

MRes Experimental Neuroscience

This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is intended as a reference point for prospective students, current students, external examiners and academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement.

Programme Information

Programme Title	Experimental Neuroscience			
Award(s)	MRes			
Programme Code	A3TZ			
Associateship	None			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London			
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London			
Faculty	Faculty of Medicine			
Department	Department of Medicine			
Mode and Period of Study	1 academic year, full-time			
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in October			
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points	Master's Degree Characteristics			
Total Credits	ECTS:	90	CATS:	180
FHEQ Level	Level 7			
EHEA Level	2 nd cycle			
External Accreditor(s)	None			
Specification Details				
Student cohorts covered by specification	2017/18 entry			
Person responsible for the specification	Professor Steve Gentleman, Course Director			
Date of introduction of programme	2004/05			
Date of programme specification/revision	June 2017			

Description of Programme Contents

The aim of this one-year full-time course is to provide you with a broad research training in neuroscience, which will prepare you for PhD studies and enable you to make a more informed choice for your research.

You will complete three projects during the year, designed to give you practical experience of laboratory research, and chosen to cover a wide range of skills. Projects are provided by academics who are leaders in their fields of research and cover a wide range of disciplines including:

- Cell and Molecular biology
- Genetics
- Neuropathology
- Imaging

You will also be required to write three mini-dissertations on set topics covering all aspects of neuroscience.

On completion of the course you should have an understanding of the basic and applied aspects of research in the field of neuroscience and a range of transferable skills.

The skills acquired will also be of value for those wishing to pursue a career in clinical service, industry or scientific publishing.

Learning Outcomes

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial College degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes

Knowledge and Understanding of:

- The range of topics and experimental approaches in modern neuroscience
- The research process that enables the student:
 - (i) to evaluate critically current research
 - (ii) to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them
 - (iii) to design and conduct appropriate research

Intellectual Skills:

- A broad understanding of neuroscience
- The ability to critically evaluate the state of knowledge derived from neuroscience research
- The ability to formulate hypotheses based on an understanding of neuroscience

Practical Skills:

- The ability to design experiments with clear outcomes
- Experience of a wide range of experimental techniques
- The analysis of experimental results including the use of appropriate statistics

Professional Skills Development:

- The ability to communicate information and ideas in written and oral form
- The ability to work as part of a team and as an individual
- Decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations
- The independent learning ability required for continuing professional development

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	Minimum 2:1 UK Honours degree (or equivalent) in an appropriate science subject.
Non-academic Requirements	None
English Language Requirement	Standard requirement

The programme's competency standards document can be found at: <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/study/postgraduate/masters-programmes/mres-experimental-neuroscience/>

Learning & Teaching Strategy

Project and Placement Learning Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory based research project
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Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project dissertation • Mini-dissertation • Oral presentations
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Academic Feedback Policy

At the end of each rotation, after assessments have taken place, students will receive written feedback on their performance. Individual meetings are arranged by the Course Tutor with each student half way through each rotation to discuss general progress or problems of any nature.

Re-sit Policy

The College's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams/resit

Mitigating Circumstances Policy

The College's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams

Assessment Dates & Deadlines

Coursework Assessments	Winter, Spring, Summer
Project Deadlines	Winter, Spring, Summer

Assessment Structure

Marking Scheme

The Pass Mark for Master's level programmes is 50%.

Examiners have the discretion to award a result of merit or distinction to candidates who have fulfilled the requirements for the award of the Master's degree as specified in the Examination Regulations.

In order to be awarded a result of merit, a candidate must achieve at least 60 per cent in each element; in order to be awarded a result of distinction, a candidate must achieve at least 70 per cent in each element.

Where appropriate, a Board of Examiners may award a result of merit where a candidate has achieved an aggregate mark of 60% or greater across the programme as a whole AND has obtained a mark of 60% or greater in each element with the exception of one element AND has obtained a mark of 50% or greater in this latter element.

Where appropriate, a Board of Examiners may award a result of distinction where a candidate has achieved an aggregate mark of 70% or greater across the programme as a whole AND has obtained a mark of 70% or greater in each element with the exception of one element AND has obtained a mark of 60% or greater in this latter element.

Module Weightings

Module	% Module Weighting
Research Project 1	25%
Mini dissertation 1	8.3%
Research Project 2	25%
Mini dissertation 2	8.3%
Research Project 3	25%
Mini dissertation 3	8.3%

Indicative Module List											
Code	Title	Core/ Elective	L&T Hours	Ind. Study Hours	Place- ment Hours	Total Hours	% Written Exam	% Course- work	% Practical	FHEQ Level	ECTS
	Research Project 1	CORE	629	0	0	629	N/A	100	0	7	22.5
	Mini dissertation 1	CORE	209	0	0	209	N/A	100	0	7	7.5
	Research Project 2	CORE	629	0	0	629	N/A	100	0	7	22.5
	Mini dissertation 2	CORE	209	0	0	209	N/A	100	0	7	7.5
	Research Project 3	CORE	629	0	0	629	N/A	100	0	7	22.5
	Mini dissertation 3	CORE	209	0	0	209	N/A	100	0	7	7.5

Supporting Information

The Programme Handbook is available at:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/study/postgraduate/masters-programmes/mres-experimental-neuroscience/>

The Module Handbook is available at:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/study/postgraduate/masters-programmes/mres-experimental-neuroscience/>

The College's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements

The College's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance

The College's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at:

<http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/regulations>

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<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters-statutes-ordinances-and-regulations/>

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<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/reg/of/>