Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Entry May 2017
Welcome from the Provost

Thank you for considering Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed Malaysia) as you contemplate your options for your future Foundation programme education.

Newcastle University is a top-20 UK university with a global reputation for academic excellence. The university itself began as a medical school in the UK in 1834, and we have been education students from Malaysia for over 40 years. We established NUMed Malaysia as a full-owned international branch campus in 2009, and have already produced over 100 graduates. Since then, Malaysian and international students have had the opportunity to study for the Newcastle Foundation programme at a significantly reduced cost compared with the same programme at our UK campus.

The Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme (N/010/3/0361) is a 12 month programme. The course you will study is equivalent to the one delivered at our University in the UK, and following successful completion of the programme you will be awarded the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences by Newcastle University, UK. The length of the programme is 12 months.

Students who successfully complete the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences to the required level, will automatically be offered a place on either our MBBS programme (subject to interview) or our BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences programme. See the ‘After you Graduate’ section later in this brochure for further information.

Delivery of the Newcastle The Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme in Malaysia has been approved by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA/PA4131) and Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (DULN005(J)) is registered as a Private Institute of Higher Learning by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia.

We invite you to study with us, and trust that this brochure provides you with all the information you need to make your choice. I hope I will have the opportunity of personally welcoming you as a new student to NUMed Malaysia.

Professor Roger Barton
Provost and Chief Executive Officer
While NUMed Malaysia was only established in 2009, the history and heritage of the University in the UK dates back to 1834, when a School of Medicine and Surgery was first established in the city of Newcastle upon Tyne. Newcastle University Medical School is a world leading collaboration of research scientists, medical doctors and teaching professionals who have enjoyed a reputation for innovation and excellence for both our research and teaching. Our MBBS and BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences programmes are consistently two of the most highly regarded courses of their type in the UK.

Newcastle has become one of only 14 universities in the world to achieve five plus QS Stars from QS Quacquarelli Symonds, the first international assessment of its kind.

The Stars system rates universities against a number of performance indicators as set against pre-established international standards. We are proud to have been awarded five stars in the following areas:

- Teaching
- Student Employability
- Research
- Internationalisation
- Facilities
- Innovation
- Inclusiveness
- Life Sciences and Medicine

The QS Stars system is operated by the QS Intelligence Unit, the independent compiler of the QS World University Rankings® since 2004. The system evaluates universities across a wide range of important performance indicators as set against pre-established international standards. By covering a broader range of criteria than any world ranking exercise, QS Stars™ shines a light on both the excellence and the diversity of the rated institution.

Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Studying the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences at NUMed Malaysia

This programme is intended to serve as a pre-undergraduate Foundation programme for Malaysian students intending to study medicine, biological or biomedical sciences or science at undergraduate level in Malaysia at NUMed, or in another Malaysian HE institution, depending on the final grades achieved.

As such it aims to provide a programme which:

1. Equips students with the English language competence they need to study at degree level at NUMed Malaysia or in another Higher Education Provider
2. Provides students with the intellectual development and subject knowledge they need to be academically capable of studying medicine and/or biomedical science subjects at degree level at NUMed Malaysia or in another Higher Education Provider
3. Builds a students’ study skills so that they are capable of entering a Higher Education institution offering a degree level education
4. Provides practical experience of British University teaching methods
5. Enables students to develop confidence in communicating and learning in English
6. Encourages students to undertake self-evaluation to help them identify additional needs
Newcastle University UK

Newcastle University UK is a modern university with a rich tradition of scholarship, a proud record of service and a truly global alumni network. The reputation and popularity of the University is backed up by the high-quality teaching and learning experience and the research opportunities available to students. A Russell Group University consistently ranked in the top 20 in the UK for research power and student experience, Newcastle is the first UK University to establish a fully owned international branch campus for medicine in Malaysia.

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A testament to the quality is that in 2015, Newcastle University was confirmed as one of the leading universities for medicine in the world by the Leiden Ranking – a highly respected international ranking of research performance – which placed our Faculty of Medicine among the top 20 in the world.

BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences programmes are strongly advised to stay at the NUMed Managed student accommodation. You will be advised on how to book this once you have been offered a place on the programme.

Application for entry in May 2017 is now open. NUMed Malaysia has only one intake per year, in May each year.

If you already meet the entry requirements (see the ‘Entry Requirements’ section later in this brochure), or are forecast to meet the requirements by mid-March 2017 then you should apply now using the following procedure:

1. You must apply directly to NUMed Malaysia. Applicants should download and complete the Application Form from the NUMed website (www.numed.nus.edu.my).

