

Programme Information		
Programme Title	Programme Code	HECoS Code
Cardiovascular and Respiratory Healthcare	A3I4	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
MSc – A3I4	1 calendar year – 12 months	Full-time	Annually in October	90	180
PG Diploma - A3I4D	6-9 months, depending on module choice	Full-time	Annually in October	60	120
MSc - A3I424	2 calendar years – 24 months	Part-time	Annually in October	90	180
PG Diploma - A3I421	18-21 months depending on module choice	Part-time	Annually in October	60	120
PG Certificate - A3I4C	6-9 months depending on module choice	Part-time	Annually in October	30	60
You must apply for the award with which you wish to exit. Therefore, applicants must apply for the MSc OR PG Diploma OR PG Certificate. (also see: Progression and Classification Programme Specific Regulations)					

Ownership			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Medicine
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	National Heart and Lung Institute
Associateship	Diploma of Imperial College (DIC) (MSc only)	Main Location(s) of Study	Brompton campus
External Reference			
Relevant <a href="#">QAA Benchmark Statement(s)</a> and/or other external reference points		Master's degree award in Medicine	
<a href="#">FHEQ Level</a>		Level 7 - Master's	
<a href="#">EHEA Level</a>		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		Professor Darrel Francis	
Student cohorts covered by specification		2025-2026	
Date of introduction of programme		October 18	
Date of programme specification/revision		February 25	

Programme Overview
<p>The <b>Cardiovascular and Respiratory Healthcare</b> programme provides academic and research training in a wide range of aspects associated with the clinical management of cardiovascular and respiratory healthcare.</p> <p>The full-time MSc consists of one core and three compulsory modules including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundations of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences: integrating physiology, and pathophysiology knowledge of the cardiovascular and respiratory systems</li> <li>• Study Design: developing research skills, such as critical analysis, data analysis and interpretation</li> <li>• Reflection &amp; Evaluation of Clinical Practice: one-to-one learning from clinical experts with individual reflective practice</li> <li>• Quality in Healthcare: reviewing political and societal influences on cardiovascular &amp; respiratory healthcare and review changing global influences</li> </ul> <p>You will also have the opportunity to choose three elective specialist modules, allowing you to focus your learning around your areas of interest within cardiovascular and respiratory healthcare.</p> <p>The MSc will complete with a research project, giving you the opportunity to explore your research interests in depth. The research project will enable you to translate your learning in order to design, conduct and disseminate your own research in the field of cardiovascular and respiratory healthcare. Requests for projects that might be carried out by way of an internal placement in another academic department at Imperial may be approved on a case-by-case basis. It may be possible for projects to be carried out partly at an external organisation and requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>For MSc part-time, PGDip and PGCert modes of study, please refer to the Programme Structure section.</p>
Learning Outcomes
<p><u>Aim:</u> On graduating from this programme you will have developed the knowledge and skills to enhance your leadership in your chosen field of cardiovascular &amp; respiratory healthcare.</p> <p><u>Postgraduate certificate:</u></p> <p>On successful completion of PG Certificate you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain and communicate the importance of an evidence-based and person-centred approach to the delivery of cardiovascular and / or respiratory healthcare</li> <li>• Collect and correctly interpret physiological data</li> <li>• Generate relational hypotheses, and apply physiological insights to patient care</li> <li>• Recommend clinical service improvements on the basis of controlled observation and reflection</li> </ul>

### Postgraduate diploma:

On successful completion of PG Diploma, you will demonstrate the Learning Outcomes of the PG Certificate as well as be able to:

- Critique and communicate the research-based and person-centred approaches to the delivery of cardiovascular and / or respiratory healthcare
- Collect and review the methods of collecting, analysing and interpreting data
- Reflect on decisions in the face of complexity or uncertainty in some clinical contexts
- Justify patient management options for selected instances of cardiovascular and / or respiratory healthcare

### **MSc Cardiovascular and respiratory healthcare:**

On successful completion of MSc, you will demonstrate the Learning Outcomes of the PG Certificate and the PG Diploma, as well as be able to:

- Implement a substantial programme of original research in cardiovascular and / or respiratory healthcare
- Employ and justify the use of appropriate laboratory and clinical techniques in cardiovascular and / or respiratory healthcare setting
- Produce, analyse and interpret research data in cardiovascular and / or respiratory healthcare
- Retrieve and integrate complex published scientific information into your specific research
- Generate novel findings in cardiovascular and / or respiratory healthcare; disseminate and defend to the wider research community
- Exercise the skills of self-direction and leadership within the healthcare agenda

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at:

