IMPERIAL

Programme Specification 2025-26

Programme Information		
Programme Title	Programme Code	HECoS Code
Immunology	A3UZA A3UZC	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
PG Certificate (A3UZC)	3 months	Full-Time	Annually in October	30	60
PG Diploma (A3UZD)	N/A	N/A	N/A	60	120
MSc Immunology (A3UZA)	12 months	Full-Time	Annually in October	90	180
Students must apply to the PG Certificate or MSc in the first instance. The PG Diploma is an exit award and is not available for entry.					

Ownership			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Faculty of Medicine
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	Department of Immunology and Inflammation
Associateship	Diploma of Imperial College (DIC) (MSc only)	Main Location(s) of Study	Hammersmith Hospital Campus
External Reference			
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points		QAA Masters level 7	
FHEQ Level		Masters level 7	
EHEA Level		2nd Cycle	
External Accreditor(s) (if applicable)			
External Accreditor 1:	N/A		
Accreditation received:	N/A	Accreditation renewal:	N/A
Collaborative Provision			
Collaborative partner	Collaboration type	Agreement effective date	Agreement expiry date

N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Specification Details	
Programme Lead	Dr Sophie Rutschmann
Student cohorts covered by specification	2025-26 entry
Date of introduction of programme	October 2019
Date of programme specification/revision	August 23

Programme Overview

The PG Certificate in Immunology will provide you with the theoretical principles of Innate and Adaptive Immunity, a unique chance to plan, design and conduct your own Mini-Research Project in our teaching laboratories as well as the opportunity to attend an Immunology conference and conduct an in-depth team presentation of one immunology topic of choice.

The MSc in Immunology will build from the PG Certificate by taking you on a journey to investigate immunity in health and disease. To accompany you on this journey are our leaders in the field with whom you will subsequently have the opportunity to conduct a 6 month laboratory-based research project.

In addition to preparing you to become a researcher in Immunology (main professional outcome) by helping you strengthen your knowledge, creativity and critical thinking skills, the programme will also give you a chance to develop your communication and team working skills.

It may be possible for projects to be carried out partly or wholly at an external organisation and requests will be considered on a case by case basis.

Learning Outcomes

PG Certificate

At the end of the PG Certificate, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a strong breadth and depth of core knowledge in immunology
2. Apply the full scientific method to conduct experimental work within a framed environment
3. Appraise immunology cutting edge knowledge and future research trends
4. Critically analyse own and others' experimental data
5. Convincingly communicate scientific ideas in various format to varied audiences
6. Display positive teamwork attitude that leads to successful outcomes

MSc Immunology

At the end of the MSc Immunology, you should demonstrate the Learning Outcomes of the PG Certificate as well as be able to:

7. Contextualise the role of the immune system in health and disease
8. Practice and advocate safe laboratory practices; Manage time, space and laboratory resources diligently
9. Generate novel experimental data and critically appraise their quality and importance for the research field
10. Employ scientific evidence to propose creative solutions to both theoretical and practical immunological problems
11. Adopt a critical thinking attitude and identify with the professional development of a research scientist.

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: https://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/education/our-graduates/

Entry Requirements	
Academic Requirement	A minimum of a 2:1 UK Bachelor's degree in an appropriate science subject, medicine, dentistry or veterinary science. For further information on entry requirements, please go to www.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate-taught/entry-requirements/accepted-qualifications/
Non-academic Requirements	N/A
English Language Requirement	Standard requirement IELTS score of 6.5 overall (minimum 6.0 in all elements)
Admissions Test/Interview	Admissions are conducted by two programme team members. Decisions are made following review of applications which need to include academic results to date, a cv, personal statement and two reference letters.
The programme's competency standards documents are available from the department.	

Learning & Teaching Approach

Learning and Teaching Delivery Methods
Over the course of the programme, you will be taught using many approaches which are as much as possible reflective of the way the scientific community works and interacts. The taught part of the programme will be delivered in a blended manner which will require you to study independently prior to our face-to-face sessions. These will be in the form of small group tutorials, keynote lectures, data interpretation sessions, journal club, workshops, group work sessions and more traditional lectures. In addition, you will have the opportunity to attend a British Society of Immunology organised conference (registration fees, accommodation and transport covered by the programme) during which you will get insight into the forefront of the discipline from the conference speakers. In the MSc, you will have the opportunity to be taught directly by our research teams in their laboratories. During your laboratory-based project, you will learn from interacting daily with researchers, presenting in lab meetings, attending seminars, observing others and receiving feedback on your work.