2. You should return your fully completed Application Form, together with the documents listed below, by e-mail to admissions@newcastle.edu.my.

   • Transcripts/certificates showing your previous academic awards/examination results.
   • Your current academic transcripts or forecast results in your school examinations: these must be certified by your school or college
   • A copy of your identity card or passport

3. Once we have received your application, an acknowledgement e-mail will be sent to you from the NUMed Malaysia Office.

4. Your application will be considered by our Admissions team and you will then be notified whether you have been offered a place on the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme during March 2017.

Malaysian applicants: While there is no formal closing date for the receipt of applications, you are encouraged to apply early as applications are high and a limited number of places are available.

International applicants: The closing date for receipt of international applicants is 31st January 2017. This is to permit enough time for us to assist you to obtain your student visa.

The date of registration for enrolment in 2017 is tentatively, Monday 22nd May, 2017.

Fees 2017 – 2018

The overall tuition costs of obtaining the Newcastle University Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme with NUMed Malaysia and Newcastle UK is significantly less than the cost of studying for the same programme in the UK.

A single inclusive fee is charged to cover the costs of tuition, library, laboratory, placements, examination, administration fees, and all other academic-related charges for the programme.

• Malaysian Students - RM269,000 for the 12 month programme
• International Students - RM329,380 for the 12 month programme

You should note that the fees do not include the cost of your living accommodation in Malaysia. Students studying on our Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme are strongly advised to stay at the NUMed Managed student accommodation.

Entry requirements

To enter NUMed Malaysia, students must satisfy the academic, English language proficiency and age requirements of the University for the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences as set out below.

Selection will be based on a combination of:

• Your school examination results (or forecast results)
• Proficiency in English

School Examinations and Grades

We recognise that students will apply with a range of qualifications. While we consider each applicant on an individual basis taking into account the information you provide in your application, including your past academic performance and potential, you need to demonstrate a high level of academic achievement and excellent results in your school examinations. The examination grade requirements given in the table below are indicative only.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>EXAMINATIONS</th>
<th>REQUIREMENTS/GRADES</th>
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<tr>
<td>SPM</td>
<td>Normally 5 As each in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and another subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGCSE</td>
<td>Normally 5 As each in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and another subject.</td>
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Applicants offering qualifications other than those listed above should e-mail admissions@newcastle.edu.my to check if their qualifications are acceptable or not.

If you accept an offer from NUMed Malaysia, you must provide us with original or certified copies of your qualification documents prior to commencing the course.

English Requirements

You must be proficient in both spoken and written English. You can demonstrate this through the IELTS test, or equivalent (e.g. TOEFL, MUET, English O-Level or SPM 1118). An IELTS minimum overall score of 5 with no individual band less than 4.5 must be achieved.

Age Requirements

You must be at least 16 years of age at the time of enrolment.
Other Requirements

All potential students are required to disclose at the time of application whether they have any criminal record which may make them unsuitable to study at NUMed Malaysia. You are invited to discuss with NUMed Malaysia the relevance of any caution or conviction you may have received at the time of application. We reserve the right to withdraw an offer if an applicant does not declare any relevant caution or conviction in their application.

Also, NUMed Malaysia reserves the right to discontinue a student’s studies if evidence of criminal activity comes to light during the course of their studies.

Special Consideration/Disadvantage

Any statement regarding circumstances which may have seriously impaired your studies in the final year of your school education that you wish to put forward for special consideration must be submitted at the time of application. You should note that NUMed Malaysia will not give special consideration to such statements made at a later time.

Deferment

If you are accepted onto the programme, but wish to defer your place until 2018, please let us know. A deposit will be required for your deferment to be accepted.

Accepting an offer

Once you receive an offer of a place on the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme, you must follow the instructions below to confirm your place:

1. Accepting your offer

To accept your offer, please complete the Reply to Offer form sent to you with your offer letter and return it by e-mail to admissions@newcastle.edu.my no more than 6 weeks after the date on your offer letter.

2. Confirmation of your acceptance

On receipt of your completed Reply to Offer form, an email will be sent to you from the NUMed Malaysia Admissions team confirming your acceptance, together with instructions for the payment of a deposit to secure your place.

3. Paying your deposit

Once you have accepted our offer, to secure your place you will be required to pay a deposit of RM3,000 which will be deducted from your fees once you commence the programme. Payment must be made within 6 weeks from the date of your original offer letter. An official receipt will be issued to you once we have received payment.

If you have already completed your school studies and your examination results meet our academic requirements for entry, your offer will be unconditional, and the deposit will be non-refundable.

