

MSc Tissue Engineering for Regenerative Medicine

Description

1. Introduction

1.01 Welcome to the University of Manchester and the School of Biological Sciences

1.02 This handbook is accurate at the start of the 2025/6 academic year

[intense_snippet snippet_id=18600 snippet_title=SBS Welcome from Head of School 25-26]

1.04 Key Contacts

If you have any queries or concerns at any time during your period of study at The University of Manchester, there is a range of people you can approach. The Programme Administration Teams will be your first point of call for general issues. Alternatively, you may wish to contact the Programme Director for specific aspects to do with the course or your Academic Advisor for career development issues. If you wish to raise a confidential matter at School level, you should approach the Head of Teaching, Learning and Student Experience – contact details below.

Responsibility for overall management of the Programme lies with the Programme Director who has assembled a Programme Committee, which meets regularly, to advise on content, structure, management, student supervision, and regulatory matters such as Programme improvement and refinement. The Committee also includes the student representative who is democratically elected by you to attend these meetings.

Programme Administration Team

Your first point of call should be directed as follows:

- Student SharePoint site:
- [School of Biological Sciences Student Information Home](#)
- Student Hub
 ☎ sbs.hub@manchester.ac.uk
- Student Support
 ☎ sbs.wellbeing@manchester.ac.uk
- Assessments
 ☎ sbs.assessment@manchester.ac.uk

- Programmes and Curriculum
 â?¢ sbs.programmes@manchester.ac.uk

Student Representatives

â?¢ To be appointed democratically

Director of Education (UG and PGT)

â?¢ Professor Nicky High

â?¢ nicky.high@manchester.ac.uk

Head of Teaching, Learning and Student Experience

â?¢ Kerry Mycock

â?¢ kerry.mycock@manchester.ac.uk

Teaching and Learning Manager

â?¢ Kelly Salimian

â?¢ kelly.salimian@manchester.ac.uk

Student Service, Support & Development Manager

â?¢ Sam Green

â?¢ sam.green-1@manchester.ac.uk

Programme Director

â?¢ Dr Joe Swift

â?¢ joe.swift@manchester.ac.uk

Deputy Programme Director

â?¢ Professor Jason Wong

â?¢ jason.k.wong@manchester.ac.uk

1.05 Key dates in the academic year

A summary of the key dates is given below and additional information can be found here:

<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/discover/key-dates/>

[intense_snippet snippet_id=â?•19128â?³ snippet_title=â?•SBS â?? Responsibilities of staff and studentsâ?•]

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1.09 Changes/Updates to your personal details recorded in the Student System

It is your responsibility to ensure that the Student System is kept up to date with changes to your recorded personal or programme details. Any change of personal details must be completed online via My Manchester. Incorrect information can lead to problems with your fees and funding, at Examination times and with other official processes.

Please read guidance available on the University of Manchester Student Support webpage for details on [Updating your bank details](#) and changes to your [personal information](#) (for example, your address or name).

If you need any help, please contact the [Student Support Hub](#).

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[intense_snippet snippet_id=â?•18635â?³ snippet_title=â?•SBS â?? Developing Digital Skills 25-26â?³]

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2. About your programme

2.01 Programme overview for the MSc Tissue Engineering for Regenerative Medicine

2.02 Aims and Learning outcomes of the programme

- Equip students with the knowledge and skills to enable them to pursue a career in academic or industry-based research, or other research-related posts relevant to the field of study
- Provide graduates who will meet the regional, national and international demands for scientist with a broad range of research methods
- Provide highly qualified researchers to contribute to and enhance the excellence of the Faculty's research programmes

On successful completion of the programme students will:

1. Knowledge and Understanding:

- Understand scientific method together with the philosophical contexts within which research is conducted in the field.
- Be familiar with the theoretical and practical basis of the research methods and techniques used in the major sciences basic to medicine.
- Have acquired an understanding of the theory and practise of research methods and techniques.
- Be aware of the practical issues and problems associated with conducting high quality research in medicine, including ethical issues; informed consent; storage of patient information.
- Have a detailed and systematic understanding of a chosen area of biomedical science.

2. Intellectual (thinking) Skills:

- Adopt a reflective and inquisitive attitude to the analysis and evaluation of research in the field.
- Recognise, define, formulate and prioritise research questions that are pertinent to the field.
- Analyse, interpret, objectively evaluate and prioritise information, recognising its limitations.
- Understand and be able to critically appreciate methodology, including the appropriate selection of quantitative or qualitative methods.
- Recognise the importance of rigour in collecting, analysing and interpreting data
- Exhibit creativity and resourcefulness in their professional learning, scientific endeavour and research formulations.

