Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	MSci Physics with a year abroad
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	Five Years
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	F301
QAA Benchmark Group	Physics
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	Institute of Physics
Date Programme Specification Approved	31 January 2019
Responsible School / Institute	School of Physics and Astronomy

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

University College London, King's College London, Royal Holloway University of London.
Disclaimer: The availability of modules offered by KCL, UCL and RHUL are outside of QMUL's control and we cannot guarantee that all modules will be running each year.

Programme Outline

This programme is an Institute of Physics (IoP) accredited integrated masters (MSci) in Physics comprising of four years full time study. The programme covers the whole of the "core of Physics" as specified by the IoP in the compulsory modules and is structured to allow for increasing module choice in the second, fourth and fifth years of study. The third year of study is spent at a partner institution in another country. The fifth year is part of the intercollegiate Physics MSci jointly run by University College London, King's College London, Royal Holloway
University of London and QMUL. An MSci graduate should be able to enter further training at PhD level and to become a professional physicist. In addition, they should be able to enter any of a number of other careers which use the transferable skills gained in the four year programme of study.

Aims of the Programme

We aim to:
i. teach physics of high quality within an excellent research environment;
ii. recruit students able to benefit from a university education;

iii. provide a programme that enables students with a variety of educational backgrounds to pursue physics as a subject;
iv. provide access to such variety of modules, including those from other disciplines, as to enable students to tailor their studies to their own needs and interests;
v. instill in our students an understanding of the working of the physical world;
vi. encourage students to develop transferable skills that are applicable to a variety of careers;
vii. provide a programme that prepares students, where appropriate, for a range of professional careers in physics.
viii. provide opportunities for students to appreciate the beauty of physics and to develop a desire for learning.

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

Students successfully completing this programme will:

Academic Content:	
A 1	Have acquired a core knowledge of physics.
A 2	Be able to communicate this knowledge.
A 3	Have acquired essential skills in the use of computers for word-processing, spreadsheet computing and the acquisition and manipulation of data.
A 4	Have acquired essential skills in measurement and the analysis of uncertainties of observation.

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	Have acquired essential skills in the art of scientific report-writing and in the oral presentation of technical material.
B 2	Be able to apply scientific methods to the analysis of problems.
B 3	Have seen and understood the application of core physics to one or two specialised areas of study.
B 4	Have acquired an understanding of the workings of the physical world.
B 5	Be able to appreciate the role of science in general, and of physics in particular, within a broader range of human cultural activity.
B 6	Be fluent in the language and methods of physics.
B 7	Be able to apply core physics to the understanding of phenomena in specialised areas of study.
B 8	Be able to plan and execute a small research project.
B 9	Be able to apply acquired knowledge and skills to the modelling of new problems in physics.
B 10	Be equipped for a professional career based on physics.

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Attributes:	
C 1	To acquire and apply knowledge in a rigorous way.
C 2	To connect information and ideas within their field of study.
C 3	To adapt their understanding to new and unfamiliar settings.
C 4	To develop the ability to reflect upon and asses their own progress.
C 5	To use quantitative data confidently and competently.
C 6	To obtain transferable key skills to help them with their career goals and their continuing education.
C 7	To develop effective spoken and written English.
C 8	To explain and argue clearly and concisely.
C 9	To apply their analytical skills to investigate unfamiliar problems.
C 10	To use information for evidence-based decision-making and creative thinking.

QMUL Model Learning Outcomes - Level 4:	
D 1	Identify and discuss their own career aspirations or enterprise skills and knowledge and how they impact on others
D 2	
D 3	

How Will You Learn?

Our programme is constructed within a modular course structure in which each student takes seven, eight or nine modules per year. Our overall strategy is to achieve a balance, appropriate to the aims of each course unit, between teaching (lectures; practical laboratory work; small-group tutorials) and learning by students (peer discussion; exercise classes; coursework and essay assignments; independent work in laboratories and computer studies; teach-yourself computer packages and the Internet; videos; textbooks and supplementary reading).
Exercise classes or laboratories are provided for all compulsory modules which are used to develop the specific skills needed. Two general physics laboratories are used to develop experimental skills, including the acquisition of data and the analysis of uncertainties of observation. In addition students learn to write a scientific account of their experimental observation. Finally, compulsory projects are undertaken in years three and four in order to develop students' investigative and communication skills.

