“Edinburgh isn’t so much a city, more a way of life... I doubt I’ll ever tire of exploring Edinburgh, on foot or in print.”

Ian Rankin
Best-selling author and alumnus
For more than 400 years the University of Edinburgh has been changing the world. Our staff and students have explored space, won Nobel Prizes and revolutionised surgery. They’ve published era-defining books, run the country, made life-saving breakthroughs and laid the foundations to solve the mysteries of the universe.

Our distinguished alumni include NASA astronaut Piers Sellers, former MI5 Director-General Dame Stella Rimington, Olympians Sir Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger and historical greats such as philosopher David Hume, suffragist Chrystal Macmillan, who founded the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, and physicist and mathematician James Clerk Maxwell.

International collaboration
An internationally renowned centre for academic excellence, we forge world-class collaborations with partners such as the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Stanford University, the University of Melbourne, Peking University, the University of Delhi and the University of Kwazulu-Natal. As a member of the League of European Research Universities and the Coimbra Group, we link up with leading institutions across Europe.

Linking research and commerce
We were one of the first UK universities to develop commercial links with industry, government and the professions. Edinburgh Research and Innovation (ERI) promotes and commercialises our research excellence and can assist you in taking the first step to market, through collaborative research, licensing technology or consultancy.

Enhancing your career
We are committed to embedding employability in your University experience and have one of the Russell Group’s best track records for graduate employment. From volunteering schemes to our sector-leading Careers Service, we provide you with opportunities to develop your skills, knowledge and experience, giving you an edge in the competitive job market.

TOP 50
We’re consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We’re 19th in the 2016/17 QS World University Rankings.

4th
We’re ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on research quality and breadth.*

83%
The majority of our research – 83 per cent – is considered world leading or internationally excellent.*

23rd
We’re ranked 23rd in the world for the employability of our graduates.**

£305m
In 2014/15 we won £305 million in competitive research grants.

20
We’re associated with 20 Nobel Prize winners, including physicists Peter Higgs, Charles Barkla and Max Born, medical researcher Peter Doherty and biologist Sir Paul Nurse.

137 nationalities
Students from two-thirds of the world’s countries study here.

* Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014
** Latest Emerging Global Employability University Ranking
Taught masters programmes

Our taught masters programmes are designed to deepen knowledge in a subject you will typically have studied at undergraduate level, although they can also offer a new direction in your academic career.

MSc and Diploma

Taught masters programmes last 12 months, consisting of two semesters of taught courses followed by an individual supervised research project. An alternative option is the Postgraduate Diploma, which lasts nine months from September to May, consisting of the taught courses only.

Online distance learning

We are the biggest provider of online distance learning in the Russell Group. Just like our on-campus provision, all our online masters are delivered by dedicated academics, many of whom are leaders in their field. You can study part time towards a Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma or MSc, and the timescales are flexible — you can complete the MSc in two years or take up to six years. You can also take individual courses for Continuing Professional Development purposes. Online distance learning is an excellent flexible option for students looking to balance further study with professional or family commitments.

See also... You may also be interested in taught masters programmes offered elsewhere in the University, particularly the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine or the Schools of Chemistry, Informatics, or Engineering.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request

Animal Breeding & Genetics

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/763

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs FT available for UK/EU students)
Pgdip 9 mths FT

Programme description

The revolution in genetic mapping technology and the advent of whole genome sequences have turned quantitative genetics into one of the fastest growing areas of biology. Based in the internationally renowned Institute of Evolutionary Biology, this MSc draws from the wealth of expertise available there, as well as the teaching, research expertise and facilities of Scotland’s Rural College, the University’s Centre for Genomics and Experimental Medicine, the Medical Research Council’s Human Genetics Unit and the Roslin Institute (birthplace of Dolly the sheep).

Each year the syllabus is fine-tuned to suit current issues in evolutionary, plant, human and animal genetics. This programme forms part of the quantitative genetics and genome analysis suite of programmes (see page 8), which includes the specialist routes Human Complex Trait Genetics and Evolutionary Genetics.

Programme structure

This programme consists of two semesters of taught courses followed by a research project, leading to a dissertation. Courses are taught via lectures, tutorials, seminars and computer practicals. Assessment is by written examinations, in-course assignments and project work.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:

- Population and Quantitative Genetics
- Genetic Interpretation
- Linkage and Association in Genome Analysis
- Animal Genetic Improvement
- Quantitative Genetic Models
- Research Proposal
- Statistics and Data Analysis
- Dissertation

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:

- Molecular Phylogenetics
- Bioinformatics
- Molecular Evolution
- Genetics of Human Complex Traits
- Functional Genomic Technologies
- Evolutionary Quantitative Genetics

Career opportunities

You will develop the in-depth knowledge and specialised skills required to apply quantitative genetics theory to practical problems, in both the biomedical and animal science industries, and to undertake research in evolutionary genetics, population genetics and genome analysis.

Entry requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in biological or biomedical sciences, medicine, agriculture or animal sciences, with evidence of quantitative skills. We will also consider your application if you have a background in mathematics, statistics or physics and can show evidence of an interest in genetics, or if you have less than the minimum qualification but can show sufficient additional relevant experience (e.g. several years working in the animal breeding sector).

English language requirements

See page 26.

Programme Director

Professor Andrew Leigh-Brown
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5523
Email aegm@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/856

Biochemistry

MSc 1 yr FT
Pgdip 9 mths FT

Programme description

This programme offers you an academically challenging and career-developing study of biological systems at the molecular and cellular level. Biochemistry is fundamental to most areas of the life science; it has a major impact on modern medical research and is essential in the pharmaceutical, nutrition, forensic, bioengineering, agricultural and environmental industries. The programme is designed to produce highly skilled and motivated biochemists that are suitable for employment in fundamental and applied research. You will be taught to apply chemical and physical principles to biological molecules in complex living systems in order to expand your understanding of the molecular basis of the processes which take place within these organisms. Through a combination of taught courses, practical skills training and laboratory-based research, you will explore the structures, dynamics, interactions and metabolic pathways of biological molecules, from small molecules to drug-macromolecular complexes.

Programme structure

Teaching and learning activities include lectures, tutorials, workshops, presentations, laboratory work, practical skills training and a research project. Literature and database searching, discussion groups and project groups and seminars.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:

- Biochemistry A and B
- Biophysical Chemistry
- Research Project Proposal
- Practical Skills in Biochemistry A and B
- MSc Project & Dissertation

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:

- Applicable Mathematics
- Information Processing in Biological Cells
- Molecular Modelling
- Preparative Methods for Structural Biology
- Tools for Synthetic Biology
- Applications of Synthetic Biology
- Bioinformatics
- Biomacromolecules
- Commercial Aspects of Drug Discovery
- Detailed Characterisation of Drug or Ligand Interactions using NMR
- Drug Discovery
- Progamin for the Life Sciences
- Quantitative Drug Binding
- Economics and Innovation in the Biotechnology Industry
- Functional Genomic Technologies
- Protein Structure Determination
- Vaccines and Molecular Therapies

Research

Students progressing to MSc level will carry out their own research project at the frontier of knowledge and can make a genuine contribution to the progress of original research. This also involves reviewing relevant papers, analysing data, writing a dissertation and giving a presentation.

