

1. Module Identification

- MD2002 Foundations of Medicine 2
- Semester 2, 2026/2027
- Credits – 60 credit module
- Available only to students enrolled on the BSc Honours Medicine or MBChB (ScotCOM) programmes.

2. Module Overview

Foundations of Medicine 2 continues the introduction of fundamental topics into the curriculum. This includes the principles of disease mechanisms and therapy, and the development of clinical and communication skills. Foundations of Medicine 2 provides an in-depth study of the musculo-skeletal system including nerve and muscle physiology, control of movement and the autonomic nervous system. The anatomy of the upper and lower limbs are studied by dissection. A particular focus for this module is the introduction of topics essential to the practise of medicine, including public health and health psychology. The clinical problems in this module centre on trauma, deep vein thrombosis and pathological fracture. Additionally this module provides an exposure to clinical practice in a one day placement at a GP or community hospital.

https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/modules/catalogue/?code=MD2002&academic_year=2026%2F7

3. Teaching delivery

- Details of the [teaching format](#) in Medicine.
- Class times and locations can be viewed on the School Curriculum Management portals, [Galen](#)
- Private study time in the Dissecting Room or Clinical Skills can be reserved via [Resource Booker](#). The John Forfar Room is available during [student access times](#).
- ILW (Mon 5th April – Friday 9th April 2027)

5. Assessment structure and information

All modules contain both formative (practice) opportunities and compulsory summative (contributing to module grade) assessments.

Assessments sample the breadth and depth of knowledge, along with application of knowledge to novel problems. Summative assessments are blueprinted to assess content proportionately to represent the taught curriculum and are not intended to test every learning outcome of a module.

Semester 2 summative assessment methods include:

1. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)
2. Short Written Answer Questions (SWAs)
3. Anatomy Practical Exam (APE)
4. Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs)
5. Portfolio

Rolling out from 2026/27 (for Year 1 students), semester 2 modules will be comprised of three domains:

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Professionalism via a portfolio

All three domains contribute to the overall module mark and will be calculated according to the domain weighting of: 75% knowledge, 20% skills and 5% portfolio.

Each domain must be passed for module progression to the next stage of study i.e. no compensation permitted between domains. Failure of one domain would result in a resit of the failed domain components only (e.g. a fail in the knowledge domain but pass in skills/portfolio, results in a knowledge resit only). Integration of clinical competence and professional behaviours alongside knowledge, reflects governing requirements and prepares students for the Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA). The MLA must be passed by all medical students before they are able to join the medical register to practice safely and effectively as a doctor.

Knowledge Domain Assessment:

The mid-semester assessment (MSA) will consist of 60 MCQs (1 h 12 min) and contribute 25% to the knowledge mark. The end semester assessment (ESA) will be composed of two separate knowledge papers: one paper will contain SWAs (1 h 50 min); one paper will contain 60 MCQs (1 h 12 min) and there will be an APE where anatomy knowledge may be assessed using cadaveric material, models or images (10 min). The total number of knowledge marks for the ESA is 180 marks (60 for MCQs and 120 for SWA/APE) and will contribute 75% of the knowledge mark. There are therefore 240 knowledge marks in total across both MSA and ESA.

Skills Domain Assessment:

Clinical and communications skills will be assessed via OSCE. The OSCE consists of two events on separate days, in which students will be tested in 8 stations, each of five minutes duration. The minimum number of stations to pass the OSCE is set at 50% i.e. 4 out of 8 stations AND an overall pass mark must be achieved for the entire exam (calculated via borderline regression). More information will be provided by the clinical skills team and can be found in the BSc/MBChB Phase 1 assessment policy in Medhandbook – link below. OSCE performance will contribute a maximum of 20% towards the final module mark based

on the skills domain weighting. For example, an overall OSCE mark of 85% would equate to 17% of MD2002 module mark ($0.2 \times 85 = 17$).

Professionalism Domain Assessment:

Assessment of professionalism via the portfolio will be continuous across both semester 1 and 2, however will form part of MD2002 assessment, contributing a maximum of 5% to the overall module mark. Satisfactory engagement and completion of portfolio tasks results in automatic award of 5% towards the module mark. Failure to complete more than two portfolio components satisfactorily, will result in a formal portfolio assessment and remediation at the end of year. For those who require a formal assessment and pass, the professionalism domain mark will be capped at 2.5%.

Scores from all domains will contribute to the overall module mark (based on domain weighting) and the final module mark converted to the University's 20-point scale. A resit and subsequent pass of any domain would result in module mark capped at 7 on the 20-point scale.

There will be formative assessments which do not count towards the module grade but enable students to consolidate learning and practice the summative assessment methods. Formative assessments help students monitor progress, ability to apply knowledge and can help identify areas of weakness.

Assessment related information and policies can be found on this page of the MedHandbook: https://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/assessment-information-for-ug-students/?asl_highlight=assessment&p_asid=1

6. Reading and Resources

[Online reading list](#) and [main texts](#)

7. Attendance

- [School absence policy and consequences for non-attendance](#)
- Link to [self-certification forms](#)

8. Policies

- [UG \(MBChB/BSc/ScotGEM\) and PGT submission of coursework and application of late penalties](#)
- Use of generative AI for summative coursework is not approved by the school.
- [Inclusive curriculum statement](#)
- Details on grade descriptors and reporting scale for [Phase 1](#)
- [Academic misconduct/good academic practice](#)

9. Support and Contacts

- Module coordinator and teaching staff (names, roles, contact details) –
Dr Reynolds & Dr Hammond - MD2002@st-andrews.ac.uk
- School Teaching Support Office is located on Level 3 of the School (room 337) and open during 9-5pm Monday – Friday.
- Pastoral support and advice – appointments can be made by contacting medsupport@st-andrews.ac.uk or [student services](#).
- Study skills advice, including 1:1 appointments is provided by the International Education and Lifelong Learning Institute (IELLI). Support can be viewed at: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/lifelong-learning/support/undergraduate/>
- [University Student Handbook](#) provides information and links to relevant policies