Biomedical Sciences Information Sheet for entry in 2016

What is Biomedical Sciences?

Biomedical scientists focus on how cells, organs and systems function in the human body, an exciting and dynamic area that is highly relevant to the understanding and treatment of human diseases. This course does not provide a medical training.

Biomedical Sciences at Oxford

Oxford is a highly respected and internationally recognised centre for biomedical research and, on this interdisciplinary course, students will receive the benefit of tuition from leading experts working within a variety of non-clinical and clinical departments.

This course provides students with an intellectually stimulating education in modern molecular, cellular and systems biology and neuroscience.

The course has been designed so that students first acquire an integrated understanding of biomedical science that allows them to shape their subsequent studies towards the topics that interest them the most.

As the course progresses, increasing emphasis is placed on relating knowledge to scientific research. That emphasis is demonstrated by the opportunity for all students to obtain first-hand experience of laboratory research in the later stages of the course. Students choose their own project and the possible areas for research within the University are wide ranging.

On the basis of the specialisation initiated by the selection of second-year modules and confirmed by the choice of third-year options, students will be awarded a degree in Neuroscience or Cell and Systems Biology. The University reserves the right to limit the number of students progressing to either specialism in the third year.

For further details on the structure of the course, please refer to www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms.

A typical weekly timetable

A first-year student would typically attend six to ten lectures, a Mathematics class and a three-hour practical class. Practical work undertaken in laboratories forms an integral part of this programme; students are required to complete practical work to a satisfactory standard in order to progress through the degree course. In addition, students prepare for weekly tutorials at which discussions between students and tutors highlight, through consideration of experimental studies, the significance and limitations of the topic under consideration. Students' remaining time is available for self-directed study and extra-curricular activities.

During the first two terms of the second year, work is divided between lectures (about five a week), tutorials (one or two a week) and practical classes. The final term of the second year is set aside for experimental research in a laboratory.

During the third year students attend lectures, seminars and tutorials in their chosen specialist area.

1st year	
Courses • Numerical and scientific skills (Mathematics and Statistics, Chemistry and Physics) • Body, brain and behaviour • Cells, molecules and genes Delivered by lectures, classes and practical sessions	**Assessment** Examined by five written papers at the end of the year. A satisfactory practical record is required for progression to Year 2.
Terms 4-5: Part I Finals	
Courses Students will select courses totalling ten units from a wide range of options. Subject areas offered include: • Psychological processes and disorders • Neurophysiology • Cellular and systems physiology • Intra- and intercellular signalling • Genetics and developmental biology • Pharmacology • Cellular pathology and immunology The full list is available at www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms.	**Assessment** Examined by two written papers at the start of Term 6. These papers contribute 20% to the final degree mark. An academic penalty will be applied for an unsatisfactory practical record.
Terms 6-9: Part II Finals	
Term 6 Students work on their research project. **Terms 7-9** Options currently offered are: • Neuroscience (Cellular and Systems) • Molecular medicine • Cardiovascular, renal and respiratory biology • Infection and immunity • Cellular physiology and pharmacology • Experimental psychology	**Assessment** Examined by four written papers during the third term of the final year. Students will also submit a project report and deliver a presentation on their research findings to the examiners. 80% of the final degree mark is determined by performance in the written papers and the project

Cell and Systems Biology students study two options from the first five above. **Neuroscience** students study the Neuroscience and Experimental Psychology options. Students select topics within an option to study in depth.	report/presentation.

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.

Fees

These annual fees are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2016.

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU	£9,000	£0	£9,000
Islands (Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£9,000	£0	£9,000
Overseas	£17,555	£7,135	£24,690

Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Additional Fees and Charges Information for Biomedical Sciences

In the third term of the second year, students who undertake a research project may wish to remain in Oxford after the end of full term to facilitate completion of their project. However, this extended residence in Oxford is not a requirement and students should be aware that no financial support is available to help with any additional living costs during this time.

Living Costs

Your living costs will vary significantly dependent on your lifestyle. These are estimated to be between £970 and £1,433 per month in 2016-17. Undergraduate courses usually consist of three terms of eight weeks each, but as a guide you may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs.

Living costs breakdown

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673
Accommodation (including utilities)	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002
Personal items	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187
Social activities	£60	£107	£539	£960
Study costs	£36	£73	£314	£661
Other	£19	£44	£197	£410
Total	£970	£1,433	£8,727	£12,894

19 November 2015