Career opportunities

You will enhance your career prospects by acquiring knowledge of contemporary biochemistry from world experts in the field, by being trained in advanced analytical and presentation skills, and by having independent research experience in a modern, world-class laboratory.

Entry requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry) in biochemistry, biological sciences (with some relevant chemistry component) or chemistry (with some relevant biology component).

English language requirements

See page 26.

Programme Director

Dr Andrew Hudson
Tel +44 (0)131 650 8651
Email btpmsc@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/1

Biodiversity & Taxonomy of Plants

MSc 1 yr FT
Pgdip 9 mths FT

Programme description

The understanding of plant diversity and resources has never been more important. As we face the urgency of global climate change and environmental degradation, effective environmental surveillance and conservation depend upon detailed knowledge of plants and their habitats.

This programme is run jointly by the University and the world-renowned Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE), which is home to one of the world’s best living collections of plants (15,000 species across four sites, amounting to five per cent of known world species), a herbarium of three million preserved specimens and one of the UK’s most comprehensive botanical libraries.

RBGE offers collections-based biodiversity research opportunities across a wide spectrum of organisms and geographical regions. This diversity, coupled with RBGE’s world-leading research in different continents, provides an unrivalled masters programme in plant biodiversity.

Programme structure

This programme is full time and consists of two semesters of lectures, practicals, workshops and investigations, followed by a four-month research project. The programme includes a two-week field course in a tropical country (recently Belize). The programme is delivered mainly at RBGE but also at the University’s King’s Buildings campus. There are no option elements to the programme – all courses are compulsory.

COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:

- Conservation and Sustainability
- Taxonomy and Plant Collections
- Biodiversity of Angiosperms
- Evolution of Cryptogams and Fungi
- Evolution of Angiosperms
- Plant Geography
- Phylogenetics and Population Genetics
- Biodiversity of Cryptogams and Fungi
- Tropical Biodiversity Field Course

Research

Your research project will be chosen in consultation with your supervisor, and will link directly with active research programmes at RBGE or other research institutions. The field trip, together with training and a short practical exam, qualifies you for the RBGE Certificate in Practical Field Botany.

Career opportunities

This programme is good preparation for roles in taxonomy, while many graduates have also continued to PhD or other research roles at universities internationally. Recent graduates have entered a wide variety of jobs, including ecologist, plant scientists, plant surveyor, environmental officer and plant health inspector, for research institutions, conservation agencies and other employers, such as Kew Gardens, the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Corio Estate and Scottish Natural Heritage.

Entry requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in biological or environmental science. Relevant work experience is desirable.

English language requirements

See page 26.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Directors

Dr Andrew Hudson and Dr Louis Ronse de Craene
Tel +44 (0)131 650 8651
Email btpmsc@ed.ac.uk
Bioinformatics

Programme description
Bioinformatics is about the application of computer-based approaches to understanding biological processes. Our programme will introduce you to the current methods used to interpret the vast amounts of data generated by modern high-throughput technologies. The aim of this MSc is to equip you with a strong background in biology, plus the computational skills and knowledge necessary to navigate the vast, wealth of modern biological data. On completing this programme you will be able to take up roles in bioinformatics posts in academia or in industry. The programme covers programming skills, statistical analysis and database science as well as bioinformatics. Option courses allow you to specialise in several aspects of bioinformatics.

Programme structure
The MSc comprises two semesters of taught courses followed by a research project and dissertation. The project is a key element in deciding how your career in bioinformatics should develop further. Teaching is through lectures, tutorials, seminars, computer practicals and lab demonstrations.

COMPELLARY COURSES PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED
- Bioinformatics Programming & System Management
- Bioinformatics Research Proposal
- MSc Dissertation (Bioinformatics)
- Statistics & Data Analysis.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED
- Bioinformatics 1: Human-Computer Interaction; Information Processing to Biological Cells; Molecular Modelling and Database Mining; Quantitative Drug Binding; Bioinformatics Algorithms; Bioinformatics 2: Functional Genomic Technologies; Introduction to Website and Database Design for Biotechnology; Methods in Phylogenetics; Next Generation Genomics; Software Architecture, Process and Management; Drug Discovery; Introduction to Java Programming; Software Development; Practical Systems Biology.

Research
The research project is carried out independently, but under the guidance of a supervisor, during the summer, with results presented in a dissertation. A wide range of projects is available throughout both the School of Biological Sciences and the School of Informatics.

Career opportunities
The programme is good preparation for further academic research or for technical or managerial roles in various commercial sectors, including the global pharmaceutical industry and carbon sequestration. You will learn how technology can be applied to solve pressing real-world biotechnological problems and gain the skills and expertise needed for future developments in bioinformatics.

Programme structure
This programme consists of two semesters of taught courses followed by a research project or industrial placement, leading to a dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED:
- Economics and Innovation in the Biotechnology Industry;
- Intelligent Agriculture; Principles of Industrial Biotechnology; Research Project Proposal; Research Project or Industrial Placement.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED:
- Biobusiness; Bioinformatics; Bioinformatics Programming & System Management; Drug Discovery; Commercial Aspects of Drug Discovery; Environmental Gene-Mining and Metagenomics; Fuzzy Logic and Biological Production; Gene Expression and Microbial Regulation; Industry & Entrepreneurship in Biotechnology; Molecular Modelling and Database Mining; Prevalence of the 1C sciences; Social Dimensions of Systems and Synthetic Biology; Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine; Biotechnology Tools for Synthetic Biology; Applications of Synthetic Biology; Practical Skills in Biochemistry; Vaccines and Molecular Therapies.

Research and laboratory work
There will be a considerable practical element to the programme. You will work in a biotechnology laboratory and learn how experimental technology is designed and operated.

Career opportunities
The programme will open up a wide variety of career opportunities, ranging from sales and marketing, to research and development, to manufacturing and quality control and assurance. Recent graduates have worked in pharmaceuticals, development scientists and researchers for employers including Renishaw Diagnostics, Ardhiia Informatics, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Livestock, and universities internationally.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honour degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry), in biology, healthcare sciences, computer science and mathematics. We will also consider your application if you have a background in biochemistry, physics, mathematics or engineering.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director: Dr Andrew Free
Tel: +44 (0)131 650 5338
Email bioinfmcs@ed.ac.uk

Drug Discovery & Translational Biology

Programme description
The rapid transformation in the nature of drug discovery means that knowledge of fundamental disciplines, and the technologies used, is essential for those considering a career in commercial or academic research. This MSc will help you explore the latest methods of developing drugs and therapeutic compounds for humans and animals and disease control agents for plants. You will learn about marketing, licensing and regulations, which are all part of the development process.

