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## **PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA IN TROPICAL NURSING - REGULATIONS**

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1. The Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine will be awarded to students of the School who have satisfactorily completed at least five months of part time advanced study in tropical nursing at the School and have complied with the requirements of the School.
2. The curriculum for the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing will provide a broad introduction to major tropical diseases and an understanding of primary health care in developing countries.
3. Candidates seeking registration for the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing must be a registered nurse or midwife having a minimum of two years post-registration experience at the start of the course.
4. Candidates for the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing must undertake a programme of study at the School of five months part-time from March or September.
5. Assessment of the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing will be by a laboratory examination, a multiple-choice examination and a research based essay. Except with the prior agreement of the School or in case of acute illness or other exceptional cause, the written paper will be taken in the year in which the programme of study is completed.
6. The Board of Examiners shall adopt appropriate criteria for the award of the Professional Diploma and shall have the discretion to examine Professional Diploma candidates orally. Candidates will be assessed as having passed with distinction, passed or failed the Professional Diploma.
7. Assessment for the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing shall be by a Board of Examiners comprising of an Internal Chair, one external examiner and up to six others drawn from those who are actively involved in teaching of the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing course. School staff should form a majority on the Board of Examiners.
8. Recommendations for the award (or otherwise) of the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing shall be made on the appropriate form and signed by the Chair of the Board of Examiners and the External Examiner.
9. Candidates shall be allowed to re-sit any failed component on one further occasion only on payment of the appropriate fee. For the in-course component (essay) this would need to be a new piece of work.
10. Candidates awarded the Diploma may use the post nominals "DipTropNurse".

# PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA IN TROPICAL NURSING – MARKING SCHEME

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 There are three assessed components that contribute to the award of the Professional Diploma. These are as follows:

- (i) An academic, research based essay (coursework),
- (ii) A laboratory examination (practical examination)
- (iii) A MCQ multiple choice examination (written examination).

1.2 These three are referred to as overall components of the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing and are weighted equally. Candidates must get a grade C or above to pass a component. All grades are provisional until ratified by the board of examiners.

## 2. MARKING SCHEME

### 2.1 Essay (Coursework)

All essays are blind double marked and given a letter grade.

Grade	Classification
A	Outstanding achievement, distinction level
B+	Very good pass
B	Good pass
C	Satisfactory pass
D	Borderline fail
E	Outright fail or not submitted

Table 1

Letter grades are converted into a Grade Point Average (GPA) using Table 2:

Grade	GPA
A	5
B+	4
B	3
C	2
D	1
E	0

Table 2

### 2.2 Laboratory Exam (Practical Examination)

The laboratory examinations are graded numerically and converted into alphabetical grades, see table 3 below.

Numerical Grade	Grade	Classification
70 -100	A	Outstanding achievement, distinction level
65 - 69	B+	Very good pass
60 - 64	B	Good pass
50 - 59	C	Satisfactory pass
40 - 49	D	Borderline fail
< 39	E	Outright fail or not submitted

Table 3

Letter grades are converted into a Grade Point Average (GPA) using Table 2 above:

### 2.3 MCQ (Written Examination)

MCQ examinations are graded numerically and converted into alphabetical grades, see table 3 above.

Letter grades are converted into a Grade Point Average (GPA) using Table 2 above:

## 3. CALCULATION OF THE FINAL COURSE GPA

3.1 The three components GPA's (course work, practical and MCQ) are considered using the following rules.

**Rule 1 (1 E Grade)**

If any one of the components has a GPA of 0 (E), regardless of the total, then an un-compensatable fail has occurred.

**Rule 2 (2 D Grades)**

If any two of the components has a GPA of 1 (D), regardless of the total, then an un-compensatable fail has occurred.

**Rule 3**

If an un-compensatable fail has **NOT** occurred, the Overall GPA is obtained as follows:

$$\text{Overall GPA} = (\text{Essay GPA}) + (\text{Laboratory Exam GPA}) + (\text{MCQ GPA}) \div 3$$

## 4. FINAL RESULT

4.1 The final overall result is then determined using Table 4:

Final Course GPA	Outcome
0 – 1.99	Fail
2.00 – 4.99	Pass
5.00	Distinction

Table 4

## 5. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

5.1 When grading the work of students with extenuating circumstances, the work should be marked in the usual way i.e. no account of special circumstances should be made. This should be inevitable as all work should be marked blind. The special circumstances will be notified to the Board such that if a candidate receives an un-compensatable fail (E or 2 D's). They can be passed as a special case based on their performance in a viva and a note will be placed on their ER2.

## 6. RESITS

6.1 If a candidate receives an overall fail they will be permitted to re-submit any components awarded a D or E grade on one further occasion. Re-entry shall normally be at the next corresponding deadline six months later. Students will be exempt from entering any components where a grade C or above has already been achieved.

6.2 When re-submitting their coursework, candidates must submit a new piece of work.

## 7. REPORTING CANDIDATES RESULTS

7.1 Results must be agreed by the Board of Examiners and signed off on by the Chair and the External Examiner(s) using the ER1 form. The ER1 form should then be submitted to the Head of Registry.

7.2 Every candidate will be notified of their results by the Registry via the ER2 form. A certificate shall subsequently be sent to each candidate who has been awarded a Professional Diploma.

20/09/16  
Registry