

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2017-18

MSc in Radiation Biology

About the course

The one-year, full-time, taught course in radiation biology leading to an MSc awarded by the University of Oxford. The MSc in Radiation Biology comprises a five-month core theoretical course covering the emerging areas of fundamental biology for oncology and its treatment by radiotherapy and a six-month high-quality basic and clinically-applied research project.

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

The MSc can form the first year of training for students who may wish to continue in academic research at the DPhil/PhD level at the University of Oxford or elsewhere.

It will also provide a MSc degree for individuals who wish to continue in academic research in radiation biology at other universities or to start a career in other professions that require knowledge of radiation biology, eg academic personnel associated with radiation protection issues.

Fundamental radiation biological science and laboratory methods/practical skills are taught in the first term (Michaelmas) and the first half of Hilary term, over a series of 12 modules. Each module is delivered over a period of one or two weeks and together the 12 modules comprise the core content of the course.

Lectures will be given by local, national and international experts, with additional tutorials and practical sessions given by local staff. Sessions using distance learning material will complement these and give you a wide knowledge and understanding of radiation biology.

Demonstration and practical sessions will enable you to learn particular techniques that are used in this speciality subject area.

The remaining six months is allowed for a high quality laboratory research project.

Five short essays and a series of journal clubs will be assessed to provide formative assessment of your progress. You will also sit a qualifying examination in week 9 of Michaelmas term based upon modules 1 to 6, normally in an MCQ format. You will submit an extended essay in week 6 of Hilary term and a second examination comprising short questions is sat in week 9 of Hilary term. You will submit an assignment and the research dissertation of approximately 10,000 words based on your project and you will be examined by research dissertation, by oral presentation and by a short viva voce.

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

12 months



Annual fees for entry in 2017-2018

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including islands)	£4,195	£3,021	£7,216
Overseas	£19,335	£3,021	£22,356

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).

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees and living costs. However, as part of your course requirements, you may need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Please note that, 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.

24 February 2017