

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2017-18

PGCert in Health Research

About the course

The Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in Health Research is designed for medical and dental trainees with the potential to be the independent researchers of the future, and to be taken part-time alongside work commitments, normally over one or two years.



The Postgraduate Certificate in Health Research will help you to:

- develop skills of research, design and data analysis in both qualitative and quantitative research;
- critically evaluate health research;
- identify, critically appraise and incorporate the results of medical and social science research into the day-to-day decision-making of clinical, scientific and administrative practice;
- apply the principles of evidence-based practice in health care settings;
- plan how to implement the findings of research to improve health care; and
- use theories and principles underpinning clinical research to inform your own research practice.

The course is delivered through the Department for Continuing Education, with the expertise in curriculum design and teaching drawn from the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine and the Clinical Academic Graduate School.

You will take two compulsory modules and an option module; further information on all course modules is available on the Department for Continuing Education webpage. The assessment for each module will be based on a written assignment of not more than 4,000 words.

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- demonstrate a knowledge of the principles, methods and techniques appropriate for solving evidence-based health care and health care problems and be able to translate that understanding into good clinical practice, through a critical comprehension of the relative advantages and disadvantages;
- demonstrate a range of research skills enabling you to complete research successfully, either as part of a research team or as an individual;
- acquire, interpret and analyse biological information with a critical understanding of the appropriate contexts for their use through the study of the existing primary literature in the field; and
- apply skills and expertise gained across the medical and biological sciences expected of professional researchers.

You will know and understand:

- health care organisations, their management and the changing context in which they operate;
- the ethical issues in health research and research governance;

- methods to integrate and synthesise different sorts of information, from diverse sources, when making both individual patient and health-policy decisions in a wide range of situations;
- the key issues for evidence-based practice in your own professional area or specialty;
- how to work comfortably in situations of uncertainty and make sound judgements in the absence of definitive evidence; and
- research methods and concepts in the field of health and health care.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver each course in accordance with the descriptions 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 registration. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions.

Expected length of course

1 to 2 years

Fees for the 2017-18 academic year

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 one annual course fee is payable for this course. If this course includes a dissertation, three module fees will be charged for the dissertation.

Fee Status	Annual course fee	Fee per module	Total estimated fees
Home/EU (including Islands)	£5,910	£1,795	Please see the department's website for further details (https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/about/postgraduate-certificate-in-health-research)
Overseas	£5,910	£1,795	

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.

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

The likely living costs for 2017-18 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 1 month		Likely living costs for 9 months		Likely living costs for 12 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£250	£350	£2,250	£3,150	£3,000	£4,000
Accommodation	£538	£619	£4,844	£5,569	£6,459	£7,425
Personal items	£115	£255	£1,035	£2,295	£1,380	£3,060
Social activities	£40	£119	£358	£1,073	£477	£1,431
Study costs	£38	£83	£338	£743	£451	£991
Other	£22	£45	£196	£407	£261	£543
Total	£1,002	£1,471	£9,021	£13,237	£12,028	£17,649

When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2017-18, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 2% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/living-costs.

31 October 2016