69 credits in the manner specified in these regulations and the syllabuses, and follow the instructions in the syllabuses prescribed for the curriculum and complete satisfactorily all required written or practical work;
- (c) satisfy the examiners in the courses by continuous assessments and/or written examinations;
- (d) complete the capstone experience satisfactorily, including all practices for the prescribed practical courses, and
- (e) complete a satisfactory dissertation on a subject approved by the Board of Studies and pass an oral examination on the dissertation itself.

A candidate who fails to fulfill the requirements within the prescribed maximum period of registration shall be recommended for discontinuation under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

Dissertation

MSCM5 The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval by a date as prescribed in the syllabuses. The dissertation, which shall be written in either Chinese or English, shall be presented by a date as prescribed in the syllabuses and be examined with an oral examination. The candidate shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents his/her own work (or in the case of conjoint work, a statement countersigned by his/her co-worker, which shows his/her share of the work) undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree.

Assessment

MSCM6 Examinations shall normally be held upon completion of the course, where applicable.

MSCM7 A candidate's coursework, including completion of written assignments and participation in practical work, as the case may be, shall be taken into account in determining the candidate's result in the theoretical and practical courses. The practices shall be assessed based on the candidate's work reports and performance in the practices.

MSCM8 A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in any form of assessment/examination may be permitted to present himself/herself for re-assessment/ re-examination at a time specified by the Board of Examiners, or he/she may be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

MSCM9 A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in any prescribed practical work and practice may be permitted to fulfill such deficiencies to the satisfaction of the examiners within a specified period.

MSCM10 A candidate who has failed to present a satisfactory dissertation and oral examination may be permitted to submit a revised dissertation and re-sit the oral examination within a specified period, or he/she may be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

MSCM11 The examinations and assessments of the MScChinMeds curriculum shall normally be conducted in Chinese.

Grading system

MSCM12 Individual courses (except practices) shall be graded according to the following grade points system:

Grade	Standard	Grade Point
A+	Excellent	4.3
A		4.0
A-		3.7
B+	Good	3.3
B		3.0
B-		2.7
C+	Satisfactory	2.3
C		2.0
C-		1.7
D+	Pass	1.3
D		1.0
F	Fail	0

The practices shall be graded as “Pass” or “Fail” and shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

Classification of awards

MSCM13 On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction as determined by the Board of Examiners, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' degree diploma.

MSCM14 The Chinese title of the degree shall be“理科碩士(中藥學)”.

**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHINESE MEDICINES
(MScChinMeds)**

Candidates are required to complete a minimum of 69 credits curriculum requirement in the prescribed sequence for the MScChinMeds curriculum, which consists of taught courses and capstone experience (including practices and dissertation), as set out below:

Curriculum structure	Credit Units
Taught courses	
(a) Enhancement courses on theoretical knowledge and research methodology	9
(b) Biomedical science courses	9
(c) Application of theoretical knowledge in modern applications	12
Capstone experience	
- Practices	18
-Dissertation	21
Total	69

The practices may be taken in blocks during any designated time assigned for such purpose within the candidates' period of registration.

The mode of assessment for courses (except for MSCM6500, MSCM6504, MSCM6509, MSCM6510, MSCM6602, MSCM 6605 and MSCM6607 which are assessed by 100% continuous assessment) comprises continuous assessments (30%-100%) and written examinations (0%-70%). Candidates are also required to undertake practices, submit a dissertation and make an oral examination on the dissertation to the satisfaction of the examiner(s).

First Year

MSCM6500	Research Methodology in Chinese Medicine (3 credits)
MSCM6502	Modern Analysis of Technology and Quality Control of Chinese Medicines (3 credits)
MSCM6503	Research Progress of Chinese Medicines and Natural Drugs Chemistry (6 credits)
MSCM6504	Research Progress of Pharmacology and Toxicology of Chinese Medicines (3 credits)
MSCM6508	Fundamental Theory of Chinese Medicine (3 credits)
MSCM6509	Practice I- Modern Analysis of Technology and Quality Control of Chinese Medicines (6 credits)
MSCM6510	Practice II- Research Progress of Pharmacology and Toxicology of Chinese Medicines (3 credits)

Second Year

MSCM6601	Chinese Medicines Prescription and New Drug Development (3 credits)
MSCM6602	Interaction in Herb-Drug (3 credits)
MSCM6604	Dissertation (21 credits)
MSCM6605	Practice III- Chinese Medicines Prescription and New Drug Development (3 credits)
MSCM6606	Chinese Medicines Trading and Pharmaceutical Management (6 credits)
MSCM6607	Practice IV- Final Year (6 credits)

MSCM6500 Research Methodology in Chinese Medicine (3 credits)

This course introduces the general methodologies and directions in research of Chinese Medicine. It includes literature collection, writing reference review, projects design, summaries of clinical experiences, clinical and experimental studies and dissertation writing.

