



SECTION 1: KEY PROGRAMME DETAILS

PROGRAMME INFORMATION	
Final Award Title	<p>MSc Biomedical Science</p> <p>With specialist routes leading to a number of bracketed specialist titles to appear on the certificates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSc Biomedical Science (Medical Genetics) MSc Biomedical Science (Haematology) MSc Biomedical Science (Immunology) MSc Biomedical Science (Clinical Biochemistry) MSc Biomedical Science (Cellular Pathology) MSc Biomedical Science (Medical Microbiology)
Default Award Title (Exit Award)	Not applicable
Interim Award Titles (Exit Awards)	<p>PGDip Biomedical Science (where the project and 60 other credits achieved)</p> <p>PGDip Biomedicine (where 120 credits taught content achieved)</p> <p>PGCert Biomedicine (where any 60 credits achieved)</p>
Awarding Institution	University of the West of England, Bristol
Teaching Institutions	No other institutions
Partner Institutions	No other institutions
Delivery Locations	University of the West of England, Bristol – Frenchay Campus
Study Abroad / Exchange / Credit Recognition	Not applicable
Faculty Responsible For Programme	Faculty of Health and Applied Science
Department Responsible For Programme	Department of Applied Sciences
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) Links	Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS)
Apprenticeship	No
Mode of Delivery	<p>FT (Attendance – 1 year)</p> <p>PT (Attendance – 2 years (eligible for PG loan))</p> <p>PT (Attendance – 3 years (NOT eligible for PG loan))</p>

PROGRAMME INFORMATION	
Entry Requirements	<p>The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions/exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An honours degree from a UK University or Institute of Higher Education, at the level of a lower second or above in a relevant subject with a significant biomedical, biological or biochemical content, as determined by the Programme Leader (or nominated representative) related to the specialist subject to be studied • Such other qualifications and experience deemed equivalent by the Programme Leader in subject content and level of attainment to any of the above, for overseas applications NARIC (UK National Recognition Information Centre) comparison will be applied • Applicants whose previous study has been undertaken overseas will need to meet the English Proficiency requirements as detailed on the University website – these may vary over time, therefore applicants should check the UWE website at time of applying
For Implementation From	September 2021 Intake
Programme Codes	

PART B: FOR STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES COMPLETION ONLY	
First UVP Approval Date	
Date of Last Revalidation (through Programme Enhancement Review)	<i>25 January 2021</i>
Next Programme Enhancement Review Date	

SECTION 2: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW, AIMS and LEARNING OUTCOMES

PART A: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW, AIMS and LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. (Programme) Overview (c. 400 words)

The MSc Biomedical Science programme enables you to develop a deeper knowledge in your preferred specialized area of biomedical science (you can choose from Medical Genetics, Haematology, Immunology, Clinical Biochemistry, Cellular Pathology or Medical Microbiology) whilst maintaining an awareness of advances in the wider discipline. You will learn the details of methods that underpin your chosen discipline, and develop practical skills through laboratory sessions; you will be supported in developing your ability to transfer ideas from one setting to another, and you will also be supported in developing your ability to critically analyse a range of sources of information.

You will be assessed using activities that replicate many skills required in a career in biomedical science; whether in clinical, industrial or research sectors. Your research project makes up a third of your degree and here you undertake a substantial piece of research in the laboratory which you then present in a range of professional relevant formats (a written thesis similar to a published paper, a conference style poster presentation and a *viva voce* defence similar to that used in doctoral study in the UK). The programme is structured to enable you to practice the range of academic skills that support the final thesis so that by the time you get to the final thesis and viva you are familiar with the expectations of these styles of presentation.

UWE, Bristol has a long history of providing postgraduate education in biomedical science and works to the IBMS accreditation requirements to meet the expectation of the professional body for biomedical scientists in the UK. However, the course does not just support students that intend to work in clinical diagnostic laboratories. It also provides a solid foundation if you are considering progressing on to undertake careers in research and/or industry.

The course is designed to be taken in one year if studied full-time; this makes the course intensive and requires approximately 40 hours per week of study time. The course can also now be taken in a formally structured two year part-time format which is eligible for PG funding, or a three year part-time format that IS NOT eligible for PG loan funding. You should consider carefully which route of study suits your financial and time availability.

