



Course Information Sheet for entry in 2018-19

MSc by Research in Materials

About the course

The Oxford MSc by Research in Materials is a master's level research degree programme, typically of two years duration, carried out under the supervision of an experienced member of staff. Research projects in this leading department are available in most branches of materials science, as well as some aspects of solid state physics and chemistry.

As a student on the Oxford MSc by Research in Materials you will be part of one of the top-ranked materials departments in the world. This vibrant research school consists of around 29 academic staff, 16 Senior Research Fellows, and around 180 research students and 85 postdoctoral researchers. Research students are of many nationalities and come to the department from diverse backgrounds; being graduates in the traditional subjects of materials science, physics, chemistry and engineering and also mathematics, earth sciences and biology.

Only a small number of places are offered on the MSc by Research in Materials each year as the majority of our research students are enrolled on the doctoral programme, the DPhil in Materials. The MSc students work, train and study alongside the DPhil students, together forming a cohort of research students in materials.

The MSc by Research in Materials is normally carried out in two years of full-time study under the supervision of an experienced member of staff. It is examined at the end of the programme by means of a written thesis and an oral examination. A wide range of exciting projects is available. In common with other UK universities the first year is a probationary year, soon after which, subject to satisfactory progress, students normally transfer to full MSc by Research status. Details of research degree programmes, including training opportunities (academic courses, research-specific skills and generic transferable career skills) and progression requirements, can be found in the current version of the graduate course handbook.

Research interests of the department extend over most branches of materials science, as well as some aspects of solid state physics and chemistry: they include the study of a wide range of materials of relevance in advanced technological applications, including metals and alloys, composites, semi- and super-conductors, polymers, biomaterials, ceramics and materials for quantum information processing.

Much of the research is carried out in close collaboration with industry. World-leading research takes place on:

- characterisation of materials, where there is emphasis on electron microscopy and related techniques
- processing and manufacturing of materials
- modelling of materials, where there is attention to both structures and processes
- properties of materials
- energy materials, including those for batteries, nuclear fusion and photovoltaics
- quantum information processing, which includes groups working on experimental studies, theory and modelling.

Each of the department's research groups works within one or more of the following broad themes and research projects available to applicants for the MSc by Research in Materials are listed under these themes:

- energy materials
- structural and nuclear materials
- applied superconductivity
- device materials, including semiconductors and NEMS
- polymers and biomaterials
- nanomaterials
- processing and manufacturing, including metals, alloys, ceramics, superconductors and polymers
- characterisation of materials
- computational materials modelling
- quantum information processing (experimental studies, theory, and modelling).

Further information on current research and individual members of staff is available via the Materials Science website.

An overview of the provision for research students in the Department of Materials can be found at the Outline of Provision for Materials Research Students webpage. Also available is Guidance on Supervision Arrangements.

Changes to courses

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 registration. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions.

Expected length of course

2 to 3 years

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2018-19

Fee status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including Islands)	£4,260	£3,112	£7,372
Overseas	£19,915	£3,112	£23,027

The fees shown above are the annual tuition and college fees for this course for entry in the stated academic year; 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.

Tuition and college 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 tuition and college fees).

Graduate students who have reached the end of their standard period of fee liability may be required to pay a termly University and/or a college continuation charge.

The University continuation charge, per term for entry in 2018-19 is £468, please be aware that this will increase annually. For part-time students, the termly charge will be half of the termly rate payable by full-time students.

If a college continuation charge applies (not applicable for non-matriculated courses) it is likely to be in the region of £100 to £400 per term. Please contact your college for more details.

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees (or, after fee liability ends, continuation charges) and living costs. However, please note that, depending on your choice of research 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 tuition and college 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 2018-19 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	£258	£361	£2,318	£3,245	£3,090	£4,326
Accommodation	£536	£677	£4,824	£6,093	£6,432	£8,124
Personal items	£118	£263	£1,066	£2,364	£1,421	£3,152
Social activities	£41	£123	£369	£1,105	£492	£1,474
Study costs	£39	£85	£348	£765	£464	£1,020
Other	£22	£47	£202	£419	£269	£559
Total	£1,014	£1,556	£9,127	£13,991	£12,168	£18,655

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2018-19, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

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