MSCM6502 Modern Analysis of Technology and Quality Control of Chinese Medicines (3 credits)

In this course, the latest technology and equipment to analyze the structure of Chinese Medicines are applied to understand the physical characteristics, the authentication of drug, level of purity, level of active ingredient(s) and justification of the drugs' quality. The objectives of this course are to enable the students to understand and to master the modern analytical and research technologies in Chinese medicines, including the modern technology on quality control of manufactured or processed Chinese Medicines.

MSCM6503 Research Progress of Chinese Medicines and Natural Drugs Chemistry (6 credits)

This course introduces the research content related to natural drugs chemistry as well as the principles and methods for extraction of the chemical structure. It aims to understand the major formulas and application methods in research of the chemical structure and content of natural drugs; and to understand the development of natural drugs chemistry and its importance in the professional pharmaceutical field. To help students further familiarize with the Chinese herbs and their role in the development of natural drugs, visit(s) to suitable venue(s) will be arranged.

MSCM6504 Research Progress of Pharmacology and Toxicology of Chinese Medicines (3 credits)

This course introduces the overall ideas on research methods and laboratory techniques of Pharmacology and Toxicology of Chinese Medicines. It aims to build up the foundation for further studies on the development of Chinese Medicines.

MSCM6508 Fundamental Theory of Chinese Medicine (3 credits)

This course reviews and interprets the basic theories, knowledge, concept and terminology of the "Fundamental Theory of Chinese Medicine". It gives a brief understanding of the source, development and relevant modern research progress of the Chinese Medicine. Topics include "Visceral State Research", "Health Preservation Research", "Channels and Collaterals Research", "Constitutional Research" and "Etiology of Seven Emotions", etc. The course enables students to develop a solid theoretical foundation of Chinese Medicines.

MSCM6509 Practice I- Modern Analysis of Technology and Quality Control of Chinese Medicines (6 credits)

Based on students' theoretical foundation, this course provides students with an insight into the latest technology and operation of Chinese medicine analysis, which helps develop a sound foundation in the analysis methods of Chinese medicine through practical training.

MSCM6510 Practice II- Research Progress of Pharmacology and Toxicology of Chinese Medicines (3 credits)

Based on students' background knowledge in Pharmacology and Toxicology, this course aims at familiarizing students with the changes and development of clinical application of Chinese medicine, as well as the side effects and influence of medicine processing on the chemical composition of Chinese medicine.

MSCM6601 Chinese Medicines Prescription and New Drug Development (3 credits)

This course introduces the basic theories, knowledge and skills on Chinese Medicine Pharmacology as well as its latest development on production and applied technology. It aims to help students understand the preparation skills, quality control, and the characteristics of different preparation types of commonly used Chinese Medicines, and also to obtain the basic research abilities or knowledge on drug improvement and new drug development.

MSCM6602 Interaction in Herb-Drug (3 credits)

The goal of this course is to draw awareness to the interaction in herb-drug frequently occurred in the practice of Chinese medicine, and subsequently to reduce the cross toxic effects when Chinese medicines are administrated concomitantly with conventional drugs. This course will provide an overview of the herb-herb interaction, herb-drug interaction and drug-drug interaction. The fundamental biochemistry of herb-drug interaction and relevant clinical importance will be discussed. To facilitate the students to access the current information on the herb-drug interaction, several major online databases will be introduced and the latest research progress will be discussed as well.

MSCM6604 Dissertation (21 credits)

Under the guidance of supervisors, students are required to submit a dissertation through the undertaking of literature review, collection of data and information, reports on the selected topics, analysis of dissertation topics, discussion of report and topic, and an oral examination. The title of dissertation shall be submitted for approval by not later than February 28 of the final academic year and the dissertation shall be submitted not later than June 30.

MSCM6605 Practice III- Chinese Medicines Prescription and New Drug Development (3 credits)

This course aims at helping students understand better about the development of Chinese medicine prescription and industrialized production processes. By integrating theories with practices, students will be able to develop better concepts in the development of Chinese medicine through practical training.

MSCM6606 Chinese Medicines Trading and Pharmaceutical Management (6 credits)

This course introduces the related regulatory systems and organizations, basic content and methods of pharmaceutical administration as well as to the management of pharmaceutical products in Mainland China and Hong Kong in respect of its regulations and laws. The objective of this course is to enhance students' understanding of the fundamental theory and knowledge on operational management of Chinese Medicines Commodity, basic knowledge and present situation of international trade of Chinese Medicines so that they can apply the theories to their work.

MSCM6607 Practice IV- Final Year (6 credits)

This course is to be completed in final year of study under supervision at manufactory of Chinese Medicines on the mainland for understanding basic technology at process and production of Chinese medicines.
