



Course Information Sheet for entry in 2020-21

MSc in Radiation Biology

About the course

This one-year, full-time, taught course leads to an MSc in Radiation Biology, which comprises a five-month theoretical lecture-based syllabus followed by a six-month research project.

The five-month core theoretical course covers the emerging areas of fundamental radiation biology for oncology and its treatment by radiotherapy, along with the hazards associated with radiation exposure. Lectures will also introduce students to key areas of research and innovative developments in treatment.

The modules are:

- Physics and Chemistry of Radiation Action
- Molecular Radiation Biology
- Cellular Radiation Biology
- Normal Tissue and Applied Radiation Biology
- Whole Body Exposure and Carcinogenesis
- Radiation Epidemiology
- Imaging Technologies
- Tumour Microenvironment
- Applications of Radiation Therapy
- Translational Radiation Biology
- Clinical Radiation Biology
- Radiation Protection

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 led by local, national and international experts, with time allocated for questions and informal discussion. These lectures are supported by additional tutorials, practical sessions and demonstrations given by local staff to provide a wide knowledge and understanding of radiation biology.

The high-quality laboratory research project in basic or clinically applied research lasts approximately six months and projects are hosted by active research groups. Specific training and guidance is provided to enable students to complete the research project.

To complete the MSc you need to submit the following summative assessments that contribute to your final degree:

- Qualifying examination (December)
- Extended essay and written examination (March)
- Dissertation (August)
- Viva (September)

Full details of the syllabus, schedule and assessments can be found on the course webpage on the Department of Oncology's website.

This MSc is designed for individuals who are interested in a career in academic research in radiation biology, radiation oncology or a career in professions that require knowledge of radiation biology (eg academic personnel associated with radiation protection issues). The MSc provides excellent training and experience for students interested in studying academic research at a PhD/DPhil level and forms the first year of training for students enrolled on the DPhil in Radiation Oncology (1+3).

Applicants are recommended to visit the Department of Oncology website to review the range of radiation research undertaken within the department before they apply.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision is the responsibility of the Department of Oncology and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Department of Oncology.

In the case of students who require specific help to adjust to an academic programme or to a new range of skills, the MSc course director and administrator will work with them to ensure that they have additional support.

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

Mode of study	Full Time Only
Expected length	12 months

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2020-21

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home/EU (including Islands)	£7,970
Overseas	£24,910

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. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (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.

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees (or, after fee liability ends, continuation charges) 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 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 2020-21 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	£270	£385	£2,430	£3,465	£3,240	£4,620
Accommodation	£630	£760	£5,670	£6,840	£7,560	£9,120
Personal items	£130	£245	£1,170	£2,205	£1,560	£2,940
Social activities	£45	£110	£405	£990	£540	£1,320
Study costs	£40	£95	£360	£855	£480	£1,140
Other	£20	£55	£180	£495	£240	£660
Total	£1,135	£1,650	£10,215	£14,850	£13,620	£19,800

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2020-21, 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.