MMathPhys in Mathematical and Theoretical Physics
and
MSc in Mathematical and Theoretical Physics
2025-26

First Notice to Candidates

This circular contains information about:

1. Examination entry dates;
2. Submission of problem sheets for courses with a homework completion requirement;
3. Classification and marking conventions

Further notices will be sent out in the future with information about practical arrangements for the various assessments which form part of the course.

Prof. Steven Simon
Chair of Examiners
October 2025

1. Examination entry dates

You will need to formally enter for the units on which you wish to be assessed—including those courses which only have a homework completion requirement—by completing an examination entry form. This is done online through Student Self Service (https://evision.ox.ac.uk/) and further information on the process can be found at https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/examination-entry.

For this course there will be three examination entry deadlines:

- **Thursday 6th November, week 4 Michaelmas term:** Michaelmas term for courses examined by invigilated written examination in Hilary term;

- **Thursday 29th January, week 2 Hilary term**: Hilary term for Michaelmas Term practicals (homework) Hilary term submissions (such as mini-projects released in Hilary Term) and all courses assessed by invigilated written examination in Trinity term;

- **Thursday 14th May, week 3 Trinity term**: Trinity term for Hilary and Trinity term practicals (homework) and Trinity term submissions (such as the dissertation).

Once you have formally entered for a unit you will be expected to complete the assessment. If you change your mind after the entry date has passed, you should apply for permission to change your examination entry through your college using the change of option form available from your college office. You may be charged a change of option fee for doing this. Please note that if you decide to withdraw from an option you must apply to do so before the date of the examination or submission deadline.

For courses which require both an in-person examination and homework completion (*i.e.*, Groups and Representations) you would need to withdraw before the final submission deadline for homework. Once you have completed one form of assessment (homework submission), you cannot withdraw from examination and must complete both forms of assessment.

2. Submission of problem sheets for courses with a homework completion requirement

Some courses require that homework is completed to a certain standard in order to complete the course. The table in Appendix A of the examination conventions (http://mmathphys.physics.ox.ac.uk/students) indicates the assessment method for every course and whether or not the course has a homework completion requirement.

The homework for all courses with a homework requirement will be assigned by the lecturer of the course. Each homework will be marked by a teaching assistant (TA) based on solutions provided by the lecturer. Some of the courses will be accompanied by classes led by tutors in order to discuss the homework assignments. The homework problems will be marked using a letter system A/B/C for problems solved or attempted competently (A for excellent, B for good, C for fair), and F for those problems which are not handed in or, if attempted, show insufficient understanding of the concepts taught in the lectures.

The homework requirement for a course will have been completed if 50% of each problem sheet assigned has a mark A/B/C. Otherwise the homework requirement has not been completed. The Examiners will make the final decision as to whether or not each student has completed the homework requirement for a unit.

Each homework will have a submission date and the homework should be submitted online following the procedure below. If illness or bereavement affects your ability to meet a problem sheet deadline for a homework completion course, it is possible to apply for an extended deadline for submission, or to be excused from that specific problem sheet. Applications should be made online at https://forms.office.com/e/Ka8efNgANC.

Where the extended deadline requested falls before the class at which the work will be discussed, the request will be sent to the lecturer for approval; where the extended deadline would fall after the class, or an excusal is requested, this will be sent to the Chair of Examiners for consideration. The course handbook (http://mmathphys.physics.ox.ac.uk/students) provides further details on the procedure to follow if you are unable to meet the submission date for homework, and the procedure to follow if you wish to make a complaint.

How to submit your homework:

Whether you are taking a course that is assessed by homework completion or are submitting problem sheets for an examined or formally assessed course, you will be required to submit your homework online by the deadlines specified on the course.

If you are submitting problem sheets for a Physics course, you will submit via Canvas:
https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/226235

If you are submitting problem sheets for a Maths course, you will submit via Moodle:
https://courses.maths.ox.ac.uk/course/index.php?categoryid=148

Ensure that your name and college e-mail address are on your work, but NOT your candidate number. (The candidate number is used to render you anonymous, but in the instance of homework your teaching assistant needs to know your name so they can return your work to you.)

Include your name in the PDF filename you submit as your homework. Write the name of the lecture course and problem sheet number at the top of your work, *e.g.*, "Groups and Representations Problem Sheet 1".

It is your responsibility to ensure that your work has been submitted, especially if you are submitting your homework for the purpose of homework completion. If you are concerned that your internet connection may have been interrupted and your work did not submit, you should contact your Teaching Assistant as soon as possible to confirm it has been received.

3. Classification and marking conventions

For details of the classification and marking conventions for this course please see the course examination conventions (http://mmathphys.physics.ox.ac.uk/students).