How Will You Be Assessed?

Assessment is by a mixture of continuous assessment and formal written examinations at the end of each year. We use a variety of in-course assessments to enable students to get quick feedback as to their performance. These include weekly coursework (marked and returned on a weekly basis), essay assignments, mid-term tests carried out in a lecture slot, performance in exercise

classes and tutorials, laboratory and project reports. These in-course assessments are combined with formal final written examination results and oral examinations (on project modules) to produce the final mark for each course unit. The precise mixture of in-course and final exam marks to give the overall mark varies between different course units and is specified in the detailed course unit description given in the Student Handbook and on the relevant QMPlus module web page.

Assessment for the study-abroad year will be conducted as per the module regulations of the relevant partner institution but will not contribute to the final degree award from QMUL.

How is the Programme Structured?

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

The programme consists of compulsory and elective modules. All undergraduate students at Queen Mary take 120 credits a year. An MSci degree consists of 480 credits. Most modules are worth 15 credits which means that students normally take 8 modules a year. In your third year students study for a project worth 15 credits, whereas in the fourth year they undertake either a 30 or 45 credit project . Students are required to take all modules marked as 'compulsory'. Where modules are indicated as "elective" or "suggested" or "optional" students may choose whether or not to take the module. Where there is space in the curriculum, students at level 5, 6 and 7 may take up to 15 credits per academic year from another School at Queen Mary. Students who chose this option are responsible for finding their own modules and complying with all registration requirements. Students at level 4 should take one of the SPA level 4 elective modules available. The programme includes one compulsory non credit bearing (study only) module in the first and second years: SPA3000 Basic Mathematical Techniques and SPA5000 Communication Skills for Physicists. The fourth year of the programme will be conducted with a partner institution in another country.
The MSci with a Year Abroad Degree programme has an intercollegiate fifth year of study. The course units available in the fifth year are planned and delivered jointly by the Physics Departments at Queen Mary, University College, King's College and Royal Holloway. Thus the fifth year has a rich choice of courses which cover not only physics, but theoretical physics, astrophysics and applied physics.

QMUL Model

Students are required to undertake the equivalent of one module (15 credits in 2017/18) per year of study which has been identified as meeting the requirements of the QMUL Model. Each of these modules has been designed to combine the best of QMUL's academic excellence with your ability to identify and develop your skills, networks and experience. This will help to ensure you become a graduate who can undertake further study or secure graduate employment in areas that interest you, and will support your ability to position yourself to find the right job or opportunity for you. The relevant module for your first year of study in 2017/18 is indicated below.

Where more than one module is specified, this is because pertinent elements from these modules have been identified as being appropriate to the QMUL Model and when studied together, deliver the equivalent content of one 15-credit QMUL Model module.

The QMUL Model modules for future years and associated Learning Outcomes will be identified as your studies continue.

Should Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body requirements apply to your programme of study, these will be taken into account in the specification of QMUL Model requirements.

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Professional Skills for Scientists	SPA4601	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 1	Yes
Mathematical Techniques 1	SPA4121	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 1	No
Classical Physics	SPA4401	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 1	No
Scientific Measurement	SPA4103	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 1	No
Modern Physics	SPA4402	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 2	No
Electric and Magnetic Fields	SPA4210	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 2	No
Mathematical Techniques 2	SPA4122	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 2	No
Our Universe	SPA4101	15	4	Elective	1	Semester 2	No
Introduction to Energy and Environmental Physics	SPA4250	15	4	Elective	1	Semester 2	No
Basic Mathematical Techniques	SPA3000	0	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 2	No

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Thermodynamics	SPA5219	15	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 1	No
Quantum Mechanics A	SPA5319	15	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 1	No
Nuclear Physics and Astrophysics	SPA5302	15	5	Elective	2	Semester 1	No
Physics Laboratory	SPA5201	15	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 2	No
Condensed Matter A	SPA5228	15	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 2	No

