

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's [core regulations for undergraduate programmes](#), and the [marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes](#).

MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0); MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1)

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.
2. The MSci in Natural Sciences allows candidates to take modules from two or more subjects in a four year programme.
3. The range of modules is limited to Anthropology, Biosciences, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Sciences, Economics, Education, Geography, Mathematics, Sport, Philosophy, Physics, Psychology and languages offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study.
4. Candidates are allowed to take modules from a single subject in the final year if they have the appropriate prerequisites.
5. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.
6. All module selections must be approved by the Director of Natural Sciences or by their nominee and be timetable compatible.
7. The degree certificate issued to successful candidates who have not taken an MSci Joint Honours degree shall list in alphabetical order all subjects in which they have taken at least 40 credits during the final three levels of the programme.
8. Candidates may take no more than 20 credits delivered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study in Levels 1 and 2.

Level 1 (Certificate)

9. Candidates take modules: from at least two subjects; from not more than four subjects; to a maximum of 80 credits per subject. The selection must include at least one subject in which Level 4 modules are available.
10. Candidates may take no more than 20 credits of language modules offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study.

Level 2 (Diploma)

11. Candidates who have completed Level 1 of another programme will be permitted to transfer to Level 2 of MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) if they have met both of the following conditions:
 - Taken a minimum of 60 credits from a single discipline: Chemistry; Computer Science; Earth Sciences; Mathematics; or Physics; AND
 - Passed 120 credits at Level 1 (Certificate) with an average weighted mark of no less than 55%.
12. Candidates take modules: from at least two subjects; from not more than three subjects; with at least 40 credits each in at least two subjects; to a maximum of 80 credits per subject. The selection must include at least one subject in which Level 4 modules are available.
13. In accordance with the core regulations, candidates are normally permitted to study Level 1 modules up to the value of 30 credits.
14. Candidates may take no more 20 credits of language modules offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study.

Level 3 (Degree)

15. Candidates take modules: from at least two subjects excluding NSCI-coded modules; from not more than three subjects; to a maximum of 100 credits in any subject. The selection must include at least one subject in which Level 4 modules are available.
16. In accordance with the core regulations, candidates are normally permitted to study Level 2 modules up to the value of 30 credits;

Level 4 (Degree)

17. Candidates take modules from at least one and no more than three subjects to a maximum of 120 credits per subject.
18. In accordance with the core regulations, candidates must take 120 credits at Level 4.
19. At least 40 credits must be taken in a Level 4 research project.

Placement – Year 3 or Year 4

20. Candidates admitted to the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) are able to apply to transfer to the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1). Students undertaking the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement programme (FGC1) will undertake an approved placement chosen in consultation with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee and the host partner.
21. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1) as their third year must:
 - a. Have successfully completed Level 1 of the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) and progressed to Level 2 of the Honours programme; and
 - b. During the first term of Level 2 study, the student must discuss their intention to apply with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee in order to be admitted to the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1) and receive approval by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
 - c. Secure a year-long placement opportunity (40 weeks or more) approved by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee with an approved employer; and
 - d. Successfully complete Level 2 so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) Honours programme.
22. Students who the Board of Examiners for Natural Sciences deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 3 of the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) programme.
23. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1) as their fourth year must:
 - a. Have successfully completed Level 2 of the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) and progressed to Level 3 of the Honours programme; and
 - b. During the first term of Level 3 study, the student must discuss their intention to apply with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee in order to be admitted to the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1) and receive approval by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
 - c. Secure a year-long placement opportunity (40 weeks or more) approved by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee with an approved employer; and
 - d. Successfully complete Level 3 of the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) programme so as to be eligible to progress to Level 4 of the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) Honours programme.
24. Students who the Board of Examiners for Natural Sciences deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 4 of the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Natural Sciences with Placement (FGC1) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 4 of the MSci Natural Sciences (FGC0) programme.