Career opportunities
This programme links the fields of structural biology, bioinformatics, chemistry and pharmacology. You will investigate the fundamental scientific problems and techniques of drug discovery and design, alongside the challenges of developing principles for new therapeutic strategies. You will have hands-on experience of crystallographic computer programming and computation for bioinformatics. You will consider the moral and ethical aspects of the pharmacological and pharmaceutical industries through case studies, seminars and discussions.

Programme structure
This programme consists of two semesters of taught courses followed by a research project, leading to a dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED:
- Applicable Mathematics; Molecular Modelling and Database Mining; Quantitative Drug Binding; Protein Structure Determination; Commercial Aspects of Drug Discovery; Project Proposal and Literature Review; Preparative Methods for Structural Biology; Drug Discovery.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED:
- Biobusiness; Bioinformatics; 1: Chemical Medicine; Functional Genomic Technologies; Drug Discovery; Preparative Methods for Structural Biology; Project Proposal and Literature Review; Research Project or Industrial Placement.
- Biotechnological and Commercial Aspects of Drug Discovery; Practical Skills in Biochemistry; Vaccines and Molecular Therapies.

Research and laboratory work
There will be a considerable practical element to the programme. You will work in a biotechnology laboratory and learn how experimental technology is designed and operated.

Career opportunities
The programme will open up a wide variety of career opportunities, ranging from sales and marketing, to research and development, to manufacturing and quality control and assurance. Recent graduates have worked in pharmaceuticals, development scientists and researchers for employers including Renishaw Diagnostics, Ardhiia Informatics, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Livestock, and universities internationally.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honour degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry), in biochemistry, molecular biology, genetics, plant sciences or related sciences.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director: Dr Andrew Free
Tel: +44 (0)131 650 5338
Email bioinfmcs@ed.ac.uk

Evolutionary Genetics

Programme description
The revolution in genetic mapping technology and the advent of whole genome sequencing have turned quantitative genetics into one of the fastest growing areas of biology. Based in the internationally renowned Institute of Evolutionary Biology, this MSc draws from the wealth of expertise available there, as well as the teaching, research expertise and facilities of Scotland’s Rural College, the University’s Centre for Molecular Medicine, the Medical Research Council’s Human Genetics Unit and the Roslin Institute (Birthplace of Dolly the sheep).

Career opportunities
You will develop the in-depth knowledge and specialised skills required to apply quantitative genetics theory to practical problems, in both the biomedical and animal science industries, and to undertake research in evolutionary genetics, population genetics and genome analysis.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honour degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry), in biological or biomedical sciences, quantitative genetics or a combination of these. You may also consider your application if you have a background in mathematics, statistics or physics and can show evidence of an interest in genetics.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director: Dr Jacob Moorad
Tel: +44 (0)131 650 5442
Email eugen@ed.ac.uk

The University of Edinburgh

Biological Sciences Postgraduate Opportunities 2017

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/biology

Programme Director: Dr Simon Tomlinson
Tel: +44 (0)131 651 9554
Email bioinfmcs@ed.ac.uk

Programme Director: Dr Paul Taylor
Tel: +44 (0)131 650 7058
Email drugdiscovery@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/3

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/676

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/764

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/2
Human Complex Trait Genetics

MSc 1yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
PgDip 9 mths FT

Programme description
The revolution in genetic mapping technology and the advent of whole genome sequences have turned quantitative genetics into one of the fastest growing areas of biology. Based on both approaches, the development of synthetic biology is an exciting area for PhD research, with potential to make a significant impact on human health and the energy economy. The programme consists of two semesters of taught courses followed by a research project, leading to a dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Population and Quantitative Genetics
- Genetic Interpretation
- Linkage and Association in Genome Analysis
- Genetics of Human Complex Traits
- Quantitative Genomics
- Research Project Proposal
- Statistics and Data Analysis
- Dissertation

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Molecular Phylogenetics
- Bioinformatics
- Molecular Evolution
- Functional Genomic Technologies
- Animal Genetic Improvement
- Evolutionary Quantitative Genetics

Career opportunities
You will develop the in-depth knowledge and specialised skills required to apply quantitative genetics theory to practical problems, in both the biomedical and animal science industries, and to undertake research in evolutionary genetics, population genetics and genome analysis.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in biological or biomedical sciences or medicine, with evidence of quantitative skills. We will also consider your application if you have a background in mathematics, statistics or physics, and can show evidence of an interest in genetics.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director
Professor Andrew Leigh Brown
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5523
Email aleigh@ed.ac.uk

Quantitative Genetics & Genome Analysis

MSc 1yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
PgDip 9 mths FT

Programme description
The revolution in genetic mapping technology and the advent of whole genome sequences have turned quantitative genetics into one of the fastest growing areas of biology. Based on both approaches, the development of synthetic biology is an exciting area for PhD research, with potential to make a significant impact on human health and the energy economy. The programme consists of two semesters of taught courses followed by a research project, leading to a dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Population and Quantitative Genetics
- Genetic Interpretation
- Linkage and Association in Genome Analysis
- Genetics of Human Complex Traits
- Quantitative Genomics
- Research Project Proposal
- Statistics and Data Analysis
- Dissertation

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Molecular Phylogenetics
- Bioinformatics
- Molecular Evolution
- Functional Genomic Technologies
- Animal Genetic Improvement
- Evolutionary Quantitative Genetics

Career opportunities
You will develop the in-depth knowledge and specialised skills required to apply quantitative genetics theory to practical problems, in both the biomedical and animal science industries, and to undertake research in evolutionary genetics, population genetics and genome analysis. Recent graduates have taken on roles as geneticists, DNA analysts, data analysts and researchers.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in biological or biomedical sciences or medicine, with evidence of quantitative skills. We will also consider your application if you have a background in mathematics, statistics or physics, and can show evidence of an interest in genetics.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director
Professor Andrew Leigh Brown
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5523
Email aleigh@ed.ac.uk

Sythetic Biology & Biotechnology

MSc 1yr FT
PgDip 9 mths FT

Programme description
This academically challenging and career-developing programme focuses on the application of biological and chemical principles and systems to create new products, services and industries. You will employ elements of the developing field of synthetic biology to bring about significant changes and major innovations that address the challenges of rapidly changing human demographics, resource shortages, energy economy transition and the concomitant growth in demand for more and healthier food, sustainable full cycles, and a cleaner environment.

Programme structure
You will learn through a variety of activities, including lectures, workshops, presentations, laboratory work, field work, tutorials, seminars, discussion groups, project groups and problem-based learning activities. You will attend problem-based tutorial sessions and one-to-one meetings with your personal tutor or programme director.