3. Practical Skills:

- Apply appropriate methodologies to specific research questions.
- Demonstrate competence in practical research or clinical skills to enable sound and reproducible collection of data.
- Present information clearly in written, electronic and oral forms, and communicate ideas and arguments effectively.
- Retrieve, manage and manipulate information, including electronically.

4. Transferable Skills:

- Effectively manage time resources and set priorities
- Monitor and realistically evaluate their own performance and personal capability
- Be aware of career opportunities and begin to plan a career path
- Demonstrate scholarship in research
- Demonstrate a capacity for self-directed, independent learning and adopt the principles of reflective practice and lifelong learning
- Deal with uncertainty and work within a changing environment

2.03 Summary of the programme structure

In Semester 1, you will complete BIOL60201 Health and Safety and Academic malpractice course unit (formative), MEDN69910 Research Methods, BIOL66111 Laboratory Skills, BIOL64101 Masterclass. In Semester 2, you will complete BIOL66102 Tutorial, BIOL66121 Research Project 1, BIOL66132

Research Project 2. More information on all course units can be found below.

2.04 Modes of Study

This is a full-time Master's course.

2.05 Programme specification

These documents are stored internally within the School.

2.06 Course Units

All course unit specifications were reviewed March 2025

BIOL64101 Masterclass

[Course unit information | Manchester](#)

MEDN69921 Research Methods

[Course unit information | Manchester](#)

BIOL66111 Laboratory Skills

[Course unit information | Manchester](#)

BIOL66102 Tutorial

[Course unit information | Manchester](#)

BIOL66121 Research Project 1

[Course unit information | Manchester](#)

BIOL66132 Research Project 2

[Course unit information | Manchester](#)

2.07 Information on the way in which a student can progress through the programme

Please be aware this programme has some higher requirements to the University degree regulations and details of these are outlined below:

- The programme will not permit compensation rules to Research Project 1 (BIOL66121)
- Reassessment will be permitted in up to half of the taught units plus Research Project 1 (50% of total number of taught units (60 credits) + Research Project 1 (30 credits) = 45 credits)

The University Postgraduate degree regulations can be found online:

- [Postgraduate Degree Regulations](#)

In order to progress to the dissertation/research project you must have satisfactorily achieved the relevant pass mark in taught course units, including by use of resit and/or compensation as outlined in the degree regulations, in order to continue to this element of the programme.

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2.13 Degree classification algorithm

During your degree programme, you will complete 180 credits; which will comprise of both Taught (teaching-based) course units and two larger Research-based course units. Each course unit carries a weighting in credits and an average is calculated at the end of your degree programme of the marks you have achieved and this serves as your final degree mark out of 100. Course units are counted in to your degree mark based on their weighting in credits, so a 60 credit course unit would be counted in to the average 4 times, whilst a 15 credit course unit would be counted in to the average once. All degree marks are rounded to 1 decimal place. Please see below an example degree mark calculation:

Unit 1 (15 Credits): 67

Unit 2 (15 Credits): 55

Unit 3 (15 Credits): 78

Unit 4 (15 Credits): 70

Unit 5 (30 Credits): 75

Unit 6 (90 Credits): 66

The calculation would be:

$$67 + 55 + 78 + 70 + 75 + 75 + 66 + 66 + 66 + 66 + 66 + 66 = 816 / 12 = 68$$

Please note that in cases where students have approved mitigating circumstances for some of their marks, the final mark may be calculated differently, at the discretion of the exam board, for example a 15 credit unit where the student has under-performed may be excluded from the final calculation.

Degree Classification

For Masters Programmes, students must achieve an overall average of at least 50 to be eligible for an MSc award. If you achieve an average below 50, you will not be awarded an MSc award, but may be eligible for a lower exit award of a Postgraduate Diploma or a Postgraduate Certificate.

Degree classifications are awarded as follows:

Final mark of 50 – 59.9 : Pass

Final mark of 60 – 69.9: Merit

Final mark of 70 or above: Distinction

Classification Review:

For final degree marks which fall within the boundary zone; within 2 marks of the higher classification (68 – 69.9 for a Distinction or 58 – 59.9 for a Merit), the examination board will consider whether there is a case for the student to be awarded the higher classification and in some cases students will be awarded the higher classification where their final degree mark falls in the boundary zone.

PLEASE NOTE: There is no guarantee if your final degree mark falls in the boundary zone that you will be awarded the higher degree classification. This will only be awarded automatically if you have achieved a degree mark above the degree classification boundary (e.g. 70 for a Distinction).

If your mark falls in the boundary zone; you will be awarded the higher degree classification in the following situations:

- If two thirds or more of the credits you have completed during your degree programme (120 credits or more) are marks at the higher degree classification, you will be automatically promoted to the higher degree classification (so 120 credits with marks above 70 would be needed to be promoted to a distinction)
- If you do not have two thirds of credits at the higher classification but are in the boundary zone, there will be an independent review of your final research project by the external examiner who will make a recommendation to the board as to whether or not there is a case for the student being awarded the higher degree classification. The board will then make a decision based on this and on the mark profile whether or not to promote the student to the higher classification. This is at the discretion of the examination board, is not a guarantee, and is a decision that cannot be questioned or challenged.