Joint Honours

25. Within the Natural Sciences programme certain combinations of modules will be known as Joint Honours degrees. Candidates who follow these combinations of modules will be awarded a specific title for their degree.
26. Candidates who follow an approved Joint Honours degree will be awarded an “MSci in A and B within the Natural Sciences programme”, where A and B are replaced by the approved subject titles with the exception of those entering Durham University on or after October 2023 [cases (a) and (b)] or on or after October 2025 [cases (c)-(e)] where A and B are one of:
 - a. Computer Science and Mathematics
 - b. Mathematics and Physics
 - c. Biology and Chemistry
 - d. Chemistry and Physics

e. Chemistry and Mathematics

In which case they will be awarded a “MSci Honours in A and B” and these degrees will have a new distinct programme code. In cases (a) and (b), candidates entering from the academic year 2024-25 onwards who satisfy the Joint Honours criteria will be transferred to the relevant programme. Candidates entering the University before 2024-25 who satisfy the Joint Honours criteria are also permitted to transfer to the new relevant programme. In cases (c), (d) and (e), candidates entering from the academic year 2025-26 onwards who satisfy the Joint Honours criteria will be transferred to the relevant programme. Candidates entering the University before 2025-26 who satisfy the Joint Honours criteria are also permitted to transfer to the new relevant programme.

27. In order to qualify for the degree MSci in A and B within the Natural Sciences programme, candidates in Levels 2, 3 and 4 normally study modules from two subjects. Candidates must select not less than 160 and not more than 200 credits from each of the two subjects during the second, third and fourth levels of the programme. In Level 3 candidates may, with the agreement of the Director of Natural Sciences, replace 20 credits which are not compulsory for qualification of the Joint Honours degree with the module Science Enterprise (NSCI 3001).
28. The following MSci Joint Honours degrees are available:

MSci Biology and Chemistry (FGC0)

29. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

30. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Genetics	BIOL1171	20
Molecules and Cells	BIOL1281	20
Core Chemistry 1	CHEM1078	30
Practical Chemistry 1A	CHEM1087	10

31. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in 40 credits from List A:

List A:		Credit value
EITHER		
(Linear Algebra I AND	MATH1071	20
Calculus I)	MATH1061	20
OR		
(Single Mathematics A AND	MATH1561	20
Single Mathematics B)	MATH1571	20
OR		
Mathematical And Experimental Tools Required In Chemistry	CHEM1111	20
20 credits of module(s) from those subjects listed in Paragraph 2		20
of the BSc Natural Sciences programme (CFG0) regulations		

32. Candidates wishing to study for an accredited degree must study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Introduction To Materials Chemistry	CHEM1127	10
Practical Chemistry 1B	CHEM1107	10

Level 2 (Diploma)

33. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Core Chemistry 2	CHEM2012	40
Structure and Reactivity in Organic Chemistry	CHEM2087	10
Practical Chemistry 2 - Synthetic	CHEM2147	10
Molecular Biology	BIOL2441	20
Metabolism	BIOL2491	20
Cell Signalling	BIOL2501	20

Level 3 (Degree)

34. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Bioactive Chemistry 3	CHEM3211	20
Advanced Biological Chemistry	CHEM3421	20
Advanced Organic Chemistry	CHEM3117	10
Practical Chemistry 3 – Synthetic	CHEM3447	10
Biochemistry and Biotechnology	BIOL3601	20
Stress and Response to the Environment	BIOL3491	20
20 credits of available modules from Level 3 (including the Biosciences (BIOL) list and Science Enterprise	NSCI3001	20

Level 4 (Degree)

35. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Workshop	BIOL4111	20
Biochemistry Research Project	BIOL4022	40
Frontiers in Molecular Assembly	CHEM4311	20
Bioactive Chemistry Research Project	CHEM4272	40

MSci Biology and Physics (FGC0)

36. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

37. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Genetics	BIOL1171	20
Molecules and Cells	BIOL1281	20
Foundations of Physics 1	PHYS1122	40

38. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
EITHER		
Linear Algebra I AND	MATH1071	20
Calculus I	MATH1061	20
OR		
Single Mathematics A AND	MATH1561	20
Single Mathematics B	MATH1571	20

Level 2 (Diploma)

39. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Molecular Biology	BIOL2441	20
Development	BIOL2471	20
Cell Biology	BIOL2481	20
Foundations of Physics 2A	PHYS2581	20
Mathematical Methods in Physics	PHYS2611	20
Discovery Skills in Physics	PHYS1101	20

Level 3 (Degree)

40. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Advanced Cell Biology	BIOL3481	20
Advanced Topics in Development	BIOL3521	20
20 credits of available modules from Level 3 (including the Biosciences (BIOL) list and Science Enterprise)	NSCI3001	20
Laboratory Skills and Electronics 3	PHYS3681	20

Foundations of Physics 3A	PHYS3621	20
Foundations of Physics 2B	PHYS2591	20

Level 4 (Degree)

41. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
EITHER		
Project	PHYS4213	60
Workshop	BIOL4111	20
Biophysical Research Project (S)	BIOL4071	20
Foundations of Physics 4B	PHYS4261	20
OR		
Workshop	BIOL4111	20
Biophysical Research Project (T)	BIOL4063	60
Foundations of Physics 4B	PHYS4261	20
20 credits of available modules from the Level 4 Physics list		20

MSci Chemistry and Mathematics (FGC0)

42. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

43. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Core Chemistry 1	CHEM1078	30
Practical Chemistry 1A	CHEM1087	10
Practical Chemistry 1B	CHEM1107	10
Linear Algebra I	MATH1071	20
Calculus I	MATH1061	20
Analysis I	MATH1051	20
Dynamics and Relativity I	MATH1627	10

Level 2 (Diploma)

44. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Core Chemistry 2	CHEM2012	40
Properties of Molecules	CHEM2097	10
Practical Chemistry 2 - Measurement	CHEM2157	10
Complex Analysis II	MATH2791	20
Mathematical Methods II	MATH2811	20
Methods of Mathematical Physics II	MATH2741	20

Level 3 (Degree)

45. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Chemical Physics 3	CHEM3411	20
Computational Chemical Physics	CHEM3151	20
Molecules and their Interactions	CHEM3137	10
Practical Chemistry 3 – Measurement	CHEM3467	10
Quantum Mechanics III	MATH3111	20

46. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in 40 credits from those offered by the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Level 3 (including the Mathematical Sciences (MATH) list and Science Enterprise (NSCI 3001).

Level 4 (Degree)

47. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
EITHER		
Chemistry Research Project	CHEM4494	80
OR		
Advanced Research Concepts in Chemistry	CHEM4481	20
Project IV	MATH4072	40

48. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in 40 credits from the Level 4 Master of Mathematics (G103) regulations.

MSci Chemistry and Physics (FGC0)

49. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

50. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Core Chemistry 1	CHEM1078	30
Practical Chemistry 1A	CHEM1087	10
Foundations of Physics 1	PHYS1122	40

51. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in the following modules:

EITHER		Credit value
Linear Algebra I	MATH1071	20
Calculus I	MATH1061	20
OR		Credit value
Single Mathematics A	MATH1561	20
Single Mathematics B	MATH1571	20

Level 2 (Diploma)

52. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Core Chemistry 2	CHEM2012	40
Properties of Molecules	CHEM2097	10
Practical Chemistry 2 - Measurement	CHEM2157	10
Foundations of Physics 2A	PHYS2581	20
Mathematical Methods in Physics	PHYS2611	20
Discovery Skills in Physics	PHYS1101	20

Level 3 (Degree)

53. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Chemical Physics 3	CHEM3411	20
Computational Chemical Physics	CHEM3151	20
Molecules and their Interactions	CHEM3137	10
Practical Chemistry 3 – Measurement	CHEM3467	10
Foundations of Physics 3A	PHYS3621	20
Foundations of Physics 2B	PHYS2591	20
Laboratory Skills and Electronics 3	PHYS3681	20

Level 4 (Degree)

54. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

EITHER		Credit value
Project	PHYS4213	60
Advanced Research Concepts in Chemistry	CHEM4481	20
Foundations Of Physics 4B	PHYS4621	20
Advanced Computational Chemical Physics 4	CHEM4471	20
OR		
Chemistry Research Project	CHEM4494	80
Foundations Of Physics 4B	PHYS4261	20
AND modules to the value of 20 credits from List B:		
List B:		Credit value
Advanced Research Concepts in Chemistry	CHEM4481	20
Advanced Computational Chemical Physics 4	CHEM4471	20

MSci Computer Science and Mathematics (FGC0)

55. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

56. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Algorithms And Data Structures	COMP1081	20
Computational Thinking	COMP1051	20
EITHER		
Computer Systems	COMP1071	20
OR Programming (black)	COMP1101	20
OR Programming (gold)	COMP1111	20
AND		
Linear Algebra I	MATH1071	20
Calculus I	MATH1061	20
Probability I	MATH1597	10
Statistics 1	MATH1617	10

Level 2 (Diploma)

57. Candidates shall study and be assessed in:

	Credit value
60 credits of available modules from the Level 2 Computer Science list	60
60 credits of available modules from the Level 2 Mathematics list. At most 20 credits may be at Level 1	60

Level 3 (Degree)

58. Candidates shall study and be assessed in

	Credit value
Project Preparation	COMP3591 20
40 credits of Level 3 modules available from the Computer Science list	40
60 credits from Level 3 modules (including the Mathematics (MATH) list and Science Enterprise (NSCI 3001).	60

Level 4 (Degree)

59. Candidates shall study and be assessed in modules to the value of 40 or 60 credits from List C:

List C:	Credit value
Advanced Project	COMP4013 60
Mathematics Project	MATH4072 40

60. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules available from the Level 4 Mathematics list to the value of 40 credits.

61. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules available from the Level 4 Computer Science list to the value of 20 or 40 credits.

MSci Mathematics and Physics (FGC0)

62. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

63. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

	Credit value
Linear Algebra I	MATH1071 20
Calculus I	MATH1061 20
Analysis I	MATH1051 20
Foundations of Physics 1	PHYS1122 40
Discovery Skills in Physics	PHYS1101 20

Level 2 (Diploma)

64. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Mathematical Methods II	MATH2811	20
Complex Analysis II	MATH2791	20
Foundations of Physics 2A	PHYS2581	20
Foundations of Physics 2B	PHYS2591	20

65. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 credits from List D:

List D:		Credit value
Methods of Mathematical Physics II	MATH2741	20
Theoretical Physics 2	PHYS2631	20

66. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in Level 2 modules to the value of 20 credits **EITHER** from those offered by the Department of Mathematical Sciences if 20 credits of Physics are chosen from List D **OR** from those offered by the Department of Physics if 20 credits of Mathematics are chosen from List D.

Level 3 (Degree)

67. Candidates shall study and be assessed in modules to the value of 60 credits offered by the Department of Physics to include the following modules:

EITHER		Credit value
Foundations of Physics 3A	PHYS3621	20
Theoretical Physics 3 (if Theoretical Physics 2 was taken at Level 2)	PHYS3661	20
20 credits of Level 3 modules available from the Physics list		20
OR		
Foundations of Physics 3A	PHYS3621	20
40 credits of Level 3 modules available from the Physics list (if Theoretical Physics 2 was not taken at Level 2)		40

68. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 60 credits from List E:

List E:		Credit value
Analysis III	MATH3011	20
Differential Geometry III	MATH3021	20
Dynamical Systems III	MATH3091	20
Fluid Mechanics III	MATH3101	20
Geometry Of Mathematical Physics III	MATH3471	20
Mathematical Biology III	MATH3171	20
Mathematical Finance III	MATH3301	20
Mathematics into Schools III	MATH3481	20
Operations Research III	MATH3141	20
Partial Differential Equations III	MATH3291	20
Quantum Computing III	MATH3391	20
Solitons III	MATH3231	20
Topology III	MATH3281	20
Science Enterprise	NSCI3001	20

Level 4 (Degree)

69. Candidates shall study and be assessed in modules to the value of 40 or 60 credits from List F:

List F:		Credit value
Mathematics Project	MATH4072	40
Project	PHYS4213	60

70. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 40 credits from List G:

List G:		Credit value
Advanced Quantum Theory IV	MATH4061	20
Algebraic Topology IV	MATH4161	20
Functional Analysis and Applications IV	MATH4371	20
General Relativity IV	MATH4051	20
Riemannian Geometry IV	MATH4171	20

Statistical Mechanics IV	MATH4231	20
Superstrings IV	MATH4271	20
Topics in Applied Mathematics IV	MATH4381	20
Advanced Mathematical Biology IV	MATH4411	20
Geophysical and Astrophysical Fluids IV	MATH4421	20

71. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 or 40 credits from List H:

List H:		Credit value
Advanced Condensed Matter Physics	PHYS4151	20
Advanced Theoretical Physics	PHYS4141	20
Particle Theory	PHYS4181	20
Theoretical Astrophysics	PHYS4201	20
Atoms, Lasers and Qubits	PHYS4121	20
Astrophysics 4	PHYS4131	20
Condensed Matter Physics 4	PHYS4111	20
Theoretical Physics 4	PHYS4191	20

Assessment, progression and award

72. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 2 does not qualify them to proceed to Level 3 of their Joint Honours degree MSci A and B in Natural Sciences but who achieve the standard required for progression to Level 3 of a Bachelors programme may progress to Level 3 of an appropriate programme within the BSc Natural Sciences programme in accordance with the Core Regulations.
73. A candidate who is qualified to progress from Level 2 to Level 3 of their MSci degree in Natural Sciences may be permitted to transfer to Level 3 of an appropriate degree within the BSc Natural Sciences.
74. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 3 does not qualify them to proceed to Level 4 of their MSci degree in Natural Sciences may be awarded an appropriate degree within the BSc Natural Sciences programme with Honours in accordance with the Core Regulations for the award of a Bachelors degree
75. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 4 does not qualify them to be awarded their MSci degree in Natural Sciences may be awarded an appropriate degree within the BSc Natural Sciences programme with Honours in accordance with the Core Regulations for the award of a Bachelors degree.
76. This programme is not available with an additional year to study abroad at a partner institution; however, this does not exclude the opportunity for an individual student to seek a concession to undertake a replacement year at an overseas institution where an appropriate programme of study can be identified and secured by that student in liaison with the University's International Office and subject to the approval of the Deputy Head of Faculty (Natural Sciences).

Professional accreditation

77. MSci Biology and Chemistry: This programme is accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry for candidates entering Level 1 up to and including October 2023 as satisfying the academic requirements for the award of Chartered Chemist (CChem) for holders of first or second class honours degrees.
78. MSci Chemistry and Physics: This programme is recognised by the Institute of Physics as a degree with a physics component until June 2029.
79. MSci Chemistry and Physics: This programme is accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry for candidates entering Level 1 up to and including October 2023 as satisfying the academic requirements for the award of Chartered Chemist (CChem) for holders of first or second class honours degrees subject to a necessary requirement for a candidate to take a final year project in the chemical sciences or at the interface of chemistry and physics.
80. MSci Mathematics and Physics: This programme is recognised by the Institute of Physics as a degree with a physics component until June 2029.