You will carry out research at the frontier of knowledge and can make a genuine contribution to the progress of original research. This involves carrying out project work in a research laboratory, reviewing relevant papers, analysing and reporting data, writing reports and giving presentations.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Applications of Synthetic Biology
- Tools for Synthetic Biology
- Social Dimensions of Systems & Synthetic Biology
- Environmental Gene Mining & Molecular Modelling
- Research Project Proposal
- MSc Project and Dissertation

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Introduction to Scientific Programming
- Chemical Aspects of Drug Discovery
- Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine
- Biophysics
- Biochemistry
- Enzymology & Biological Production
- Next Generation Genomics
- Machine Learning & Pattern Recognition
- Drug Discovery
- Biophysical Chemistry
- Bioinformatics Programming & System Management
- Economics & Innovation in the Biotechnology Industry
- Biobusiness
- Molecular Modelling & Database Mining
- Industry & Entrepreneurship
- Practical Skills in Biochemistry
- Practical Systems Biology
- Functional Genomic Technologies
- Information Processing in Biological Cells
- Data Mining & Exploration
- Gene Expression & Microbial Regulation
- Bioinformatics
- Principles of Industrial Biotechnology

Career opportunities
You will develop the skills, experience and career prospects by acquiring current, marketable knowledge and developing advanced analytical and presentational skills within the social and intellectual sphere of a leading international university. The School of Biological Sciences offers a research-rich environment in which you can develop as a scientist and entrepreneur.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), with a strong background in one or more of the following areas: bioinformatics, computer sciences and modelling, molecular biology and related sciences, engineering or biotechnology. We may also consider your application if you have a background in physics or mathematics.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director
Dr Louise Horsfall
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5563
Email mcsbsbi@ed.ac.uk
Online distance learning

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/834

Drug Discovery & Protein Biotechnology

MSc 2–6 yrs PT
PgDip/PgProfDev 2–4 yrs PT
PgCert 1–2 yrs PT
CPD options

Programme description
The modern pharmaceutical industry encompasses the development of "biologics" (for example antibodies or protein hormones), as much as it does traditional, small-molecule drug discovery.

You will study the design and potential uses of different families of proteins and will examine the experiences of successful entrepreneurs in the field who have been involved in the commercialisation of biopharmaceuticals.

Your research project will focus on the early phases of an industrial biologics design programme.

Programme structure
You will learn through a variety of teaching methods, including online tuition, peer-to-peer discussion and individual study. You will take six taught courses, which will be a mixture of compulsory and option courses, followed by a research project leading to a dissertation in your final year.

Individual courses can be taken for Continuing Professional Development purposes or you can study for a Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma or MSc. The standard MSc duration is three years but we also offer a fast track two-year option depending on your eligibility at the end of Year 1. Alternatively, you can spread your programme over a maximum of six years through intermittent study, allowing you to accommodate work and other commitments. You can expect to spend seven to 13 hours a week on your studies, depending on your chosen schedule.

COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
Commercial Aspects of Drug Discovery; High Throughput Drug Discovery; In Silico Drug Discovery; Introduction to Modelling Biological Systems; Measuring Drug Binding; Molecular Modelling; Professional Skills in Drug Discovery; Structure Determination of Drug Target; Systems Approach to Modelling Cell Signal Transduction; Research Grant Proposal.

Career opportunities
You will enhance your career prospects with marketable analytical and presentation skills.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry), in biotechnology, biochemistry, chemistry, medicine, molecular biology, pharmacology or related sciences. Other scientific backgrounds are considered on a case-by-case basis. We may also consider your application if you have another scientific background; please contact us to check before you apply.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director Dr Paul McLaughlin
Tel +44 (0)131 650 7060
Email mscddpb@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/766

Next Generation Drug Discovery

MSc 2–6 yrs PT
PgDip/PgProfDev 2–4 yrs PT
PgCert 1–2 yrs PT
CPD options

Programme description
This online programme will provide you with the stimulus, guidance and knowledge to develop a career around new approaches to drug discovery.

You will study the challenges in developing novel drugs: the science underlying emerging fields of drug discovery, the application of new ideas to the field; how drug discovery relates to real-world health problems; the commercial aspects of drug discovery; and potential future developments.

The programme offers a research-rich environment in which you can develop as a scientist and entrepreneur.

Programme structure
You will be taught through a variety of teaching methods, including online tuition, peer-to-peer discussion and individual study. For the MSc, you will take six taught courses + a mixture of compulsory and option courses. In your final year, you will pursue a research project leading to a dissertation.

You can take individual courses for Continuing Professional Development purposes or study to qualify for a Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma or the MSc. The standard MSc duration is three years but we also offer a fast track, two-year option depending on your eligibility at the end of Year 1. Alternatively, you can spread your programme over a maximum of six years through intermittent study, allowing you to plan around work and other commitments. You can expect to spend between seven and 13 hours a week on your studies, depending on your chosen schedule.

COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
Commercial Aspects of Drug Discovery; Chemistry for Drug Discovery; Druggable Systems; High Throughput Drug Discovery; In Silico Drug Discovery; Introduction to Modelling Biological Systems; Measuring Drug Binding; Modelling Metabolic Pathways; Molecular Modelling; Professional Skills in Drug Discovery; Structure Determination of Drug Targets; Systems Approach to Modelling Cell Signal Transduction.

Career opportunities
You will enhance your career prospects with marketable analytical and presentation skills.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry), in biotechnology, biochemistry, chemistry, medicine, molecular biology, pharmacology or related sciences.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

Programme Director Dr Paul McLaughlin
Tel +44 (0)131 650 7060
Email mscungdd@ed.ac.uk
Research at the School of Biological Sciences

We’re one of the largest and most highly rated centres of our kind in the UK and one of the top 25 worldwide for life sciences*. With the majority of our research judged as either world leading or internationally excellent in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014, and with a successful record of research grant applications, we can offer an environment that boasts cutting-edge equipment and facilities to encourage research excellence and innovation. You’ll be part of an active Graduate School and will benefit from the support of around 130 principal investigators, many of whom hold independent personal fellowships funded by prestigious bodies. Through our innovative skills database, you’ll have access to a broad range of expertise within our comprehensive research areas, the output of which has been assessed as second in the UK for the volume of ‘internationally excellent’ research)*

Research routes
Our six discipline-based research institutes cover biology from molecular structure to evolutionary and population biology.

PhD
As a PhD candidate you pursue a research project under continuous guidance, resulting in a thesis that makes an original contribution to the sector. You will gain specialist background knowledge for your intended research and develop the skills to research in that field. We offer two routes to a PhD: a four-year programme that includes a substantial training component and a three-year programme for students with a strong background in their chosen area.

MPhil
The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) resembles a PhD but generally takes two years and does not carry the same requirement for original contribution to knowledge. You’ll pursue your individual research project under supervision and submit a thesis.

