

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

Synthesis for Biology and Medicine (EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training)

About the course

The programme offers joint academic-industrial training in all aspects of synthesis coupled with an in-depth appreciation of its application to biology and medicine.

This EPSRC-led initiative is designed to build on Oxford Chemistry's strength in synthetic chemistry and the model of inter-disciplinary scientific training within the existing Centres for Doctoral Training in Oxford.

The programme aims to train next-generation doctoral scientists in the practice of chemical synthesis coupled with an in-depth appreciation of its application to biology and medicine. It also aims to train graduates capable of addressing major challenges across the entire remit of organic chemistry with a focus on skills relevant to the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries.

The programme was designed in collaboration with eleven international pharmaceutical and agrochemical companies who have offered specific expertise to enhance the CDT's training and research. To ensure free exchange of information and expertise between all academic and industrial partners the CDT will adopt an intellectual property-free model consistent with its focus on basic science.

Students are admitted to the programme without being assigned to a specific research group and will be trained initially through a series of taught courses in a single cohort in all aspects of organic synthesis. You will subsequently undertake two 16-week research rotations in laboratories of your choosing before joining a specific group for a substantive three-year DPhil research project. To enable significant and long term research goals to be tackled, research projects will be clustered into six broad areas ('project fields'):

new synthetic methods

3D templates for 'lead-like' compounds

functional probes for epigenetics

next-generation anti-infectives

natural product chemistry

tools for neuroscience

During all four years of the programme, you will also receive a tailored programme designed to broaden their research and professional skills.

For the first year, you will be housed in the purpose-built facility located in the Rex Richards Building. This will be the location of the taught courses and contains a large, open plan office designed expressly to facilitate cohort-interaction and interdisciplinary training.



At an appropriate stage you must pass Transfer of Status. This will normally be at the end of your fifth term, but you will have up to six terms to complete this stage. This assessment will be made on the basis of a report and oral examination.

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. The programme will endeavour to meet these additional costs, although you may need 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.

10 December 2015