Oxford Mathematics

University of Oxford
Mathematical Institute

MSc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing
Notice to Candidates
Special Topics and Case Studies in Scientific Computing 2026-27

This circular contains information about the submission of Special Topic reports and Case Studies in Scientific Computing for the MSc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing.

The full Regulations for the MSc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing are contained in the Examination Decrees and Regulations.

Information on the course can also be found in the Course Handbook.

Examination conventions can be downloaded from the course webpage. These conventions are a guide to the Examiners and candidates but the regulations set out in the Examination Regulations have precedence.

Students are required to submit their work by the deadlines listed below:

Michaelmas Term Special Topic will be due at 12 noon on Monday 11th January

Case Study in Scientific Computing will be due at 12 noon on Monday 11th January

If you have any questions, please contact the Course Administrator at mmsc@maths.ox.ac.uk who will pass them on as appropriate to the relevant Assessor and/or the Chair of Examiners.

Prof Mike Giles
Chair of Examiners for the MSc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing
November 2026

Procedures for Submission of Coursework

Electronic Submissions

Candidates must submit an electronic version of their assessments via Inspera by 12 noon on the day of the submission deadline. The Inspera platform can be accessed at https://oxford.inspera.com/. You will not be required to submit a hard copy of your work.

Please check you can see your submissions on Inspera in advance of the deadline to ensure you are able to submit and have the relevant access. You **must** ensure that you submit this work to the relevant test – any work submitted to the incorrect test in Inspera will not be accepted.

NB. Please note that after you have uploaded your work to Inspera, you **must** click 'Submit Now'. Work that is uploaded but not submitted will not be accepted by the Examiners.

Please note that your candidate number should be the only means of identification of your work. Please ensure that you include your candidate number on the front page of your Special Topic report and Case Study submission. DO NOT include your name or student number. You can obtain your candidate number through Student Self Service (for guidance on using the Student Self Service, please visit: http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/selfservice/).

You should pay particular attention to the information on 'Making Changes to your work after submission'. We strongly encourage students to check the work that has been submitted to Inspera, as soon as it has been submitted. If the wrong document has been uploaded in error, or the work otherwise is not what you intended to submit, the correct file must be emailed to mmsc@maths.ox.ac.uk within 30 minutes of the deadline for it to be accepted for marking. If work is sent more than 30 minutes after the deadline, the University does not allow us to accept it for marking.

In the unlikely event that you experience technical difficulties with the online submission which cannot be resolved before the deadline please contact the MSc administration team at mmsc@maths.ox.ac.uk.

Plagiarism and AI

Candidates are reminded of the importance of avoiding any suspicion of plagiarism. For further guidance, please see: http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills/plagiarism

The Mathematical Institute's policy on the use of generative AI in summatively assessed work is available via: https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/members/students/departmental-and-university-regulations. The policy outlines the permissible use of AI. Students are asked to complete a Declaration of AI use at the point of submission. The AI policy provides an example of how this declaration should be completed.

Declaration of Authorship

Upon electronic submission you will be required to declare that you have

- read and understood
    - the University's disciplinary regulations concerning conduct in examinations and, in particular, the regulations on plagiarism
    - the Education Committee's information and guidance on academic good practice and plagiarism
- submitted work that is
    - entirely your own except where otherwise indicated
    - not copied from the work of another candidate
    - not from a service of any agency providing specimen, model, or ghostwritten work
    - not previously submitted, either partially or in full, to this qualification or any other Honour School or University qualification
- acknowledged
    - any assistance you received, including use of AI
    - all material quoted from other sources
    - all paraphrased material with appropriate references
- agreed to
    - retain an electronic copy of this work until the publication of the final exam result
    - make any such electronic copy available to the examiners should it be necessary to confirm the word count or to check for plagiarism.

Late Submission or Failure to Submit Coursework

Under the provisions permitted by the regulations, late submission of coursework where there are no extenuating circumstances may result in the following penalties:

Lateness of Submission	**Penalty (USMs)**
Up to 4 hours	1
4-24 hours	10
24-48 hours	20
48-72 hours	30
72 hours – 14 days	35
More than 14 days	Fail (mark of 0 awarded)

Formatting of Projects and Penalties for Submissions Exceeding the Page Limits

For special topics and case studies in scientific computing the page limit is 20 pages. This page limit includes the whole main body of the special topic or case study (i.e. all text, mathematical equations, figures, tables, abstract, table of contents etc.) but excludes the references, title page (unless this contains more of the project than just the title and student's candidate number), and the appendices. Whilst assessors are required to consider the main body of the report, they are not expected to read appendices, so all core analysis and findings should be presented within the main body of the document. A minimum of a 12pt font size must be used, the width of the text should be at most 15cm (6 inches) per page and the height of the text should be at most 22.5cm (9 inches) per page. The spacing of the text should be at least one and a quarter spacing (use a baselinestretch of 1.25 in LaTeX). The examiners may request the original LaTeX source file if they do not believe these restrictions have been adhered to.

Submissions exceeding the pages limits will be assessed in the usual way and then penalties applied as indicated below:

Number of pages in excess of limit for special topics and case studies	Penalty (USMs)
1 page	1
2 pages	5
3 pages	10
4 pages	20
5 pages	30
6 pages	40
7 pages or more	50

MSc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing

The formal procedures determining the conduct of University examinations are established and enforced by the Proctors.

The Examiners are nominated by the Nominating Committee in the Mathematical Institute and these nominations are submitted for approval by the Vice-Chancellor and the Proctors. Assessors are appointed to assist the examiners and in particular the core course lecturers take on the role of assessors in setting, checking and marking the written exam papers.

It must be stressed that to preserve the independence of the Examiners, candidates are not allowed to make contact directly about matters relating to the content or marking of papers. Any communication must be via the Senior Tutor of your college, who will, if he or she deems the matter of importance, contact the Proctors. The Proctors in turn communicate with the Chair of Examiners.

The Examiners normally adhere to the published examination conventions, subject to the guidance of the appointed external examiners, and other bodies such as the Mathematics Teaching Committee, the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division, the University's Education Committee and the Proctors, who may offer advice or make recommendations to examiners.

Standardised Marks and Class Descriptors

Information relating to standardised marks and class descriptors can be located in the MMSC Examination Conventions 2026-27.