MSc by Research
An MSc by Research is based on a research project tailored to the sector. You will gain specialist background knowledge for your intended research and develop the skills to research in that field. We offer two routes to a PhD: a four-year programme that includes a substantial training component and a three-year programme for students with a strong background in their chosen area.

Entry requirements
A UK 2.1 honours degree, or its international equivalent, in a relevant subject. You should have some research experience and be able to demonstrate that you have a good understanding of the field you propose to study.

High rate of career success
We find the overwhelming majority of our students have an academic career in mind when applying for research degrees. Our latest figures show that 84 per cent of our graduates enter an academic research or teaching career on graduation, and are now establishing themselves in universities and other research institutions worldwide. It’s a significant achievement, one that demonstrates the quality of both our research and our standing within the international academic community. We also fully support our students who plan to develop careers outside academia.

* Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2014/15

Research opportunities

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/7

Case study: Edinburgh’s research with impact

New hope for Rett syndrome sufferers

Rett syndrome is a severe autistic-spectrum disorder with delayed onset that affects one in 10,000 girls, which includes around 16,000 in the US, and an estimated 2,400 here in the UK. This regressive disease causes loss of speech and hand movement, coupled with autistic behaviour, an underdized brain (microencephaly), and growth retardation. A cure or therapy was thought to be most unlikely. However, leading geneticist Professor Sir Adrian Bird from the University’s School of Biological Sciences may have found the answer to this devastating disease.

Project background
The syndrome was previously believed to be a developmental or neurodegenerative disease because of its early appearance and the gradual deterioration of those affected. However, leading-edge research led by Professor Bird has presented the very real prospect of a future cure. By developing a genetic mouse model for Rett syndrome that mimics the genetic mutation that causes its symptoms, Professor Bird opened up a new avenue of research. In 2007, Dr Jacky Guy and other scientists in Professor Bird’s team introduced a modified MeCP2 gene into Rett model mice, which allowed controlled expression of normal MeCP2 protein – a lack of which had been determined to be the cause of Rett syndrome.

Mutant female mice carrying this modified gene exhibited the characteristics of Rett syndrome until normal MeCP2 expression was activated, after which they rapidly regained normal behaviour. This striking result indicated that the developmental or degenerative changes seen in Rett patients are reversible, and overturned previous understanding of the disease.

Project results
These potentially life-changing findings by the research team at the University have inspired worldwide awareness campaigns, a documentary, and fundraising programmes aimed at supporting further research. They underpin the rationale of multiple clinical trials now under way in both Europe and the US to test both symptom-relieving drugs and gene therapy to combat the underlying cause.

Leading-edge research led by Professor Bird has presented the very real prospect of a future cure.

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/8

Evolutionary Biology

Research environment
As a research student at the Institute of Evolutionary Biology you will join the UK’s largest and most dynamic community of researchers in the field. With about 30 research groups, which include about 50 PhD students, you’ll benefit from a busy programme of seminars, journal clubs and other research-furthering activities and will be encouraged to publish your findings. You’ll also take part in student-led courses and talks.

We have an enviable record in academic career success. Our institute reflects the School-wide figure of 84 per cent for postgraduate students achieving academic posts after they complete their PhD. We go beyond the study of animal behaviour to focus on the underpinnings of the science of evolution, down to the level of DNA, to look at how organisms fundamentally develop as a result of natural selection. Our current research falls under three broad themes: evolutionary and quantitative genetics, evolutionary ecology and behaviour, and biodiversity and ecology. Researchers are working on everything from viral evolution and host-parasite co-evolution to natural selection in the wild and plant conservation genetics.

Facilities
Tapping our list of impressive research tools is Edinburgh Genomics, one of the UK’s biggest and best university-based genomics facilities. Attracting visiting researchers from all over the UK and internationally, this next-generation facility opens up new ways of creating research data. If your study involves bioinformatics, the Artsworth Bioinformatics Support Service provides a vital link with the expertise and facilities on offer through our world-leading School of Informatics.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.

MICROANALYSIS CENTRE (MICAL) & MICROMANIPULATION & IMAGING CENTRE (COSMIC). The ICB is proud of its physics is provided through the nearby Collaborative Optical Spectroscopy Centre for Cell Biology is home to the Central Optical Instrumentation Micromanipulation & Imaging Centre (COSMIC). The ICB is proud of its cutting-edge proteomics facility and automated drug-screening platforms that facilitate discovery of new molecules that impact on cellular functions.

Research environment
The Institute of Cell Biology (ICB), including the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology and its specialist PhD programme, hosts 38 laboratories carrying out world-class research into fundamental mechanisms relating to cellular function. We apply a wide range of approaches including molecular genetics, cell and structural biology, systems biology approaches and mathematical modelling.

Our research groups comprise one of the largest communities of cell biology researchers in the UK. Many of our staff are Fellows of the Royal Society and acknowledged leaders in their field. Most PhD students who train at the ICB continue with their academic career or join research in the industry, often becoming independent group leaders.

Diversity of interests
We offer a wide scope of projects covering different areas of cell biology, including the synthesis, processing, localisation and degradation of RNA, epigenetic control of gene expression, chromosome function and genome stability; mechanisms of cell growth and duplication; the rules that govern cellular architecture; biotechnology; synthetic biology; and microbial regulation. A variety of courses in microscopy, bioinformatics and proteomics are available to all our PhD students.

Facilities
The ICB provides an exceptional working environment; the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology is home to the Central Optical Instrumentation Laboratory (CICAL), while image analysis at the boundary of biology and physics is provided through the nearby Collaborative Optical Spectroscopy Micromanipulation & Imaging Centre (COSMIC). The ICB is proud of its cutting-edge proteomics facility and automated drug-screening platforms that facilitate discovery of new molecules that impact on cellular functions.

English language requirements
See page 20.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 20 and for funding information see page 22.
I completed a PhD in Structural Biology at the University of Edinburgh. I originally joined the Walkinshaw group as a bioinformatics PhD candidate but through Professor Walkinshaw’s supportive and motivational mentorship took up the exciting challenge of X-ray crystallography, which I have continued to investigate through a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

Liam Worrall, PhD Structural Biology

The University is piloting PhDs by distance learning. If you're interested in studying with us this way, we're keen to investigate possibilities in some of our areas of research.

Much of our research is interdisciplinary and collaborative. You may find your preferred research area in the prospectus of the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine, or those of the Schools of Chemistry, Informatics or Engineering.

www.ed.ac.uk/study/prospectus-request
About the School of Biological Sciences

Our School features a vibrant community of staff and students that continues a 400-year history of scientific exploration with innovative work that seeks to shape tomorrow’s world.

We are constantly seeking to shed light on the secrets of life through our wide-ranging research. More than half of our research was assessed as world-leading in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014 placing us in the UK’s top three for overall research quality and confirming our position as one of the world’s leading biological science research groups.