If you are still studying for your school examinations, your offer will be conditional upon you achieving the required grades/results set out in your offer letter. If you do not meet the conditions of the offer, your deposit will be refunded in full. However, if you have accepted our offer, and meet our conditions but decide later not to study at NUMed Malaysia your deposit will not be refunded.

4. Next steps

Once we have received your deposit we will send you further Student Accommodation information.

You will receive our Welcome Pack and information on enrolment and induction in May 2017.
Teaching and Assessment

Teaching and Learning

The Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme is delivered at NUMed Malaysia under the authority of Newcastle University UK and the teaching, learning and assessment is equivalent to that which students studying in the UK receive.

The teaching and learning strategy is designed to encourage a progressive acquisition of knowledge and understanding. Knowledge and understanding is primarily taught through lectures and practical laboratory sessions supported by reading, seminar discussion and tutorials. English is primarily taught in smaller classes and reinforced through practice. Case studies and project work will involve an element of student research.

During the first week of the first semester you will attend an induction programme. New students are given a general introduction to Campus life and the University’s principal support services and general information about EduCity, NUMed and their programmes. New students are given detailed programme information and the timetable of lectures/practicals/tutorials/etc.

Assessment

The Foundation programme at NUMed mirrors the Foundation programme offered at Newcastle University. The principles of Constructive Alignment underpin the delivery of the programme that is teaching, learning outcomes and assessment are intrinsically linked. The components of the programme can be broken down into four areas: knowledge and understanding of the subject covered in the programme; intellectual skills which are used in your future studies; practical skills in the laboratory; and transferable skills for your future careers and life.

Knowledge and understanding is assessed primarily through unseen examinations, written coursework (such as numerical exercises, essays, case studies, project reports and laboratory reports), in-course tests and observation of ability to carry out specific practical experiments.

Intellectual skills are assessed as part of the overall assessment of case study and project reports and/or oral presentations, calculation class exercises, laboratory work and laboratory reports. In particular intellectual skills are assessed by the Study Skills module and unseen examinations.

Practical laboratory and scientific skills are assessed through observation of experimental technique and laboratory reports, seminar/tutorial exercises and in some tests and exams. English language competency is tested directly in the English for Academic Purposes module using a mixture of tests and coursework and covering reading, writing, speaking and listening. Other modules indirectly assess English language competence and the ability to take notes and use sources.

Transferable skills are addressed through group work, oral presentations, case studies, essays, laboratory reports. Students are also encouraged to prepare a reflective log.
The permanent purpose-built NUMed Malaysia campus is set within the EduCity Iskandar Malaysia development http://www. iskandarinvestment.com/educity-partners/ in Iskandar Puteri, Johor. This dedicated international higher education hub is located 11km east of the Gelang Patah Interchange on the main Second. Link Expressway. The Second Crossing Bridge to Singapore is only 8km from the site, and the city of Johor Bahru, 25km to the east is easily accessed via the newly opened Coastal Highway. Singapore’s Changi International Airport is a 45-minute drive away and we are just 20 minutes from Johor’s Senai Airport. Opened in 2011 by His Royal Highness Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, our 5.5-hectare secure campus is designed to replicate the look and feel of Newcastle University in the UK, and comprises over 15,000m² of academic space housing state-of-the-art facilities and innovations in medical and scientific learning and teaching technology.

Our facilities include lecture and seminar rooms, a laboratory and clinical skills complex, the learning resource centre, and the student cafeterias, dance studio and recreation centre. The centrepiece of the campus, and at the heart of your learning is the Learning Resource Centre. Constructed around the library facility, this innovative building is modelled on a number of emerging, ground-breaking facilities at other international worldclass higher education institutions. Over three floors, the Centre is largely open plan to provide you with a range of flexible learning spaces, supportive of different kinds of study, and a relaxing environment helpful to learning. These spaces include ‘quiet zones’ for self-directed study, study rooms for group work, and other social learning areas, which you will be able to rearrange to suit your preferred style of study. More formal spaces are also included for practice presentations.

There are two large IT clusters, and the entire campus has access to a high-speed wireless network. The learning environment we provide here at NUMed Malaysia goes beyond our excellent physical resources as the framework of your learning is fully supported by the organisation and culture of Newcastle University, UK. A wide range of factors contribute to making NUMed Malaysia an ideal place to study including our institutional goals, the high value we attach to supporting your learning, the close relationships between you and the faculty, the individual attention you receive, and the personal feedback we provide on your progress.