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

### **Entry Requirements**

Academic Requirement	<p>The minimum requirement is normally a 2:1 UK Bachelor's Degree with Honours in a relevant medical, biomedical or healthcare subject (or a comparable qualification recognised by the university).</p> <p>For further information on entry requirements, please go to <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate-taught/entry-requirements/accepted-qualifications/">www.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate-taught/entry-requirements/accepted-qualifications/</a></p>
Non-academic Requirements	<p>Applicants who do not meet the academic requirements above but who have substantial relevant clinical experience may be admitted following completion of the 'special case procedure'. This includes evidence of experience and may include a special qualifying assessment as per the university's regulations.</p>
English Language Requirement	<p><a href="#">Higher requirement</a> Please check for other <a href="#">Accepted English Qualifications</a></p>
Admissions Test/Interview	<p>Face-to-face interview (in person or via web-link) will take place between the applicant and normally 2 members of the academic team. The applicant will be asked questions to assess the 'fit' between this programme of study and the applicant's prior experience and career intentions. The interview will also provide an opportunity for the applicant to find out more about the course/programme of study.</p> <p>Ahead of the interview, the applicant will be asked to critique a paper they will be sent. A discussion of the paper will take place</p>

	during the interview to assess current understanding of key issues in the research and subject area. A choice of papers will be given, although the papers will vary reflecting current research in the field.
The programme's competency standards documents are available from the department.	
<b>Learning &amp; Teaching Approach</b>	
<p><b>Learning and Teaching Delivery Methods</b></p> <p>The programme will take you through a programme of learning that, through the core and compulsory modules and your choice of elective modules, will enable you to deepen your knowledge of cardiovascular and respiratory healthcare. The programme will use a blended learning approach to facilitate your learning and enable you to re-visit key issues in your own time and pace.</p> <p>You will be taught by an expert faculty. The faculty will draw on their clinical and research experience at national and international levels to ensure you have the opportunity to engage with contemporary healthcare developments. The taught component will be delivered through face-to-face/online key note lectures, small group discussions, seminars and workshops. For some elective modules you will also learn through practical skills demonstration and acquisition.</p> <p>Teaching and learning methods will vary according to the specific focus of each module but will include; keynote lectures, seminars, tutorials, journal clubs, case-based learning, small group teaching, e-learning and reflection on clinical practice.</p> <p><b>Overall Workload</b></p> <p>Your overall workload consists of face-to-face/ online sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the optional modules you choose to study, the following gives an indication of how much time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the programme. At Imperial, each ECTS credit taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is as follows:</p> <p>MSc: 2,250 hours PG Diploma: 1,500 hours PG Certificate: 750 hours</p> <p>MSc: typically in the first term you will spend around 100 hours in lectures, seminars and workshops; in terms 2 and 3 you will spend around 60 hours each term in lectures, seminars and workshops. The rest of your time will be spent on independent learning, revision and assessments preparation, tutorials and fieldwork associated with your specialist modules and research project.</p>	
<b>Assessment Strategy</b>	
Assessment Methods	
Assessments for each module will be aligned to the learning outcomes of each module. Consequently you will undertake a variety of assessments that may include; written course work, oral presentations, poster presentations, group journal clubs, written examinations and practical examinations.	
Academic Feedback Policy	
<p>Feedback will normally be provided within 4 weeks of submission of the assessments. This will facilitate your learning and help in the preparation of your subsequent pieces of work. Feedback will be provided in writing and orally. The exact turn-around time for each assessment will vary according to the length and nature of the assessments. For example, you are likely to receive feedback on an oral presentations or poster presentation sooner than the feedback on a complex piece of written work.</p> <p>Following examinations, feedback will be given through provisional marks within 4 weeks of the exam date. The ratified marks will only be released following the examination board.</p> <p>Imperial's Policy on Academic Feedback and guidance on issuing provisional marks to students is available at:</p>	

<a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/">www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/</a>
Re-sit Policy
Imperial's Policy on Re-sits is available at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/">www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/</a>
Mitigating Circumstances Policy
Imperial's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/">www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/</a>

Additional Programme Costs
N/A

Programme Structure: FULL TIME <sup>1</sup>					
<b>FHEQ Level 7</b> If you register for the <b>MSc</b> then you will study all 5 core and compulsory modules (4 taught modules and a research project). You will also choose 3 elective modules from the list below.  If you register for the <b>PG Diploma</b> you will study all core and compulsory modules (EXCEPT the research project). You will also choose 3 elective modules from the list below.					
Code	Module Title	Core/Compulsory/Elective	Group	Term	Credits
NHLI70001	Foundations of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences	Core		Autumn-Spring	15
NHLI70010	Study Design	Compulsory		Autumn-Spring	7.5
NHLI70007	Reflection and Evaluation of Clinical Practice	Compulsory		Spring-Summer	7.5
NHLI70006	Quality in Cardiovascular and Respiratory Healthcare	Compulsory		Summer	7.5
NHLI70008	Research Project (MSc only)	Core (MSc only)		Spring-Summer	30
NHLI70002	Cardiovascular Health: Prevention and Rehabilitation	Elective		Spring-Summer	7.5
NHLI70004	Innovations in the Management of Cardiovascular Disease: Acute and Community	Elective		Spring	7.5
NHLI70005	Pulmonary Rehabilitation and Community Respiratory Care	Elective		Spring	7.5
NHLI70009	Respiratory Failure and Respiratory Support	Elective		Spring	7.5
Credit Total					90

- 'Group' refers to module grouping (e.g. a group of electives from which one/two module(s) must be chosen).