Through our membership of Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance, we work with colleagues in other institutions to maintain the country’s world-class research base. Our commitment to pioneering science, supported by a healthy flow of grant funding, helps create an environment where world firsts are possible. For example, the first genetically engineered vaccine against hepatitis B was developed here at the School of Biological Sciences. By joining us you will experience a unique opportunity to examine life processes at the very highest level.

Thriving community

Our School houses about 130 principal investigators, both academic teaching staff and independently funded senior research fellows, about 400 research assistants and technicians and more than 200 PhD students. Some 90 administrative and technical staff support the School’s academic activities.

Research institutes

Our world-class research takes place in six research institutes:
• The Institute of Cell Biology
• The Institute of Evolutionary Biology
• The Institute of Immunology and Infection Research
• The Institute of Molecular Plant Sciences
• The Institute for Stem Cell Research
• The Institute of Quantitative Biology, Biochemistry and Biotechnology.

Many of our researchers also participate in one or more of our numerous cross-disciplinary research centres.

Programmes

Postgraduate teaching takes every advantage of our School’s expertise to give you outstanding opportunities to study within your chosen field, from programmes taught at the world-famous Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh to those that develop biofuels and new medicines. Our students can be found discovering the secrets of life through our wide-ranging research.

Effective outcomes

The School of Biological Sciences continues to make its mark on the future. Entrepreneurial opportunities are supported by Edinburgh Research & Innovation (ERI), the University’s commercialisation office, with a dedicated business development team embedded in the School. Across the University, ERI has helped create more than 400 companies during the last 50 years.

Collections of the University

The University of Edinburgh has one of the world’s great collections, which has been growing ever since its foundation in 1583. Our collections include rare books, archives and manuscripts, art, historical musical instruments and a wide range of museum objects from geological specimens to anatomical models. If laid out end to end, we would have almost 60 kilometres of shelving and storage space devoted to our heritage material, from 1st-century Greek papyrus fragments to new works of sculpture. This is curated by specialist staff across 45 sites and used for our teaching and research and by the wider public community.

The Centre for Research Collections in the Main Library is the hub for all our collections, where specialist curators make them available for study, research and pleasure. Postgraduate students are welcome to study original objects and have made many important research discoveries while working on the archives. You will find an incredible range of material in our collections that is available nowhere else in the world.

Facilities and resources

Whatever tools you need to conduct your research, you’ll find the latest at the School of Biological Sciences.

Our Edinburgh Genomics sequencing service leads the way, playing host to the National Environment Research Council National Sequencing Facility and Medical Research Council Hub Facility.

Advanced microscopy and flow cytometry are two of our major strengths. Our microscopy facilities house state-of-the-art widefield and confocal fluorescence, and transmission and scanning electron microscopes. Our flow cytometry facilities offer cutting-edge analytical and sorting capabilities.

Extensively equipped

We have protein production and biophysical characterisation facilities, including surface plasmon resonance, ITC and spectroscopic equipment. We host more than 1,000m² of controlled environment growth space and glasshouse space, and have computing resources for evolutionary biology, including four dedicated computer clusters for phylogenetics, comparative genomics, population genetics and quantitative trait loci genetics.

Excellent facilities

We are based almost wholly at the University’s King’s Buildings campus, about 15 minutes by bus from the city centre. You can take advantage of the Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library, named after the pioneers of the first genetically engineered hepatitis B vaccine, as well as the KB Learning and Teaching Cluster and the social and sports facilities at KB house. All postgraduate research students are given their own desk space in shared student offices.

“I was very excited to be able to attend one of the best universities in the world. The programme is intensive and the professors kept us busy. Sometimes I struggled, but I was happy because I gained so much as a student here.”

Stamatina Fragkogianni, MSc Bioinformatics
The School forms one of the largest academic groupings of biological scientists in the UK. Whether you are following a taught postgraduate programme or embarking on a research degree, you will be welcomed into a supportive and enthusiastic community of students and staff.

**Community**

The MSc experience
As an MSc student, there is always something to keep you motivated and inspired – from the University’s Festival of Creative Learning to the Edinburgh International Science Festival. Each of our MSc programmes has a dedicated administrator who is there to help you with any queries.

Research support
All postgraduate research students are members of our Graduate School, which enjoys an active academic and social calendar. We provide every opportunity to join in – from peer support groups and journal clubs to BioDocSoc, our society run by and for research students and staff.

Inspiring environment
Our environment of shared knowledge and expertise has led to groundbreaking and globally recognised research achievements. Our research institutes provide a forum for development of ideas, collaboration and dissemination of results, along with an environment for training and mentoring research students and early career researchers. BioSkills, a database developed by our own researchers, makes it easy to identify fellow researchers in Edinburgh who can share their skills and expertise with you.

Links and partnerships
Our participation in the work of a wide variety of interdisciplinary research centres reflects the importance we place on the collaborative approach to research. Through these connections, you’ll come into contact with researchers from varied academic backgrounds and gain insights into new approaches and techniques.

More information: www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk

The Innovation Forum
Edinburgh hosts a local branch of the Innovation Forum, a global network of researchers and entrepreneurs active at the universities of Cambridge, Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Copenhagen, Lausanne, Barcelona, Hong Kong and Tokyo. This is a student-led initiative seeking to promote innovation by building bridges between academia, industry and government, and linking innovative minds across disciplines.

More information: www.inno-forum.org

Our research students produce regular podcasts about School news and events. www.ed.ac.uk/biology/biodpod

Employability and graduate attributes

We offer a research-rich environment in which to develop as a scientist or entrepreneur and you will gain skills that benefit your personal and professional development whichever direction your career takes. The University provides a range of services and opportunities to help you make the most of your time here and the School offers professional internship schemes to MSc and PhD students.

Professional internships
We offer EASTBIO PhD students the opportunity to pursue a professional internship, supported by a Postgraduate Placements Coordinator. All EASTBIO students spend three months of their PhD programme pursuing a non-academic internship. This is designed to help you develop a broad range of professional skills.

Science communication
There are plenty of opportunities to develop science communication skills. The student-run BioPod series of podcasts covers stories from across the School – you might find yourself the subject of one, or helping to produce them. Similarly, our Press Gang works with the University’s Press Office and the Scottish Initiative for Biotechnology Education to spread the word on the School’s pioneering work. Many of our students are part of the EuSci team, publishing a regular science magazine, and there are also opportunities to get involved with the annual Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Institute for Academic Development
All postgraduate students can benefit from our Institute for Academic Development (IAD), which provides information, events and courses to develop the skills you will need throughout your studies and in the future. IAD events also offer the perfect opportunity to meet and network with other postgraduates from across the University.

Further information is available online: www.ed.ac.uk/iad/postgraduates

For taught postgraduates, IAD provides a popular study-related and transferable skills support programme. It is designed to help you settle into postgraduate life, succeed during your studies and move confidently to the next stage of your career. We offer on-campus and online workshops and one-to-one study skills consultations, plus online advice and learning materials. Workshops and learning resources cover key topics tailored to different academic stages, including getting started with your studies; critical reading, writing and thinking; managing your exams; and planning for and writing up your dissertation.

