

Postdoc volunteers needed to lead journal clubs for fourth year MSci students

Background to the role

Our MSci degrees include an integrated master's year during which students carry out an 8 month research project with a supervisor of their choice. Students have indicated that they would like to have more opportunities to interact with other MSci students and researchers outside the lab group they are based in. Hence, this year we would like to offer students the option of taking part in Journal Clubs led by postdoc volunteers. Each Journal Club will focus on a paper chosen in advance by the postdoc leader, and will provide students with an opportunity to discuss scientific literature with their peers and a researcher in the field (you!). Journal clubs will be optional for students and will not form part of the course assessment. A schedule of Journal Clubs will be set up at the start of the academic year and students will be able to sign up for those that are of interest to them.

Role Outline

Postdocs will work under the guidance of the MSci project coordinator (Lisa Swanton). The role of the Journal Club leader is to choose a paper, communicate with students via email to arrange venue/time, and facilitating discussion at the Journal Club. The format of the Journal Club is at the postdoc leader's discretion, but guidance and suggestions can be provided. We are looking to recruit at least 10 postdocs, and envisage that Journal Clubs will be attended by 5-10 students.

Person Specification

Some prior experience of participating in Journal Clubs would be useful but is not necessary as guidance can be provided.

In addition you should

- Have good communication skills
- Have an interest in supporting and encouraging students' learning
- Have a willingness to undertake the duties described in the role outline

Time Commitment

It is anticipated that each Journal Club will require ~1 hour face to face contact, plus additional time for preparation and responding to student queries. Journal Clubs will run October 2019 – March 2020 and dates can be arranged as convenient. Postdocs can volunteer to lead one or more Journal Clubs (with the agreement of their supervisor).

How to apply

For further information, please contact the MSci project coordinator lisa.swanton@manchester.ac.uk Office: A4015 Michael Smith Building, Tel: 51554.

To apply, please email a brief summary your research interests and area of expertise (eg. protein quality control, ER stress response/UPR, molecular cell biology) as soon as possible and by Friday 30th August at the latest.