<sup>1</sup> **Core** modules are those which serve a fundamental role within the curriculum, and for which achievement of the credits for that module is essential for the achievement of the target award. Core modules must therefore be taken and passed in order to achieve that named award. **Compulsory** modules are those which are designated as necessary to be taken as part of the programme syllabus. Compulsory modules can be compensated. **Elective** modules are those which are in the same subject area as the field of study and are offered to students in order to offer an element of choice in the curriculum and from which students are able to select. Elective modules can be compensated.

## Programme Structure PART TIME

### FHEQ Level 7

If you register for the **MSc part-time**

**Year 1** you will study 1 core and 1 compulsory taught module: Foundations of Cardiovascular & Respiratory Sciences and Quality in Cardiovascular and Respiratory Healthcare and choose 1 or 2 elective modules from the list below.

**Year 2** you will study 2 compulsory taught modules, Study Design and Reflection and Evaluation of Clinical Practice, take the Research Project module and choose 1 or 2 elective modules.

If you register for the **PG Diploma part-time**

**Year 1** you will study the core taught module Foundations of Cardiovascular & Respiratory Sciences and choose 1 or 2 elective modules from the list below.

**Year 2** you will study 3 compulsory taught modules: Study Design, Reflection and Evaluation of Clinical Practice, Quality in Cardiovascular and Respiratory Healthcare and choose 1 or 2 elective modules.

If you register for the **PG Certificate part-time**

**Year 1** you will study the Foundations of Cardiovascular & Respiratory Sciences core module, **and** you will also choose 2 elective modules from the list below.

Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective	Group	Term	Credits
NHLI70001	Foundations of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences	Core		Autumn-Spring	15
NHLI70010	Study Design	Compulsory		Autumn-Spring	7.5
NHLI70007	Reflection and Evaluation of Clinical Practice	Compulsory  Elective for post grad cert only		Spring-Summer	7.5
NHLI70006	Quality in Cardiovascular and Respiratory Healthcare	Compulsory		Summer	7.5
NHLI70008	Research Project (MSc part-time only)	Core		Yr1:Summer Yr2:Autumn-Summer	30
NHLI70002	Cardiovascular Health: Prevention and Rehabilitation	Elective		Spring-Summer	7.5
NHLI70004	Innovations in the Management of Cardiovascular Disease: Acute and Community	Elective		Spring	7.5
NHLI70005	Pulmonary Rehabilitation and Community Respiratory Care	Elective		Spring	7.5
NHLI70009	Respiratory Failure and Respiratory Support	Elective		Spring	7.5
Credit Total					90

## Progression and Classification

### 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 a minimum of 30 credits at Level 7.

#### Award of a Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip)

To qualify for the award of a postgraduate diploma you must have:

1. passed modules to the value of no fewer than 60 credits at Level 7.
2. no more than 10 credits as a Compensated Pass.

#### Award of a Masters Degree (MSc)

To qualify for the award of a postgraduate degree you must have:

1. Accumulated credit to the value of no fewer than 90 credits at level 7.
2. no more than 15 credits as a Compensated Pass;
3. met any specific requirements for an award as outlined in the approved programme specification for that award.

#### Classification of Postgraduate Taught Awards

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

1. **Distinction:** 70.00% or above
2. **Merit:** 60.00% or above but less than 70.00%.
3. **Pass:** 50.00% or above but less than 60.00%.

For a Masters, your classification will be determined through:

- The Programme Overall Weighted Average and the designated dissertation or final major project module 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

If you are registered for the **PG Cert or PG Diploma** and wish to continue on the programme without a break you can transfer your registration to the PG Diploma or MSc after completing the core modules (Foundations of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences and 2 other modules), provided you have demonstrated satisfactory academic progress.

If you are registered for the **PG Diploma** then you can transfer your registration to the MSc after completing the core modules for your programme plus 3 further modules, providing you have demonstrated satisfactory academic progress.

If you register for and successfully complete the PG Certificate, you may use the credit gained towards registration for the PG Diploma or the MSc at a later point, provided that you complete the PG Diploma within 4 years and the MSc within 5 years from initial registration for the PG certificate. You may be asked to surrender the associated PG Certificate and/or PG Diploma on registration for the higher award.



## Supporting Information

The Programme Handbook is available on Blackboard.

Module information is available within the programme handbook on Blackboard.

Imperial's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at:  
[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate-taught/entry-requirements/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate-taught/entry-requirements/)

Imperial's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at:  
[www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance](http://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](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations)

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[www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/university-governance-structure/charters/](http://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/](http://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.**