Overall Workload
Your overall workload will consist of face-to-face sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the module you are studying, the following gives an indication of how much time you will need to allocate to different activities. At Imperial, each ECTS credit taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is 750 hours for the 30 ECTS PG Certificate and 2250 hours for the 90 ECTS MSc.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods

Summative assessments will be in the form of Timed and In Course Assessments, oral individual and group presentations, conference written proceedings, posters, scientific papers, research project thesis and viva,

research plan, laboratory meetings and various other coursework assessments. Assessments will take place during and at the end of each module.

Academic Feedback Policy
Students will be provided with feedback dates at the start of year. The programme will aim to return provisional marks and individual feedback as per College guidelines (see below). Exception to the 10-working day best practice recommendation will be notified at the start of year. Feedback will notably take the form of provisional marks, individual feedback, class feedback sessions, small group discussion, or peer feedback. In addition, the programme will ensure that feed-forward opportunities are imbedded into the curriculum. Imperial's Policy on Academic Feedback and guidance on issuing provisional marks to students is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/
Re-sit Policy
Imperial's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/
Mitigating Circumstances Policy
Imperial's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Additional Programme Costs		
This section should outline any additional costs relevant to this programme which are not included in students' tuition fees.		
Description	Mandatory/Optional	Approximate cost
Computer and Stable Internet Access	Mandatory	N/A

Programme Structure

Year 1 – FHEQ Level 7
PG Certificate - You will study all compulsory modules.

Code	Module Title	Core/ Compulsory/ Elective	Group	Term	Credits
IMMU70001	Principles of Immunology	Compulsory		Autumn	15
IMMU70002	Experimental Immunology	Compulsory		Autumn	10
IMMU70003	Immunology in Practice	Compulsory		Autumn	5
				Credit Total	30

Programme Structure

Year 1 – FHEQ Level 7

MSc – You will study all core and compulsory modules.

***The Critical Master of Immunology – Library Project is a Postgraduate Diploma exit option only.**

Code	Module Title	Core/ Compulsory/ Elective	Group	Term	Credits
IMMU70001	Principles of Immunology	Compulsory		Autumn	15
IMMU70002	Experimental Immunology	Compulsory		Autumn	10
IMMU70003	Immunology in Practice	Compulsory		Autumn	5
IMMU70004	Immunology in Health and Disease	Compulsory		Spring	15
IMMU70006	Critical Mastery of Immunology – Library Project	*		Summer	15
IMMU70005	Immunology Research Project	Core		Spring-Summer	45
				Credit Total	90

Progression and Classification

Progression
You can apply to the PG Certificate or to the MSc. Progression from the PG Certificate to the MSc is allowed, however, due to the nature of the research projects being offered, this will only be allowed in January of the following academic year. Successful PG certificate students will have to apply to the MSc, the progression will not be automatic.

Award and Classification for Postgraduate Students

Award of a Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert)
To qualify for the award of a postgraduate Certificate, you must have accumulated at least 30 ECTS at Level 7.

Award of the Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip)
To qualify for the award of a postgraduate diploma a student must have passed modules to the value of no fewer than 60 credits at Level 7. Therefore, to exit with the award of a postgraduate Diploma, you will need to pass all three compulsory modules of the PG Certificate with a minimum overall mark of 50% for each module and the Critical Mastery of Immunology – Library Project (IMMU70006).

Award of the MSc Immunology
To be awarded your MSc in Immunology, you will need to pass all modules of the programme with a minimum average mark of 50% for each module.
You are allowed compensated modules (average mark for that module between 40-49%) up to 15 ECTS in total and providing your overall mark for the degree is above 50%.

Classification
The university sets the class of Degree that may be awarded as follows:

1. Distinction: 70% or above.
2. Merit: 60% or above but less than 70%.
3. Pass: 50% or above but less than 60%.

For a Masters, your classification will be determined through the Programme Overall Weighted Average meeting the threshold for the relevant classification band.

Your degree algorithm provides an appropriate and reliable summary of your performance against the programme learning outcomes. It reflects the design, delivery, and structure of your programme without unduly over-emphasising particular aspects.

Programme Specific Regulations

N/A

Supporting Information
The Programme Handbook is available from the department.
The Module Handbook is available from the department.
Imperial's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate-taught/entry-requirements/accepted-qualifications/
Imperial's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance
Imperial's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations
Imperial College is an independent corporation whose legal status derives from a Royal Charter granted under Letters Patent in 1907. In 2007 a Supplemental Charter and Statutes was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. This Supplemental Charter, which came into force on the date of Imperial's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established Imperial as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine". www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/university-governance-structure/charters/
Imperial College London is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS) www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/
This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that you may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if you take full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is primarily intended as a reference point for prospective and current students, academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement, for its assessment by internal and external examiners, and in subsequent monitoring and review.