Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

DPhil in Genomic Medicine and Statistics

About the course

This four-year structured DPhil (PhD) programme trains you in the methodologies required to understand the molecular basis of complex disease. It consists of a one-year modular course followed by a three-year doctoral research project, which can take place in any of the participating departments at the University. The course takes advantage of Oxford’s strengths in genetics, genomic medicine and statistics.

Applicants are strongly advised to visit the Medical Sciences Graduate School website to help them identify the most suitable course and supervisors.

This programme trains you to undertake research in the molecular-genetic basis of complex disease. To do so, it is necessary to master the underlying biology and genetics, the high-throughput experimental techniques used to gather relevant data, and the statistical and computational methods required to analyse the data and draw conclusions.

The programme aims to produce research scientists educated across this range of skills. The programme is integrated with projects already in place at the University of Oxford’s Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics.

The general types of research question addressed by the programme include:

how and why populations differ in their spectrum of disease-variants

how these variants interact with environmental causes

how information about DNA sequence variants, gene expression and protein content relates to disease phenotype

how we can use new molecular information to improve our understanding of disease.

You can be accepted with either a biological or computational background. The importance of both areas is emphasised and the lab-based students must be able to develop the statistical skills necessary to succeed in this subject.

The programme starts with a one-year modular course, including formal teaching in statistics and bioinformatics and two ten-week research rotation projects, one computational and one wet-lab. This is followed by a three-year doctoral research project, which can take place in any of the participating departments of the University.

In the first year you are trained formally, via a statistics course in Michaelmas term and a bioinformatics course in Hilary term, and informally during your two rotations. You will be assessed by the course directors based on linked presentations and essays at the end of Michaelmas term on a disease of your choice, and in Hilary and Trinity terms by rotation reports and presentations.
Once you have begun your DPhil study in the second year, you will be required to meet standard University milestones for progress (ie Transfer of Status and Confirmation of Status) and will be monitored formally via supervisor feedback forms submitted three times per year until you complete the programme.

**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**

4 years

**Annual fees for entry in 2016-2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Status</th>
<th>Tuition fee</th>
<th>College fee</th>
<th>Total annual fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home/EU (including islands)</td>
<td>c. £4,200</td>
<td>£2,933</td>
<td>c. £7,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas</td>
<td>£18,770</td>
<td>£2,933</td>
<td>£21,703</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fees shown above are the annual tuition and college fees for this course for entry in the 2016-17 academic year; for courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. For details, please see our guidance on likely increases to fees and charges.

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 college continuation charge.

The University continuation charge, per term for entry in 2016/17, is currently £440, 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 to 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 programme that entail additional costs beyond fees 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 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 2016-17 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Likely living costs for 1 month</th>
<th>Likely living costs for 9 months</th>
<th>Likely living costs for 12 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower range</td>
<td>Upper range</td>
<td>Lower range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>£265</td>
<td>£298</td>
<td>£2,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>£469</td>
<td>£667</td>
<td>£4,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal items</td>
<td>£119</td>
<td>£244</td>
<td>£1,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social activities</td>
<td>£60</td>
<td>£107</td>
<td>£539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study costs</td>
<td>£36</td>
<td>£73</td>
<td>£314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>£19</td>
<td>£44</td>
<td>£197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£970</td>
<td>£1,433</td>
<td>£8,727</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2016-17, 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.

21 October 2015