Experimental Therapeutics

Advanced, part-time modular study, particularly suited to those in full-time employment

The programme draws on the world-class research and teaching in experimental therapeutics at the University of Oxford and offers a unique opportunity to gain an understanding of the principles that underpin clinical research and to translate this into good clinical and research practice.

The part-time MSc in Experimental Therapeutics can be taken in two to four years.

The MSc consists of six intensive five-day, face-to-face taught modules and a dissertation based on a research project. We have found that this approach suits professionals in full-time employment both in the UK and overseas.

Graduates of the programme will gain an in-depth understanding of both the theoretical and practical aspects of experimental therapeutics.

Modules

The taught modules will include group work, discussions, guest lectures, and interaction and feedback with tutors and lecturers, and each module culminates in an assessed assignment.

Practical work will develop the students' knowledge and understanding of the subject. Some non-classroom activities will be provided at laboratory facilities within the University.

- The Structure of Clinical Trials and Experimental Therapeutics
- Drug Development, Pharmacokinetics and Imaging
- Pharmacodynamics, Biomarkers and Personalised Therapy
- Adverse Drug Reactions, Drug Interactions and Pharmacovigilance
- How to do Research on Therapeutic Interventions: Protocol Preparation
- Biological Therapeutics

Modules may be subject to periodic change to reflect developments in the field.

Dissertation

During the MSc programme, usually over the final year of the course, students will undertake a research project and associated dissertation on a topic of their own choosing, in consultation with the Course Director. The dissertation is intended to build on material studied in the taught modules, and forms an integral part of the work assessed for the award of the MSc.

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Details of any funding opportunities, including grants, bursaries, loans and scholarships are available on the course web page and our sources of funding web page: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/students/sourcesoffunding

Experimental Therapeutics in Oxford

The University of Oxford has a long-established and universally recognised reputation for excellence in clinical pharmacology and experimental therapeutics research.

The Experimental Therapeutics Programme results from a close collaboration with the Clinical Pharmacology section of the Department of Oncology, and is led by Professor Leonard W Seymour.

Clinical Pharmacology is a research-intensive unit focusing on gene therapy, the design of small molecule drugs, pharmacogenomics, pharmacodynamics and the study of adverse drug reactions. Oncology also has a specialist Clinical Trials Unit with expertise in running early phase I/II and large multicentre phase III clinical trials, as well as trials designed to assess preventative and surgical intervention.

Professor Len Seymour, Course Director, is a world authority on genetic medicine, with over 120 publications and several patents. He is Professor of Gene Therapies and the Director of Clinical Pharmacology at Oxford, General Secretary of the European Society of Gene and Cell Therapy, and Head of the Cancer Research UK Gene Delivery Group. He sits on a number of editorial and scientific advisory boards, was the founding President of the British Society for Gene Therapy and is also Co-Founder of Oxford Genetics Ltd.

The Department for Continuing Education has a long and successful record of providing part-time professional development designed to meet the needs of industry in the health and medical sciences as well as other subject areas.

This is an excellent course, which provides a comprehensive overview of pharmaceutical R&D – spanning from basic scientific principles to state-of-the-art. The content is up-to-date and delivered by leading academics and experts in the respective fields. Additionally, the modular format of this program is excellent for working professionals. I strongly believe that by attending this course, I am better equipped with a broader understanding of the scientific principles and processes governing pharmaceutical drug development.”

Mian, Global Regulatory Care Area Lead, UK

The course enabled me to strengthen my existing knowledge base, while advancing my understanding of the cutting edge developments in therapeutics – it provided me with a platform to progress my academic career and left me with more research interests/abilities. I found the teaching exceptional and I thoroughly enjoyed the whole course and experience of student life at Kellogg College.”

Sharon, Reader in Pharmacotherapeutics, UK

The MSc in Experimental Therapeutics gave me experience on how to edit and publish case reports and systematic reviews. I have published 6 publications so far and have been appointed as a BMJ Case Reports Editorial Board Member.”

Bassem, Clinical Research Physician, Canada

Other courses in health sciences

We offer a range of short courses and postgraduate programmes in cognitive therapy, evidence-based health care, health research, immunology, nanomedicine, paediatric infectious diseases, stem cells, surgical science and practice and vaccinology. Further details: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/health

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