IAD also provides a comprehensive programme of transferable skills training, resources and support for researchers completing a doctorate. The workshop programme is designed to help you successfully prepare for the various milestones of your PhD, from getting started with your research, to writing up and preparing for the viva. Workshops cover topics such as writing skills, reference management tools, statistics, preparing for conferences, delivering presentations, time and project management, and personal development. IAD also offers online resources and planning tools to help get your research started, plus support for tutoring and demonstrating and research public engagement and communication.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/iad/postgraduates

Connect.ed
Edinburgh encourages its alumni to stay in touch with current students who share an academic background or are interested in a similar career path. Connect.ed is a networking system run by the Careers Service that provides an informal and confidential opportunity for alumni to share their occupational knowledge and experience with current students, who can contact them for advice and guidance on their future career.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/careers/connected

Back up bright ideas
LAUNCH.ed is the University’s award-winning programme for student entrepreneurs. Each year, LAUNCH.ed works with hundreds of students to assess their ideas and develop their business skills and helps many start their businesses. We have helped Edinburgh students and alumni launch almost 100 new businesses in the last three years, ranging from language tuition to robotics companies.

More information: www.LAUNCH.ed.ac.uk
Applications and fees

We have an online application process for all postgraduate programmes. It’s a straightforward system with full instructions, including details of any supporting documentation you need to submit.

When applying, you will set up an account, which lets you save your application and continue at another time.

Full guidance on our application system is available at: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/applying

General requirements
Our usual entrance requirement for postgraduate study is a UK 2:1 degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in a subject related to your chosen programme. You will also need to meet the University’s language requirements (see below).

Entry requirements for individual programmes can vary, so check the details for the specific programme you wish to apply for.

References
For applications to taught programmes, the normal requirement is one reference, although an additional reference may be requested in individual cases. For applications to research programmes, two references are required. You should check the entry online for exact requirements for your intended programme of study. For general guidance on references, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/references

Deadlines
Taught masters applications
Some programmes have application deadlines. Please check the programme entry online for details. For all other programmes, you are encouraged to apply no later than one month prior to entry to ensure there is sufficient time to process your application. However, earlier application is recommended, particularly where there is a high demand for places or when a visa will be required. Should you wish to submit a late application, please contact us for guidance. If you are applying for funding we encourage you to submit your programme application as early as possible, as in most cases you will need a programme offer before you can make your funding application. Most funding deadlines are no later than June.

Research applications
For funded studentships our main application deadline is usually around December. Occasionally funded studentships are advertised later in the academic year. Please check our website (www.ed.ac.uk/biology/postgraduate) for full deadline details. We accept applications from students with their own funding all year round.

English language requirements
Students whose first language is not English must show evidence of one of the qualifications below:

- IELTS Academic: total 6.5 (at least 6.0 in each module).
- TOEFL iBT: total 92 (at least 20 in each module).
- PTE Academic: total 61 (at least 56 in each of the Communicative Skills sections).
- CAE and CPE: total 176 (at least 169 in each module).
- Trinity ISE: ISE I (with distinctions in all four components).

Please note:
English language requirements can be affected by government policy so please ensure you visit our degree finder to check the latest requirements for your programme: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/degrees

Your English language certificate must be no more than two years old at the beginning of your programme.

We also accept recent degree-level study that was taught and assessed in English in a majority English speaking country (as defined by UK Visas & Immigration).

Abbreviations: IELTS – International English Language Testing System; TOEFL iBT – Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test; PTE Academic – Pearson Test of English (Academic); CPE – Certificate of Proficiency in English; CAE – Certificate in Advanced English; Trinity ISE – Integrated Skills in English.

www.ed.ac.uk/english-requirements/pg

Tuition fees
The following table provides an overview of indicative fee levels for programmes commencing in 2017.

Figures marked * show the fee level set for the 2016/17 academic year. All other figures are indicative of expected fee levels for your studies during the 2017/18 academic year. Because these figures are indicative, it is important you check online before you apply and check the up-to-date fee level that will apply to your specific programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/postgraduate

Please note:
- International students starting full-time taught programmes of study lasting more than one year will be charged a fixed annual fee.
- All other students on full-time and part-time programmes of study lasting more than one year should be aware that annual tuition fees are subject to revision and are typically increased by approximately five per cent per annum. This annual increase should be taken into account when you are applying for a programme.
- In addition to tuition fees, your programme may be subject to an application fee and additional costs/programme costs may apply. Please check the latest programme information online.

Tuition fees for EU students
EU students enrolling in the 2017/18 academic year and possibly the following academic year – will be admitted as Scottish/EU fee status students and are eligible for tuition fee support from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS).

Future changes to the fee status of EU students enrolling in the 2017/18 academic year will depend on the timing and terms of the UK’s exit from the European Union and would also require changes to existing UK and Scottish legislation. Current indications are that the UK would leave the EU at the earliest in 2019 so any changes would not take effect before the academic year 2019/20.

The University is working with the Scottish Government to try to protect the fee status of EU students enrolling in the 2017/18 academic year for the duration of their course. However there is a risk that EU students enrolling in the 2017/18 academic year may become subject to international tuition fees for any years of study which follow the UK’s exit from the EU. In those circumstances we are committed to working with the Government to ameliorate the impact of that change for individual students.

The Scottish Government has already confirmed that the fee status of existing students and students enrolling in the 2016/17 academic year will remain unchanged for the duration of their studies.

For UK/EU students

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<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Annual fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught programme 1-year FT</td>
<td>£13,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught programme 2-years FT</td>
<td>£27,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc by Research 1-year FT</td>
<td>£7,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc by Research 2-years FT</td>
<td>£15,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPhil 2-years FT</td>
<td>£4,121*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD 3-years FT</td>
<td>£4,121*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD 6-years FT</td>
<td>£2,061*</td>
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</table>

For international students

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* Figure shown is the 2016/17 fee level

All other fees quoted are indicative of 2017/18 fee levels. Because these figures are indicative, it is important you check online before you apply and check the up-to-date fee level that will apply to your specific programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/postgraduate

For Online Distance Learning

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All other fees quoted are indicative of 2017/18 fee levels. Because these figures are indicative, it is important you check online before you apply and check the up-to-date fee level that will apply to your specific programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/postgraduate
A large number of scholarships, loans and other funding schemes are available for your postgraduate studies. It is only possible to show a small selection in print. To see the full range, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate.

