

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2024-25: MSc in Experimental and Translational Therapeutics



Course facts

Mode of study	Part Time Only
Expected length	2 to 4 years

About the course

The Department of Oncology and the Department for Continuing Education offer the part-time MSc in Experimental and Translational Therapeutics, bringing together some of Oxford's leading clinicians and scientists to deliver an advanced modular programme designed for those in full-time employment.

Oxford has made a major contribution to modern molecular medicine and Oxford's senior scientists have provided significant insights to our understanding of cancer, diabetes, and cardiac, haematological and infectious diseases. There is an opportunity to harness these advances and translate them into therapeutic benefits for patients.

The MSc in Experimental and Translational Therapeutics draws on the world class research and teaching in experimental therapeutics at the University of Oxford and aims to provide you with the necessary training and practical experience to enable you to understand the principles that underpin clinical research, and to translate that understanding into good clinical and research practice.

The programme will appeal to health professionals from a variety of backgrounds, including:

- qualified doctors
- specialist registrars in clinical pharmacology or in training for other medical sub-specialities
- clinical research fellows
- pharmacists
- nurses
- graduates working in the pharmaceutical industry or in academic clinical trials.

The MSc is a part-time course consisting of six modules and a research project and dissertation. The programme is normally completed in two to three years, but up to a maximum of four years may be taken. You will be a full member of the University of Oxford and matriculated as a member of a college.

The six modules are:

- The Structure of Clinical Trials and Experimental Therapeutics
- Drug Development, Pharmacokinetics and Imaging
- Pharmacodynamics, Biomarkers and Personalised Therapy
- Adverse Drug Reactions, Drug Interactions, and Pharmacovigilance
- How to do Research on Therapeutic Interventions: Protocol Preparation
- Biological Therapeutics.

The class-based taught modules consist of five days of intensive face-to-face lectures and tutorials, and are followed by a period for assignment work. Attendance at modules is a requirement for study. A virtual learning environment (VLE) provides between-module support, and assignments are submitted online.

The modules include group work, discussions, guest lectures, and interaction and feedback with tutors and lecturers, as well as practical work that develops your knowledge and understanding of the subject. It is recommended that you plan to spend around eight to ten hours per week in private study in addition to time spent in classes or participating in on-line learning.

The dissertation is founded on a research project that builds on material studied in the taught modules. The project is normally supervised by an academic supervisor from the University of Oxford, and an employer-based mentor.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Department of Oncology and/or Department for Continuing Education and this role will usually be performed by the Course Director.

It is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. A supervisor may be found outside the Department of Oncology and the Department for Continuing Education.

Between starting the course and beginning the dissertation you will be assigned the Deputy Course Director as your supervisor, with whom you will have contact approximately every four-six weeks. When you start the dissertation module, you

will be assigned a dissertation supervisor. The University expects there to be contact between a dissertation supervisor and student at least once per month.

Assessment

To qualify for the award of an MSc, you will need to:

- Complete and pass six taught modules, submitting a written assignment with each module. All modules are compulsory and are delivered during a teaching week, taught face-to-face in Oxford. This is a variable-intensity part-time programme and you will be asked to choose which modules you wish to complete at the beginning of each academic year. The module weeks run once each year on fixed dates which are published in advance. We recommend Module 1 is taken in the first year and Module 6 in the second, with some flexibility in the order taken for modules 2, 3, 4 and 5. You may wish to discuss a personal study plan at interview.
- Feedback will be provided for each module assignment when provisional marks are released. Assessment is summative and weighted marks for each assignment will count towards your overall result for the MSc. Full details of the assessment structure are included in the Course Handbook provided to on-course students.
- You will also submit a research dissertation. You will be expected to define your own dissertation topic in consultation with your allocated supervisor and the Course Director.

Changes to this course

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after you commence your course. These might include significant changes made necessary by any pandemic, epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Costs

Modular course fees

The fees for this course are charged on a modular basis. You will pay an annual course fee and an additional fee for each module studied. A minimum of two annual course fees are payable for this course. If this course includes a dissertation, three module fees will be charged for the dissertation.

Fees for the 2024-25 academic year

Fee status	Annual Course Fee	Fee per module	Total estimated fees
Home	£2,055	£2,570	Please see the department's website for further details
Overseas	£8,455	£2,570	

Information about course fees

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

This course has residential sessions in Oxford. You will need to meet your travel and accommodation costs in attending these sessions. Further, as part of your course requirements, you may need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses.

Living costs

In addition to your course fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

If you are studying part-time your living costs may vary depending on your personal circumstances but you must still ensure that you will have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2024-25 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

Likely living costs for one month

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£315	£495
Accommodation	£745	£925
Personal items	£190	£320
Social activities	£40	£95
Study costs	£35	£85
Other	£20	£35
Total	£1,345	£1,955

Likely living costs for nine months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£2,835	£4,445
Accommodation	£6,705	£8,325
Personal items	£1,710	£2,880
Social activities	£360	£855
Study costs	£315	£765
Other	£180	£315
Total	£12,105	£17,595

Likely living costs for twelve months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£3,780	£5,940
Accommodation	£8,940	£11,100
Personal items	£2,280	£3,840
Social activities	£480	£1,140
Study costs	£420	£1,020
Other	£240	£420
Total	£16,140	£23,460

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2024-25, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of 5% or more each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of this document please contact Graduate Admissions and Recruitment by email (graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask>).