



Multiple Pathways for Biomedical Sciences at the School of Biomedical Sciences, The University of Hong Kong

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Background

The Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences (BBMS) program commenced in 2012 as a four year degree. We introduced articulation programs in the BBMS curriculum as multiple pathways for pursuing diverse health care-related studies after BBMS graduation.

The aim of the present study was to develop variety of articulation programmes for BBMS degree during their elective third year which will provide alternate and multiple path careers after graduating BBMS degree.

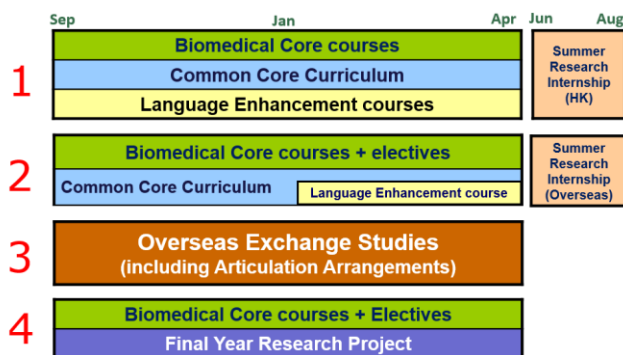
Methods

The BBMS curriculum consists of core subjects for students to undertake in the first two years. Aside from early summer research internship programs during this period, students have to complete in the fourth year a Final Year Project as capstone experience. BBMS students during their third elective year can pursue one of the three minors (Biotechnology and Clinical Research; Genetics and Genomics; Kinesiology). Multiple pathways are also introduced during the third elective year for students to study overseas for 1 year to comply with the prerequisites of the respective professional courses. Upon graduation with the BBMS degree, students can then continue to complete the professional degree in the respective institutions.

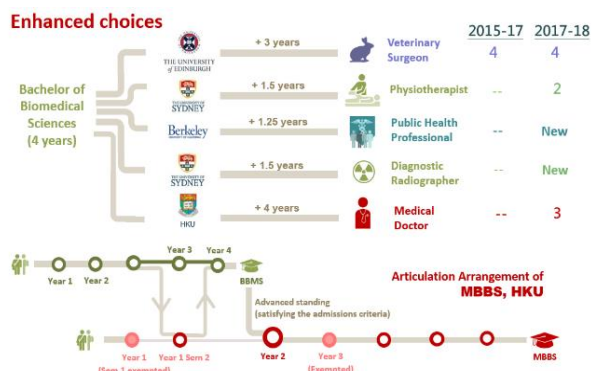
Results

We have reached MOUs with three overseas institutions for articulation programs. After spending 1 year at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies The University of Edinburgh, our BBMS graduates can complete a degree in Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) for another 3 years. Similarly, BBMS graduates after spending 1 year at The University of Sydney can complete either Master of Physiotherapy or Master of Diagnostic Radiotherapy for another 1.5 year. The University of California Berkeley can complete either Master of Public Health for another 1.25 year The University of Hong Kong MBBS program also provides a one-semester Year 1 experience for selected BBMS students who are interested to study medicine after graduation. The latter BBMS graduates are offered advanced standing if admitted subsequently to the MBBS program.

Biomedical Sciences Degree Curriculum



Biomedical Sciences Degree Multiple Pathways



Conclusion

Multiple pathways in biomedical sciences provide more career options for students. These innovative and flexible paths offer BBMS students with more attractive and relevant exposure in the changing work force environment in Hong Kong.