



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

**MSc Medical  
Biochemistry**

**Course Code: MSMBC**

**2021/22**

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

# MSc Medical Biochemistry MSMBC

## Material Information Summary for 2021/22 Postgraduate Applicants

Confirmed at 04/05/21

### General Information

<b>Award</b>	Master of Science Medical Biochemistry MSMBC
<b>Contained Awards</b>	Post Graduate Certificate Medical Biochemistry Post Graduate Diploma Medical Biochemistry
<b>Awarding Body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of Qualification &amp; Credits</b>	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England
<b>Course Lengths &amp; Standard Timescales</b>	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length of the course is confirmed below and modes of delivery will be confirmed prior to the start date in line with Government guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full Time 1 year</li><li>• Part Time 2 years</li></ul>
<b>Part Time Study</b>	The part time route for this course is two days per week or the equivalent in part days over two years, with a full week allocated for the Extended Lab Week module during Semester 3 of year 1.
<b>Location(s) of Delivery</b>	City Campus, Leeds
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <a href="http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning">www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning</a> .  Admissions enquiries may be directed to: <a href="mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a> .
<b>Course Fees</b>	Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to <a href="mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a> .

### Timetable Information

Timetables will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Outlook Calendar
- ii) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)

iii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

## **Policies, Standards and Regulations** ([www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations))

Distinction will be awarded to those students who have demonstrated excellent performance as evidenced by the attainment of an average of 70% or more in assessments contributing to the final award. Merit will be awarded to those students who have demonstrated excellent performance as evidenced by the attainment of an average of 60% or more in assessments contributing to the final award.

### **Key Contacts**

<b>Your Course Director</b>	Dr Donna Johnson
<b>Your Academic Advisor</b>	Allocated on arrival
<b>Your Course Administrator</b>	<a href="mailto:healthsciences@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">healthsciences@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a>

## **Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course**

**Professional Body** Royal Society of Biology

### **Accreditation/ Recognition Summary**

This programme has been accredited by the Royal Society of Biology. Masters Accreditation by the Society recognises programmes that support the development of specific skill sets, competencies and training which will enhance life and health science research. Accredited degrees fulfil the academic component of the Chartered Scientist programme.

The RSB is the leading professional body for the biological sciences in the UK. The Society represents over 18,000 biologists from all areas of the life sciences, as well as over 100 organisations which make up the diverse landscape of biology in the UK and overseas. The RSB offers members unique opportunities to engage with the life sciences and share their passion for biology.

Graduates from an RSB accredited MSc receive one year of free Associate membership of the RSB which will open up networks at a crucial time when applying for jobs.

Whichever area of biology you wish to gain a career in, membership will help you:

- Stay up to date with what is happening across the life sciences
- Gain additional recognition for your skills and experience
- Develop your professional network
- Demonstrate your support for the future of biology

**Professional Body** Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS)

### **How is Accreditation/ Recognition Achieved?**

IBMS MSc accreditation ensures that a degree course demonstrates that students receive a wide-ranging, research informed scientific education and develop practical skills and experience that employers value.

## Course Overview

### Aims

The aims of the Masters in Medical Biochemistry are:

- To broaden knowledge and understanding of the methods and implications of research in biochemistry and how this relates to a medical/clinical setting
- To enhance specialist and advanced knowledge in medical biochemistry and associated disciplines
- To develop professional, research oriented scientists with excellent communications skills and an innovative and flexible approach to problem-solving
- To develop advanced technical scientific skills to provide a basis for a career in scientific research
- To develop independent, reflective lifelong learners

### Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Demonstrate a thorough and advanced knowledge of key concepts in biochemistry and how they underpin its application in research and medicine.
2	Demonstrate an independent approach to research through the design, execution and analysis of a research project and effectively communicate their findings
3	Develop transferrable skills such as problem solving, decision making, time management, organisation, communication and team working and consider their approaches to leadership and project management and the impact this may have on their future careers.
4	Demonstrate the ability to carry out a range of laboratory and analytical techniques and procedures in line with those of a diagnostic or research laboratory and consider the biochemical principles that underpin them.
5	Consider current developments in biochemistry and how they may impact its use in research and the clinical setting.
6	Critically appraise and integrate aspects of the knowledge base from different disciplines to propose innovative solutions to current issues and demonstrate the ability to formulate a relevant research question.

## Teaching and Learning Activities

### Summary

The Biomedical Sciences masters courses recognise the need for inclusion and aim to provide students with an experience of learning which enhances their inter-cultural awareness, attitudes and abilities. To this end many modules involve students working collaboratively, for example on laboratory projects or within journal clubs, this cooperative learning not only supports student learning, but also fosters an inclusive environment and inter-cultural awareness.

A variety of learning and teaching strategies are used enabling students from a diverse range of backgrounds to participate and achieve effectively. Methods of delivery differ, from formal lectures, to tutorials and workshops,

journal clubs, laboratory practicals, on line activities both as part of a classroom activity or independently to ensure that all students can adopt an approach which is right for them, with guidance from their personal tutor.

Module tutors have a broad range of backgrounds and experiences, which inform the content and style of their teaching- many have been health professionals or worked in industry before becoming academics. Both the philosophy of the course and the specific activities outlined above ensure that, on completion, students will have a well-developed awareness of their how their values and culture impacts upon the people they will work with.

## Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Semester 1	Core	Semester 2	Core	Semester 3	Core
Preparation for the MSc research project (10c)	Y	Professional development (10c)	Y	Extended Lab Week (10c)	Y
Science Communication (10c)	Y	Genetics of drug responses (10c)	Y		
Molecular Cell Biology and Physiology (10c)	Y	Protein Science (10c)	Y		
Immunology (10c)	Y	Metabolic Biochemistry (10c)	Y		
Advanced Practical Skills in Biomedical Science (30c)	Y	Advanced Practical Skills in Biomedical Science (30c)	Y		
		Research Project 60c	Y		Y

## Part Time

### Year 1

Semester 1	Core	Semester 2	Core	Semester 3	Core
Preparation for the MSc Research Project (10c)	Y	Protein Science (10c)	Y	Extended Lab Week (10c)	Y
Molecular Cell Biology and Physiology (10c)	Y	Metabolic Biochemistry (10c)	Y		
Immunology (10c)	Y	Research Project (60c)	Y		Y
Science Communication (10c)	Y				

### Year 2

Semester 1	Core	Semester 2	Core	Semester 3
		Professional Development (10c)	Y	
		Genetics of drug responses (10c)	Y	
Advanced Practical Skills in Biomedical Sciences (30c)	Y	Advanced Practical Skills in Biomedical Sciences (30c)	Y	
		Research Project (60c)	Y	Y

## Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard 20 credit module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

### Assessment

On this course students will be assessed via a range of assessment activities including a lab exam, coursework and written exams. In addition, students must produce a masters thesis detailing the results of their research project

### Workload

Approximate Overall Workload for the Course	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	325 hours
Independent Study	1475 hours

## Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

If you have any questions about life at our University in general, call into or contact the Student Advice Hub on either campus. This team, consisting of recent graduates and permanent staff, are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. There is a Student Advice Hub on the ground floor of the Rose Bowl at City Campus and one in Campus Central at Headingley. You can also find the team in the Gateway in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus. Email enquiries may be directed to [studentadvicehub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:studentadvicehub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.