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Electromagnetic Waves and Optics	SPA5222	15	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 2	No
Mathematical Techniques 3	SPA5218	15	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 1	No
Stars	SPA5307	15	5	Elective	2	Semester 1	No
Physical Dynamics	SPA5304	15	5	Elective	2	Semester 2	No
Communication Skills for Scientists	SPA5000	0	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 1	No
Our Universe	SPA4101	15	4	Elective	2	Semester 2	No
Planetary Systems	SPA5241	15	5	Elective	2	Semester 2	No
Introduction to Scientific Computing	SPA5666	15	5	Elective	2	Semester 1	Yes
Introduction to Scientific Computing	SPA5666	15	5	Elective	2	Semester 2	Yes

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 4

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Statistical Physics	SPA6403	15	6	Compulsory	4	Semester 2	No
Physics Review Project	SPA6913	15	6	Compulsory	4	Semesters 1 & 2	No
The Physics of Galaxies	SPA6305	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 2	No
Spacetime and Gravity	SPA6308	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 1	No
Fluid Dynamics	SPA6310	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 1	No
Statistical Data Analysis	SPA6328	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 1	No

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Radiation Detectors	SPA6309	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 2	No
Mathematical Techniques 4	SPA6324	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 1	No
Quantum Mechanics B	SPA6413	15	6	Compulsory	4	Semester 1	No
Elementary Particle Physics	SPA6306	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 1	No
Physical Cosmology	SPA6311	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 1	No
Group Project for Physicists	SPA6543	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 2	No
Condensed Matter B	SPA6312	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 2	No
Quantum Mechanics and Symmetry	SPA6325	15	6	Compulsory	4	Semester 2	No
Computational Condensed Matter Physics	SPA6315	15	6	Elective	4	Semester 2	No

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 5

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Physics Investigative Project	SPA7015U	30	7	Core	5	Semesters 1 & 2	No
Physics Research Project	SPA7016U	45	7	Core	5	Semesters 1 & 2	No
Environmental Remote Sensing	INK7051U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Relativistic Waves & Quantum Fields	SPA7018U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Stellar Structure and Evolution	SPA7023U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Relativity and Gravitation	SPA7019U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Cosmology	SPA7005U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Solar System	SPA7022U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Lie Groups and Lie Algebras	INK7020U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Theory of Complex Networks	INK7001U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Elements of Statistical Learning	INK7003U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Dynamical Analysis of Complex Systems	INK7004U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Mathematical Methods for Theoretical Physics	INK7022U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Physics at the Nanoscale	INR7012U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Statistical Data Analysis	INR7014U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Particle Accelerator Physics	INR7003U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Superfluids, Condensates, and Superconductors	INR7008U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Advanced Quantum Theory	INU7001U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Atom and Photon Physics	INU7003U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Particle Physics	INU7017U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Galaxy Dynamics, Formation and Evolution	INU7071U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Phase Transitions	SPA7013U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Advanced Quantum Field Theory	SPA7001U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Advanced Photonics	INK7048U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Advanced Physical Cosmology	INU7056U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Extrasolar Planets and Astrophysical Discs	SPA7009U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
The Galaxy	SPA7010U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Astrophysical Plasmas	SPA7004U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Electromagnetic Radiation in Astrophysics	SPA7006U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Equilibrium Analysis of Complex Systems	INK7002U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Mathematical Biology	INK7005U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Standard Model Physics and Beyond	INK7032U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
String Theory and Branes	INK7034U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Supersymmetry	INK7054U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Theoretical Treatment of Nano-Systems	INK7037U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Nuclear Magnetic Resonance	INR7002U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Statistical Mechanics	INR7007U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Solar Physics	INU7008U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Molecular Biophysics	INU7013U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Molecular Physics	INU7014U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Order and Excitations in Condensed Matter	INU7016U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Quantum Computation and Communication	INU7022U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Space Plasma and Magnetospheric Physics	INU7026U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Planetary Atmospheres	INU7045U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Electronic Structure Methods	SPA7008U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Functional Methods in Quantum Field Theory	SPA7024U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Advanced Cosmology	SPA7028U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Collider Physics	SPA7029U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Supersymmetric Methods in Theoretical Physics	SPA7031U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Differential Geometry in Theoretical Physics	SPA7027U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Advanced Topics in Statistical Mechanics	INU7067U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Modelling Quantum Many-Body Systems	INK7066U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Advanced Condensed Matter	INK7067U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Quantum Electronics of Nanostructures	INR7015U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Cellular Biophysics	INK7068U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Computer Simulation in Condensed Matter	INR7018U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 2	No
Dark Matter and Dark Energy	INK7069U	15	7	Elective	5	Semester 1	No
Introduction to Strings and Branes	SPA7032U	15	7	Elective	4	Semester 2	No

