

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

New and Sustainable Photovoltaics (EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training)

About the course

This course looks to train future leaders in advanced photovoltaics (PV) for research and industry with a view to finding new approaches, including nanotechnology, low temperature processing and photon engineering coupled with enhancements to emerging thin film and conventional PV device technology.

This DPhil is a research-based four-year course. You will be supervised throughout the entire duration of the programme and join the research group of your supervisor. There will usually be opportunity to attend conferences or conduct experiments in other institutions inside or outside the UK.

During the first year you will be required to attend a comprehensive instruction course about all the mainstream PV technologies and underlying science.

You will be assigned to a research group: work on your original research project will start immediately and continue for the duration of your DPhil. You will attend eight residential taught courses in PV during the first year. The course will run from October to March and be delivered in two-week blocks hosted by each of the participating universities. This involves a mixture of lectures, group exercises, master classes and industrial lectures/visits. You will therefore get the benefit of the different facilities, expertise and approaches of the leading PV groups in the UK.

After the first term of the second year, you are expected to submit a report on your research and to defend it in an interview with the Graduate Studies Panel and a specialist reader. The Panel will determine whether you can transfer status from Probationer Research Student to DPhil Student.

In the following years you will concentrate on your research work.

Towards the end of the second year you will present a poster to the Department of Physics sub-department of condensed matter physics. Discussion of your research project with panel members at the poster session will contribute to your decision whether to confirm your status as DPhil student.

At the end of the third year you are expected to give a talk to the sub-department and to answer questions following the presentation.

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

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including islands)	c. £4,200	£2,933	c. £7,133
Overseas	£18,770	£2,933	£21,703

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.

	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	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673	£3,177	£3,565
Accommodation	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002	£5,627	£8,006
Personal items	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187	£1,429	£2,915
Social activities	£60	£107	£539	£960	£718	£1,280
Study costs	£36	£73	£314	£661	£418	£880
Other	£19	£44	£197	£410	£265	£547
Total	£970	£1,433	£8,727	£12,894	£11,636	£17,191

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