Experimental and Translational 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 and Translational Therapeutics Programme results from a close collaboration between the Clinical Pharmacology section of the Department of Oncology and the Department for Continuing Education, 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

This course has expanded my working knowledge of the process and development of novel therapies from lab to clinic. As a trial administrator, it is my job to facilitate good quality data from clinical trials that will improve standard care. I have greatly benefited from the networking opportunities this course has provided and have enjoyed learning from a variety of experts in the field.”

Samuel Paul, Clinical Trial Administrator, UK

The MSc in Experimental and Translational Therapeutics is an ideally designed and delivered course. Starting with the biological basics, it goes on to explore the details of drug discovery, delivery, testing, policy-making, and regulation. It systematically illuminates high-throughput testing, rational design, preclinical and clinical trials, ethics, and governance. This course will immeasurably enhance careers, whether they be in basic research, medicine, pharmacy, or administration.”

Preman Singh, MD, Minnesota USA

This MSc programme is a great opportunity to learn the whole process of drug development and different therapeutics. The flexibility of the course delivery and the broad range of the studied topics encourages a wide range of dissertation topics, which, as in my case, led me to consider a collaborative supervision with one of the external guest lecturers, providing me with additional experience, wider connections, and a specialist study of my field of interest.”

Yomna Nassar, Pharmacist, Egypt

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
Experimental and Translational 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 and translational 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.

Modules

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

Practical work helps to develop the students’ knowledge and understanding of the subject.

- 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.

Short courses in Experimental and Translational Therapeutics

Each five-day module from the Experimental and Translational Therapeutics programme may also be taken individually as a stand-alone short course.

Short courses may be taken with or without academic credit. Students taking a short course with academic credit will need to complete a written assignment and will be eligible to be awarded 20 points under CATS (Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme).

Up to three previously completed short courses from the programme can normally be transferred in to the MSc should a student apply for the MSc within two years of completion of the short courses.

MSc in Experimental and Translational Therapeutics

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

The MSc consists of six intensive five-day taught modules in Oxford, 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 should gain an in-depth understanding of both the theoretical and practical aspects of experimental therapeutics.

Funding

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/sources-of-funding