Overall we believe that NUMed Malaysia provides you with an environment which encourages your learning, which is safe and secure fosters collaboration, values the contribution of individuals, and is based on mutual respect.

Student Support and Guidance

Our strategy for your support and guidance is based on the provision of clear and timely information, academic guidance and individual tutorial support, backed up by a comprehensive network of personal support ranging from peer mentors through personal tutors to professional counsellors.

You are provided with Study Guides for each module. These indicate what you should learn and how this learning can be achieved. They provide you with learning outcomes, details of the programme of study, and guidance to support self-study, including self-assessment.

A member of staff at NUMed Malaysia is allocated to you as your Personal Tutor to offer general academic guidance and pastoral support. In addition, the NUMed Malaysia Student Association operates a ‘peer-parenting’ system whereby every new student is attached to a ‘family’ of senior students who are available to offer advice and guidance.

Your input to the development of our curriculum is very important to us and many changes have been introduced in response to student feedback. There is a Staff-Student Committee for the programme, and the student members play an important role in managing the curriculum and its development.
Student Accommodation

NUMed has its own managed student accommodation. The new accommodation offers high-quality self-catering apartments, arranged as a number of study-bedrooms sharing a central kitchen/living room and shower facilities. The air-conditioned apartments also have free wireless internet access. There is a swimming pool and gymnasium on-site, to which all students staying in the accommodation have free access.

Each apartment is self-catering and is equipped with its own fridge, cooker and washing machine. The NUMed Student Accommodation offers a partial cleaning service for public areas and kitchen. Students are responsible for cleaning their own study bedrooms. Each apartment houses up to four students.

NUMed Student Accommodation is truly multinational, multi-ethnic and multicultural. The accommodation is just a 10-minute drive from the campus, with fris, regular transport provided, not only between the accommodation and the campus, but also between the accommodation and the nearby major eateries, shopping centres, entertainment outlets and other recreational attractions, which are five minutes’ drive away.

These new apartments will be managed by NUMed and you can therefore expect a responsive and efficient service. The apartments are within a gated community, with 24-hour, non-intrusive security. There is a NUMed Security Office on-site, with NUMed guards on hand 24 hours.

Accommodation and Hospitality Services are committed to providing services and facilities that enhance your experience and you can be assured of our support and attention at all times.

More detailed information about the accommodation is available at: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/numed/support/living/accommodation

Living Expenses

Living expenses depend on your financial resources, tastes and interests, and you are advised to set a budget according to your own individual needs.

As a guide, including your accommodation, we estimate that you should allow around RM2,000 per month to cover your living costs in Johor.

Recreation and the EduCity Iskandar Malaysia Sports Complex

As a NUMed Malaysia student you will have access to both the sports, social and recreational facilities provided on campus, and to those provided by EduCity Iskandar Malaysia.

The common facilities shared by all students at EduCity include a world-class stadium and sports complex, which opened in August 2013. The sports complex includes:

- outdoor arena and pitches for field sports and athletics
- indoor arena and facilities for sports such as badminton, volleyball etc.
- gymnasium
- 50m swimming pool
- indoor arena and facilities for sports such as badminton, volleyball etc.
- outdoor arena and pitches for field sports and athletics

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NUMed Malaysia Student Association

The model of student government for NUMed Malaysia is the same as that of Newcastle University, UK.

The purposes of the Student Association are two fold:

- It is the representative body for the student community in dealings with the academic leadership of NUMed Malaysia.
- It oversees the running of the many student societies, clubs and other organizations.

The Student Association nominates representatives to serve on NUMed Malaysia committees, and supervises and coordinates co-curricular activities.

As well as organizing entertainment and activities for the student body, the Association also runs campaigns on issues affecting students, and participates with the local health authorities in delivering health promotion and awareness to the local community.

For more information please visit the Student Association Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/numedSA

After You Graduate

Upon successful completion of the entire programme you will be awarded the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences, which will be conferred by Newcastle University UK.

What next?

Students who successfully complete the Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences to the required level, will automatically be offered a place on either our MB BS programme at NUMed only (subject to interview) or our BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences programme at NUMed or our BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences or associated programme at Newcastle University, UK.

To qualify for admission to the MB BS programme, you must achieve CGPA of 3.5 and 70% or greater in the English for Academic Purposes module. For the BSc (Hons) Biomedical Sciences programme, you must have achieved a CGPA of 3.0 and 65% or greater in the English for Academic Purposes module.

JPA scholars intending to further their studies in Medicine or Biomedical Sciences at NUMed must achieve a minimum grade of 3.75 to continue to benefit from JPA funding.