There is no classification review available for the classification of Pass; any degree mark below 50 cannot be awarded an MSc degree under any circumstances.

3. Assessment and academic standards

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3.04 Laboratory work and practical reports

Not relevant for this programme.

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3.06 Programme-specific assessment requirements

Please be aware this programme has some higher requirements to the University degree regulations and details of these are outlined below:

The programme will not permit compensation rules to BIOL66121 Research Project 1.

Reassessment will be permitted in up to half of the taught units plus BIOL66121 Research Project 1 (50% of total number of taught units (60 credits) + BIOL66121 Research Project 1 (30 credits) = 45 credits).

In order to progress to the dissertation/research project you must have satisfactorily achieved the relevant pass mark in taught course units, including by use of resit and/or compensation as outlined in the degree regulations, in order to continue to this element of the programme. Please note that if you are required to complete one or more resits, you may have already started your research project before you complete the resit. In these cases, if you fail the resit and are exited from the programme, you will not be able to complete your research project even if you have started it already.

The University Postgraduate degree regulations can be found online:

[Postgraduate Degree Regulations](#)

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3.12 External Examiner

External Examiners are individuals from another institution or organisation who monitor the assessment processes of the University to ensure fairness and academic standards. They ensure that assessment and examination procedures have been fairly and properly implemented and that decisions have been made after appropriate deliberation. They also ensure that standards of awards and levels of student performance are comparable with those in equivalent higher education institutions.

The External Examiner for MSc Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine is Dr Tina Chowdhury at Queen Mary University of London

Please note that it is inappropriate for students to make direct contact with External Examiners under any circumstances, in particular with regards to a studentâ??s individual performance in assessments. Other appropriate mechanisms are available for students, including the Universityâ??s appeals or complaints procedures and the UMSU Advice Centre. In cases where a student does contact an External Examiner directly, External Examiners have been requested not to respond to direct queries. Instead, External Examiners should report the matter to the School contact who will then contact the student to remind them of the other methods available for students.

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4. Student Voice

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4.03 Role of the Programme meeting

The PGT Programme meeting meets three times a year. The committeeâ??s functions and responsibilities are to maintain the standards of teaching, to evaluate and revise the programme in the light of feedback, to monitor student progression and to provide a forum for discussion between the University and the students.

The meeting reviews the annual monitoring report and acts on recommendations arising from the annual monitoring process.

The membership of the meeting includes: the Programme Directors; the Programme Administration Team; Teaching Staff and Student Representatives.

The PGT Programme meeting reports to the PGT Programme Committee.

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5. Attendance requirements, interruptions and mitigating circumstances

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5.04 Procedure for reporting ill health

Absence from examinations due to ill health

You should make every effort to participate in all examinations. It will not be possible to make special arrangements to take the exams in an alternative location, unless this has been arranged through the Disability Advisory Support Service.

If you are so ill you are unable to take an exam, you **must** contact the SBS Hub â?? email sbs.hub@manchester.ac.uk or telephone **0161 275 1387** as soon as possible, and certainly **no later than the day and start time of your examination**. You should complete a Mitigating Circumstances application which must be accompanied by appropriate evidence.

Illness not resulting in absence from examinations

You may be unwell but able to proceed with an examination but feel that your performance will have been impaired. If you wish this to be taken into account, you must follow the same procedures as stated in the earlier Section Absence from Examinations due to Ill Health by applying for mitigation. Note that typical levels of exam stress that are not diagnosed as a long-term condition, would not normally be considered a mitigating circumstance. If you anticipate or experience high levels of stress related to your exams, or studies in general, we strongly recommend you contact the Student Support and Wellbeing team (sbs.wellbeing@manchester.ac.uk), who will be able to support you.

[intense_snippet snippet_id=â?•18693â?³ snippet_title=â?•SBS â?? How to change, interrupt or 25-26â?³]

[intense_snippet snippet_id=â?•18695â?³ snippet_title=â?•SBS â?? Mitigating circumstances 25-26â?³]

[intense_snippet snippet_id=â?•18697â?³ snippet_title=â?•SBS â?? Policy on Supporting Health 25-26â?³]

6. Support for students

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[intense_snippet snippet_id=â?•18705â?³ snippet_title=â?•SBS â?? Counselling and Mental Health Service 25-26â?³]

[intense_snippet snippet_id=â?•18707â?³ snippet_title=â?•SBS -Disability Advisory and Support Service 25-26â?³]

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