



Course Information Sheet for entry in 2019-20

MSc in Pharmacology

About the course

The aim of the taught MSc in Pharmacology course is to provide students with the necessary theoretical and practical training to enable them to integrate post-genomic molecular biology with biological function.

The course is taught over one year from October to September, comprising three 10-week terms and a fourth summer term.

The first term covers core material using lectures, seminars and practical work, and aims to ensure that all students achieve the core knowledge of the principles and practice of pharmacology. The subjects covered include cell and receptor pharmacology, tissue and organism pharmacology, and pharmacology of the nervous system. At the end of the term, students sit a computer-based qualifying exam; passing this exam allows them to continue the course.

At the start of the second term, students follow a short course in quantitative pharmacology, covering aspects of receptor pharmacology and pharmacokinetics. This material will be examined in a three-hour written paper.

During the following weeks, students attend a series of seminars organised into five modules:

- Cardiovascular Pharmacology
- Cell Signalling
- Neuropharmacology I: Neurodegeneration
- Neuropharmacology II: Psychopharmacology
- Drug Discovery.

Seminars are combined with weekly laboratory sessions, discussion forums, journal clubs and critical essay writing.

The work covered in the five modules is examined in a written paper where students are required to answer three essay questions from five different modules, thus allowing them to specialise in options for revision.

The third term is mainly taken up by a hypothesis-driven research project which is expected to involve four months of experimental work, extending throughout the term and into the long vacation term. At the end of the term, students submit the dissertation and produce a poster presenting their research project. The latter forms the basis for an final oral examination.

Every year one or two students are selected to perform their research projects abroad at the University of Queensland in Australia. Students may also have the opportunity to conduct their research in a pharmaceutical company.

Applicants are advised to visit the Department of Pharmacology website to obtain further information on research and training relevant for the course.

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

12 months

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2019-20

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home/EU (including Islands)	£10,460
Overseas	£22,600

The fees shown above are the annual course fees for this course, for entry in the stated academic year.

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional information section below, course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information below.

Course 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 course fees). 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.

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course 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 course 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 2019-20 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	£371	£2,387	£3,342	£3,183	£4,456
Accommodation	£566	£739	£5,093	£6,655	£6,790	£8,874
Personal items	£122	£271	£1,098	£2,435	£1,464	£3,246
Social activities	£42	£126	£380	£1,138	£506	£1,518
Study costs	£40	£88	£359	£788	£478	£1,051
Other	£23	£48	£208	£432	£277	£576
Total	£1,058	£1,643	£9,525	£14,790	£12,698	£19,721

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2019-20, 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.