

Study with us

## About your course

### Courses covered

Code	Title
LMMBM	MSc Molecular Biotechnology (Revised 2024)
LMMBME	MSc Molecular Biotechnology – Extended (Revised 2024)

You can find full details of your course in the *Programme Specification*.

### Important points

- The MSc Molecular Biotechnology standard award is offered as a one-year full time course and two-year part time course. The MSc Molecular Biotechnology (Sandwich) and MSc Molecular Biotechnology with Advanced Research are offered as two-year full-time courses only.
- The programmes are designed to provide a postgraduate education in Molecular Biotechnology for graduates in the Biosciences and Biological Chemistry.
- All pathways will provide students with the skills they need for future opportunities in the fast-growing biotechnology industry, academia and health care industry.
- A strong practical foundation is provided in the first semester, with the study of modules that focus on the basic principles and techniques used in modern molecular biology investigations, on aspects of cellular molecular biology and development, biology of genes and proteins.
- In the second semester there is a progression to problem-based learning (PBL) to develop an in-depth understanding of the application of molecular biological approaches to the production of industrial and medicinal proteins, the characterisation of selected diseases and the design of new drugs for their treatment. The use of problem-based learning approaches is a key feature of the programme and will promote development of investigative skills, the ability to work in a group and confidence in the investigation of new research areas.
- The research project runs from semester A to C for the one-year full time course. Sandwich students will complete their project in the second year of their studies. Students on the Advanced Research programme complete an extended research project in the second year of their studies.
- The MSc Molecular Biotechnology (Sandwich) pathway provides students with the opportunity to gain practical experience in a UK professional workplace and strengthens their employability skills. In order to be eligible for this award, students must complete a minimum of 30 weeks full-time equivalent placement activity and pass the work placement assessment. Students have to secure their own placement.

Those who are unsuccessful in doing so or who are not eligible to progress to the placement year because of academic failure will be transferred to another pathway.

- The MSc Molecular Biotechnology with Advanced Research provides an opportunity to work in a research-rich environment, including the completion of an internship with a member of the research staff and an extended research project.
- Students on the Sandwich pathway may require a successful enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check or equivalent, occupational health check and/or immunisation for their placement.
- The programmes are assessed by coursework that involves various assessments such as writing lab reports, presenting seminars, writing mini-portfolios, PBL reports, viva-voce and posters. There will be in-class tests as well.

## Academic Year

### Academic Year 2024 – 2025

The University's academic year is made up of 3 Semesters (A, B and C). Semester A and B are made up of teaching weeks followed by exams, where applicable (the re-sit period falls within Semester C). Semester C is normally used for final dissertations and projects.

- *Semester A runs from Monday 23 September 2024 to Friday 17 January 2025*
- *Semester B runs from Monday 20 January 2025 to Friday 9 May 2025*
- *Semester C runs from Monday 12 May 2025 to Friday 5 September 2025*

## Additional expenses

You will need access to a suitable computer or similar electronic device and a good reliable Internet connection, which may incur additional expenses.

Please note that our Learning Resource Centres (LRCs) have PCs and Macs available to use, including hi-spec PCs. The university also has laptop loans available at both LRCs and provides a remote desktop portal service to allow users to access the software on Lab and LRC Windows PCs when not on campus.

Description	Year	Mandatory/ Optional	Estimated cost
Textbook for each module	1	Optional	60x4 = £240
Placement travel expenses and/or accommodation expenses	2	Mandatory on the Sandwich award	Cost will vary depending upon the placement
Travel expenses if research project is carried out in industry	1 or 2	Optional	£100 - £200
Lab coats and laboratory logbooks, an enhanced DBS check and immunisation (where required) will be provided as part of the course fee.			