

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2024-25: MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences



Course facts

Mode of study	Part Time Only
Expected length	2 years

About the course

The part-time taught MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences provides practising clinicians or those with a degree in biomedical or biological sciences with an academic training in the sciences underlying musculoskeletal diseases, promoting an understanding of the ways in which research can be used to improve knowledge and treatment of musculoskeletal diseases.

This is a biennial course and is designed to complement any graduate clinical teaching that you may be receiving as part of a specialist training programme. Completing the course will provide a firm foundation for students wishing to progress to full-time doctoral research. The programme consists of five modules, studied part-time over two years. Attendance at the University is required for short residential sessions of four to five days that take place eight times over the two years. These sessions can be delivered as lectures, small group sessions, problem-based learning scenarios and evaluation of academic papers. There will be no flexibility in the dates of attendance and all compulsory teaching dates are provided prior to the start of the course.

It is recommended that students meet with their academic supervisors during these weeks. However this is not compulsory and the dates/frequency of these meetings are determined by mutual agreement between the student and supervisor.

Modules include:

- Musculoskeletal Diseases: Scientific Principles
- Musculoskeletal Diseases: Applied Clinical Sciences
- Research, Statistics and Epidemiology
- Advanced Orthopaedics
- Advanced Rheumatology.

Teaching methods include lectures, small group sessions, problem-based learning scenarios and evaluation of academic papers. In addition, you will be expected to undertake self-directed learning in your own time, to build on the information provided in the teaching sessions.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Medical Sciences Division and the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS) and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Medical Sciences Division.

It is recommended that students meet with their supervisors during these weeks. However this is not compulsory and the dates/frequency of these meetings are determined by mutual agreement between the student and supervisor.

Assessment

There are a number of formative and summative assessments throughout the two-year course which include literature review, two MCQ papers and two short answer question papers. In the final year, students are required to submit a research proposal in the form of a 'mock' grant application. In addition, throughout the course students will be required to give a number of formative and summative oral presentations.

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

Annual fees for entry in 2024-25

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£6,510
Overseas	£15,990

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

Please note that this course requires that you attend in Oxford for teaching, and you may incur additional travel and accommodation expenses for this. 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>).