Whichever version of the course you study the staff will support you in your endeavours. The course will be challenging as a masters course should be, but the course is designed to enable you to transition from the end of your undergraduate degree to the higher academic level expected at masters level. The programme team are committed to helping you thrive by providing a challenging but supportive environment.

2. Educational Aims (c. 4-6 aims)

- To provide opportunities for postgraduate students from a range of biological and biomedical backgrounds to develop and realise their potential in a supportive and responsive environment.
- To enable learners to develop their specialist-subject knowledge and also develop their transferable skills at masters level.
- To offer a coherent yet flexible programme of study at postgraduate level, with a variety of attendance modes.
- To develop the masters level skillset expected by employers to enable students to progress in their chosen sector of biomedical science.

3. Programme Learning Outcomes (c. 6-8 outcomes)

Learning outcomes from this programme are derived from the expectations contained in the QAA Benchmark Statement for Biomedical Science (October 2019), the QAA Master's Degree

PART A: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW, AIMS and LEARNING OUTCOMES

Characteristics Statement (September 2015) and the IBMS Criteria and Requirements for the Accreditation and Re-accreditation of MSc degrees in Biomedical Science (October 2016)

Programme (Learning) Outcomes (POs)

No.	PO Text
PO1	Students will have developed a masters level knowledge in their chosen specialist-subject, and an awareness of the broader context of biomedical science.
PO2	Students will have developed their ability to critically evaluate a range of information sources in relation to biomedical science.
PO3	Students will have developed their ability to structure and defend an evidence-based viewpoint.
PO4	Students will have developed a range of professional and transferable skills, and have become more adept at taking responsibility for their own learning choices and preferences.
PO5	Students will have developed their written and oral presentation of scientific material to both specialist and lay audiences.
PO6	Students will have undertaken an extended research project, developing the skills of research from planning, through data generation and analysis, to presentation of the results in a range of professionally relevant formats.

4. Programme (Learning) Outcomes (POs) Mapping

All modules within the programme are taken by all students – specialist route is determined by choices made within modules not by module selection. Therefore all students work to the same programme learning outcomes regardless of specialist subject.

The MSc Biomedical Science is programmatic by design and ethos – activities interlink significantly between modules. Therefore in this mapping the bold "X" indicates the module(s) where the programme learning outcome is most strongly developed and assessed and the non-bold "X" indicates the modules that support the skill development. In particular USSJYS-15-M and USSJYT-30-M are first semester modules with assessments that support the second and third semester module assessments. All other modules support the Research Project module (USSJ6C-60-M) to some extent either through knowledge or skill development.

<i>Programme Outcomes:</i>	Module No: USSJYS-15-M	Module No: USSJYT-30-M	Module No: USSKL3-30-M	Module No: USSKFS-45-M	Module No: USSJ6C-60-M
PO1: Students will have developed a masters level knowledge in their chosen specialist-subject, and an awareness of the broader context of biomedical science	X	X	X	X	X
PO2: Students will have developed their ability to critically evaluate a range of information sources in relation to biomedical science		X	X	X	X
PO3: Students will have developed their ability to structure and defend an evidence based viewpoint		X	X	X	X
PO4: Students will have developed a range of professional and transferable skills, and have become more adept at taking responsibility for their own learning choices and preferences	X	X	X	X	X
PO5: Students will have developed their written and oral presentation of scientific material to both specialist and lay audiences	X	X	X	X	X
PO6: Students will have undertaken an extended research project, developing the skills of research from planning, through data generation and analysis, to presentation of the results in a range of professionally relevant formats	X	X	X	X	X

PART B: PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**1. Structure (Full-time)**

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student** including:

- level and credit requirements
- interim award titles
- compulsory and optional modules

Year: Full Time 1 year**Interim awards:**

PGCert Biomedicine where any 60 credits from the programme are completed.

PGDip Biomedicine when the 120 credits of taught modules in the programme are completed.

PGDip Biomedical Science when the 60 credit project module and another 60 credits are completed

Final award:

MSc Biomedical Science requires 180 credits.

Specialist routes are designated based on the specialist subject route selected by the student in USSKFS-45-M and for their Research Project (USSJ6C-60-M) - where the two align the specialism will be added, where they differ the student will be awarded the degree without a specialist route in brackets.