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh

- Beit Trust
- Beith Trust and the University of Edinburgh Scholarships jointly fund postgraduate students from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe to undertake a masters: www.beittrust.org.uk
- China Scholarships Council/University of Edinburgh Scholarships (China)
- A number of scholarships for PhD study to candidates who are citizens and residents of China: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/china-council
- Edinburgh Global Research Scholarships
- These scholarships are designed to attract high-quality international research students to the University: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/global-research
- Edinburgh Syrian Postgraduate Scholarships
- A number of scholarships are available to postgraduate students from Syria studying a full-time one-year masters: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate/syria
- Highly Skilled Workforce Scholarships
- A number of scholarships are available to UK nationals permanently domiciled in Scotland, and to EU nationals domiciled either on mainland EU or in Scotland, who have been accepted on an eligible full- or part-time masters programme. The scholarships, which are funded by the Scottish Funding Council and subject to annual confirmation, cover the UK/EU tuition fee: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/hsf-hsw
- Julius Nyerere Masters Scholarship (Tanzania)
- One scholarship is available to citizens of Tanzania who are normally resident in Tanzania and are accepted on a full-time masters programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/nyerere

School of Biological Sciences Research Scholarships

- Within the School of Biological Sciences, a number of highly competitive research scholarships are available each year to new postgraduate research students, including funding from BBSRC, NERC, MRC, Wellcome Trust and our School International Scholarships: www.ed.ac.uk/biology/postgraduate/pg/fees-funding
- School of Biological Sciences Taught Postgraduate Bursaries
- The School of Biological Sciences offers awards to overseas students joining taught masters programmes: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/biological-bursaries
- The University of Edinburgh PhD Scholarships
- A number of scholarships, open to UK, EU and international PhD students: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/development

Research council awards

Research councils offer awards to masters, PhD and PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All postgraduate students from the research councils must be made through the University, through your School or College office. Awards can be made for both taught and research programmes.

Normally only those UK/EU students who have been resident in the UK for the preceding three years are eligible for a full award. For some awards, candidates who are EU nationals and are resident in the UK may be eligible for a fees only award. www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-councils

The University also offers a number of scholarships in partnership with the following overseas government agencies:

- Chile
- Colombia
- Administrative Department of Science, Technology and Innovation (Colciencias): www.colciencias.gov.co
- Ecuador
- Secretaria Nacional de Educacion Superior, Ciencia y Tecnologia (SENESCYT): www.educacionsuperior.gob.ec
- Iraq
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research: www.iraqculturalattache.org.uk
- Mexico
- National Council of Science and Technology of the United Mexican States (CONACYT): www.conacyt.mx
- Banco de Mexico and the Banco de Mexico’s FIDERH trust (FIDERH):
- www.fiderh.org.mx
- Fundacion Mexicana para la Educacion, la Tecnologia y la Ciencia (FUNED):
- www.funedmx.org

Loans available for study at the University of Edinburgh

The University of Edinburgh is a participating institution in the following loans programmes, meaning we certify your student status and can help with the application process.

- The Canada Student Loans Program
- The University is eligible to certify Canadian student loan applications: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/canadian-loans
- Erasmus+
- An Erasmus+ loan supports students accepted for a masters programme in an Erasmus+ country. For more information: http://ec.europa.eu/education/opportunities/higher-education/masterloans_en.htm
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL)
- Eligible students from England, undertaking a taught or research masters, can apply to Student Finance England for a loan of up to £10,000 towards fees or maintenance costs: www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan
- Postgraduate Loans (SASA) Scotland and EU
- The Student Awards Agency Scotland offers tuition fee loans to eligible students undertaking full- or part-time postgraduate study. For a full list of eligible programmes: www.sasas.gov.uk

The University is eligible to certify loan applications for US loan students. Full details on eligibility and how to apply can be found online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans

Other sources of funding

The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.

- Chevening Scholarships
- A number of partial and full funding scholarships are available to one-year masters students: www.chevening.org
- Commonwealth Scholarships
- Scholarships available to students who are resident in any Commonwealth country, other than the UK: www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
- Fulbright Scholarships (USA)
- Scholarships open to US graduate students in any subject wishing to study in the UK: www.iie.org/fulbright
- Marshall Scholarships (USA)
- Scholarships available to outstanding US students wishing to study at any UK university for at least two years: www.marshallscholarship.org
- Scotland’s Saltire Scholarships
- A number of scholarships open to students who are citizens permanently and ordinarily resident in Canada, China, India, Pakistan and the USA for one year of masters study: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/saltire

Funding for online distance learning

The University offers several scholarships specifically for online, part-time postgraduate programmes, including the Edinburgh Global Online Distance Learning Masters Scholarship, for which applicants to many masters programmes can apply: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/distance-learning

Key

- Taught masters programmes
- Masters by Research programmes
- Research programmes

“A The Scottish Government’s initiative to attract international students from Canada, China, India and the US through the Saltire Scholarship Scheme, as well as the University of Edinburgh’s help and support for international students, has helped provide me with an opportunity that I would never have conceived of prior to starting my studies at Edinburgh.”

Robert Stark, MSc, High Performance Computing, Scotland’s Saltire Scholarship
The School of Biological Sciences is on the King’s Buildings campus, where our teaching and administration takes place across several buildings. The King’s Buildings campus is around two miles from Edinburgh city centre and is well served by buses, including a free University shuttle service during semester time.

Detailed maps can be found at: www.ed.ac.uk/maps

Get in touch

Contact us
For more information about taught MSc programmes, contact:

Vicky Mactaggart
Biology Teaching Organisation
2105, James Clerk Maxwell Building
King’s Buildings
Mayfield Road
Edinburgh, UK
EH9 3JZ
Tel +44 (0)131 651 7052
Email pgtbiol@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/biology/taught-masters

For enquiries relating to specific programmes, please refer to the contact details provided for each programme listing.

For more information about our postgraduate research programmes, please contact:

Dr Caroline Proctor
Graduate School of Biological Sciences
2.06, Mary Brück Building
King’s Buildings
Mayfield Road
Edinburgh, UK
EH9 3DW
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5327
Email gradbiol@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/biology/postgraduate/pgr

To discuss your PhD proposal, you should identify potential supervisors at:
www.ed.ac.uk/biology/people

Visit us
The University’s Postgraduate Open Day is your opportunity to come and meet current staff and students. Our next campus-based Open Day takes place on Wednesday 16 November 2016. For more information, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate-open-day

The University also runs online information sessions for prospective postgraduate students throughout the year. For more information, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/online-events

The School of Biological Sciences welcomes visitors at any time. We can give you a tour of the campus and arrange a meeting with your potential Programme Director. If you are unable to visit, we can arrange a video call.

Detailed maps can be found at: www.ed.ac.uk/maps
On 23 June 2016 the UK electorate voted in a national referendum to leave the European Union. At the time of going to print, there was no immediate, material change known that would impact applicants for 2017 entry. However we recommend that you check online for the latest information before you apply: http://edin.ac/eu-news

The University’s standard terms and conditions will form an essential part of any contract between the University of Edinburgh and any student offered a place here. Our full terms and conditions are available online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/terms-conditions

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