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 3

Programme Title: MSci Physics with a Year Abroad

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester	QMUL Model
Study Abroad	SPA5555	120	5	Core	3	Semesters 1 & 2	No

What Are the Entry Requirements?

As per standard MSci Physics programme: Overall tariff score required: 340 points A-level: grade A in physics and mathematics and a B in any other subject expect General
Studies
International Baccalaureate: 34 points overall with 6 in both HL(Higher Level) Physics and HL Mathematics.
European Baccalaureate: 80 % overall and 7 in both maths and physics.

Access courses to HE (Higher Education) with speciality in Maths, Physics or Science: 60 credits overall, to include 45 credits at level 3, with at least 33 at Distinction and 12 at Merit, which must include both Maths and Physics.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year. Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Education on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Student Experience Action Plan (SEAP) which is the summary of the school/ institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

Academic Support

The School of Physics and Astronomy provides each student with an academic advisor, normally the same member of staff for the duration of a student's studies, who can provide academic and pastoral guidance. Additionally the School has a dedicated Student Support Officer who is available to discuss any student related problem. The School runs an open door policy which encourages the students to come and talk to their advisor, other academics or the dedicated Student Support Officer. The School also actively participates in the QMUL Peer Assisted Study Scheme (PASS).
The Senior Tutor has overall responsibility for academic support and pastoral care within the School. The Senior Tutor also has a key role in overseeing the School's attendance policy. The Senior Tutor will address any problems that cannot be resolved by a student's academic adviser or the Student Support Officer.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

The progression differs from the standard QM progression in the following ways: progression from year 2 to year 3 (year abroad) is as per standard regulations with the additional requirement that the average mark from years 1 and 2 >= 70%. During year 3 students must pass 90 credits equivalent to progress to year 4. Progression from year 4 to year 5 follows the regulations for the MSci progression from year 3 to year 4. Students failing to meet either the progression from year 2 to year 3 (year abroad) or year 3 (year abroad) to year 4 will be moved to the equivalent non-year-abroad programme and the progression requirements of that programme will apply. The final degree classification is determined by the college mark which is a weighted average of the first,

second, fourth and fifth year averages in the ratio 1:3:6:6 respectively. The year abroad (year three) does not contribute to the final college mark nor the final degree classification.
The year abroad module is core. If resits are offered by the host institution for failed modules during the year abroad then students will be entitled to resits. If the host institution does not offer resits then the students will not be entitled to resits.

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:
• Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
• Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
• Arranging DSA assessments of need
• Special arrangements in examinations
• Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
• Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
• Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
• Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
• Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

The School actively participates in the South East Physics Network (SEPNet) summer internship programme as well as funding a small number of internal, paid summer internships. The School works closely with the Careers Service to provide a series of bespoke events for physics students and has also recently prepared a careers booklet, in conjunction with the Institute of Physics, detailing careers opportunities for students of physics and explaining the necessary skill sets required for each area of work. The programme also includes the third year optional module SPA6543 Group Project for Physicists which directly involves external industrial partners in setting the projects.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification	Leonie Dos Santos
Person responsible for management of programme	Matthew Buican
Date Programme Specification produced/amended by School Learning and Teaching Committee	31 January 2019
Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board	31 January 2019

Queen Mary University of London