Compulsory modules

Module Code	Module Title	Level	Credit
USSJYS-15-M	Practical Skills for Biomedical Science (first semester)	M	15
USSJYT-30-M	Research and Diagnostic Methodologies (first semester)	M	30
USSKL3-30-M	Current Issues in Biomedical Science (second semester)	M	30
USSKFS-45-M	Advanced Specialist-Subject Studies (full year)	M	45
USSJ6C-60-M	Research Project (full year)	M	60

2a. Structure (part-time) - 2 year version

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from entry through to Graduation for a typical **part-time student** on the **TWO** year format including:

- level and credit requirements
- interim award titles
- compulsory and optional modules

Year: 1.1

Interim award: PGCert Biomedicine requires 60 credits at the appropriate level.

Compulsory modules

Module Code	Module Title	Level	Credit
USSJYS-15-M	Practical Skills for Biomedical Science	M	15
USSJYT-30-M	Research and Diagnostic Methodologies	M	30
USSKFS-45-M	Advanced Specialist-Subject Studies	M	45

Year: 1.2

Interim awards:

PGCert Biomedicine requires 60 credits at the appropriate level.

PGDip Biomedicine or PGDip Biomedical Science requires 120 credits at the appropriate level – awards differentiated as previously indicated.

Final award:

MSc Biomedical Science requires 180 credits.

Specialist routes are designated based on the specialist subject route selected by the student in USSKFS-45-M and for their Research Project (USSJ6C-60-M) - where the two align the specialism will be added, where they differ the student will be awarded the degree without a specialist route in brackets.

Compulsory modules

Module Code	Module Title	Level	Credit
USSKL3-30-M	Current Issues in Biomedical Science	M	30
USSJ6C-60-M	Research Project	M	60

2b: Structure (part-time) - 3 year version

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from entry through to Graduation for a typical **part-time student** on the **THREE** year including:

- level and credit requirements
- interim award titles
- compulsory and optional modules

Year: 1.1

Interim award: PGCert Biomedicine requires *60 credits* at the appropriate level.

Compulsory modules

Module Code	Module Title	Level	Credit
USSJYS-15-M	Practical Skills for Biomedical Science	M	15
USSKFS-45-M	Advanced Specialist-Subject Studies	M	45

Year: 1.2**Interim awards:**

PGCert Biomedicine requires 60 credits at the appropriate level.

PGDip Biomedicine requires 120 credits at the appropriate level

Compulsory modules

Module Code	Module Title	Level	Credit
USSKL3-30-M	Current Issues in Biomedical Science	M	30
USSJYT-30-M	Research and Diagnostic Methodologies	M	30

Year: 1.3**Interim awards:**

PGCert Biomedicine requires 60 credits at the appropriate level

PGDip Biomedicine or PGDip Biomedical Science requires 120 credits at the appropriate level – awards differentiated as previously indicated.

Final award:

MSc Biomedical Science requires 180 credits...

Specialist routes are designated based on the specialist subject route selected by the student in USSKFS-45-M and for their Research Project (USSJ6C-60-M) - where the two align the specialism will be added, where they differ the student will be awarded the degree without a specialist route in brackets.

Compulsory modules

Module Code	Module Title	Level	Credit
USSJ6C-60-M	Research Project	M	60

PART C: HIGHER EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT RECORD (HEAR) SYNOPSIS

The course enables students to develop a deeper knowledge in their chosen specialized area ((Haematology, Medical Microbiology, Clinical Biochemistry, Medical Genetics, Immunology or Cellular Pathology) as indicated on their certificate) of biomedical science whilst maintaining an awareness of advances in the wider discipline. Students learn the details of methods that underpin their chosen specialist area and develop practical skills through laboratory sessions. Students are assessed using activities that replicate many skills required in a career in biomedical science; including report writing and presentations. The individualised research project is taken in the student's chosen specialism and is a crucial assessment where students undertake a substantial piece of research in the laboratory which they then report in a written thesis similar in style to a published paper and defend in a viva voce examination.

PART D: EXTERNAL REFERENCE POINTS AND BENCHMARKS

The MSc Biomedical Science has been designed to map to the QAA Benchmark Statement for Biomedical Science alongside the QAA Master's Characteristics Degree Statement (as the benchmark statement does not explicitly address masters level). In addition the programme has held IBMS accreditation for at least 15 years and maps to the IBMS accreditation/reaccreditation requirements.

PART E: REGULATIONS

A: Approved to [University Regulations and Procedures](#)