Contribute to modern drug discovery

The **MSc in Next Generation Drug Discovery** will provide you with the knowledge to develop a career around new approaches to drug discovery. You will be introduced to the most up to date methods for identifying the most suitable molecular targets against which to develop effective medicines and will study the challenges in developing novel drugs.

The **MSc in Drug Discovery and Protein Biotechnology** will introduce you to the design and improvement of different families of proteins. The modern pharmaceutical industry encompasses the development of 'biologics', for example antibodies and protein hormones, as much as it does traditional small-molecule drug discovery.

Scholarships, funding and fees
For up to date information visit: **www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding**

Online programme structure

Our distance-learning programmes are part-time and taught entirely online, for example via virtual classrooms, peer-to-peer discussion and interactive exercises.

Studying online means you can gain a qualification while still meeting your professional and personal commitments and our programmes offer maximum flexibility. You can opt for our fast-track option to complete the MSc in two years, or you can spread your degree programme over a maximum of six years.

You can tailor the programme to suit your needs and available time, three exit awards are available; Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma or Master of Science. You can opt for any of the awards in the first instance, with the opportunity to continue on to the higher awards following completion.

You will take six taught courses in each of the two first years of the MSc – a mixture of compulsory and optional courses. In your final year you will pursue a research project leading to a dissertation.

Compulsory courses

Year 1 (Certificate year)
Professional Skills in Drug Discovery
Measuring Drug Binding
Structure Determination of Drug Targets
Introduction to Modelling Biological Systems

Year 2 (Diploma year)
Systems Approach to Modelling Cell Signal Transduction
In silico Drug Discovery
Molecular Modelling
High Throughput Drug Discovery
Commercial Aspects of Drug Discovery

Optional courses

You will select two optional courses in your first year in addition to the compulsory courses.

Year 1 (Certificate year)
Introduction to Biological Kinetics
Computing Skills for Drug Discovery
Chemistry for Drug Discovery
Druggable Systems

Year 2 (Diploma year)
If taking the MSc Next Generation Drug Discovery, you will also need to complete:
Modelling Metabolic Pathways

If opting for the MSc Drug Discovery and Protein Biotechnology you will also need to take: Biologics and Protein Design

Assessment

Each course is assessed by continuous assessment. There are no formal written examinations and you will not be required to visit Edinburgh at any point nor to visit a local exam centre.

Research project

You will undertake a research project in the third year of the programme resulting in a dissertation. This exciting opportunity is a vital part of your degree, allowing you to delve deeper into research in this field.

The research project is done entirely online and personal supervision is given by direct video link.

Entry requirements

A UK minimum 2:1 first degree or its international equivalent in a biological subject.

The international equivalent of a UK qualification can be checked on the University website at **www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/country**.

Programme delivery and duration

This is a part-time distance education programme delivered fully online from September.

PGCert: flexible study 12–24 months
PGDip: flexible study 18–48 months
MSc: flexible study 24–72 months

Tuition fees (2014/15)

UK/EU students: £9,300 per annum
Overseas students: £20,550 per annum

Scholarships and funding

The University offers a distance learning master's scholarship specifically for online, part-time postgraduate programmes.
For more information please visit **www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/student-funding/postgraduate/e-learning**.

English language requirements

IELTS Academic Module 6.5 (with at least 6.0 in each section)
TOEFL-iBT 92 (with at least 20 in each section)

More information about other qualifications we accept is online at **www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/english**.

How to apply

Apply online using the application link beside each programme in the online prospectus: **www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/finder**.

Contact us

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www.ed.ac.uk/biology/drug-discovery-online

The University of Edinburgh is one of the world's top 20 universities.*

* QS World Rankings 2013