MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

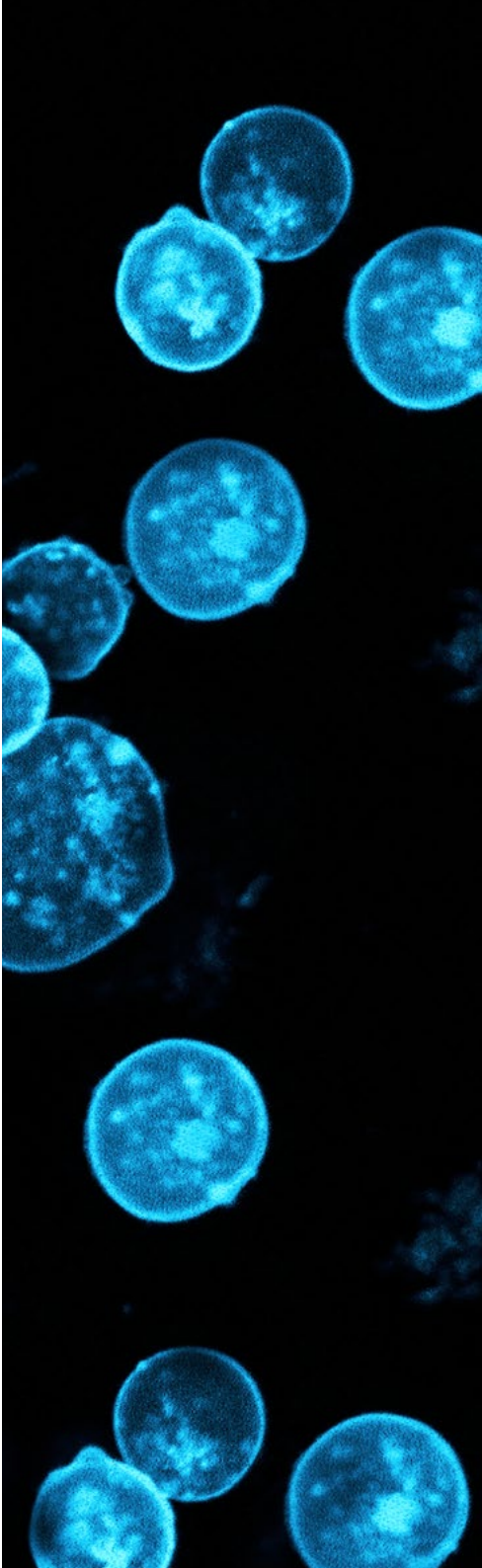
2026/27 ACADEMIC YEAR

MSc | PGDip | PGCert 100% ONLINE

TRANSFORMATIVE ONCOLOGY

CONTENTS

Course overview	4
Who is this course for?	6
Benefits to your career	7
Real-world experience	8
Course units	9-35
Study timeline	36-37
Online learning at a glance	38
Online learning in practice	39
Application and admissions	40
Fees and funding	41
Cathy's story	42
Why Manchester?	44



COURSE OVERVIEW

In 2022, there were an estimated 20 million new cancer cases worldwide. There is an ever-growing need for understanding, learning and innovation in cancer treatment.

This pioneering course is designed to empower you to understand the underlying biology of cancer and the diversity of tumours and patients through multidisciplinary, innovative approaches with the goal of adopting a holistic view to develop personalised strategies for cancer.

MSc, PGDip, PGCert

Next enrolment: September 2026

MSc: 3-5 years
PGDip: 2-4 years
PGCert: 1-3 years

MSc: £17,300
PGDip: £11,600
PGCert: £5,800

Access video lectures and course materials such as podcasts, audio, text and video

Approx. 15-20 hours per week

Latest industry techniques, theory and methods.

24/7 library access

A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Division of Cancer Sciences provides a focus for cancer research activity within the Faculty of Biology Medicine and Health. It combines an internationally leading academic reputation with the largest clinical cancer service in the UK.

Explore the Division of Cancer Sciences ↗

A GLOBAL APPROACH

The course brings together the excellence and global approach of The University of Manchester, The Manchester Cancer Research Centre and The Christie Hospital among other organisations to empower you to take the next step in your career.

MANCHESTER CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE

NHS The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

ACADEMIC'S VOICE

“

I have been working together with the brightest minds in oncology here in Manchester, both scientists and clinicians, to put together a series of units which are research-led, clinically relevant and medically applicable. This course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge to transform outcomes for patients with cancer. It is structured in a way which makes your learning journey flexible and agile so you can directly integrate your studies into your working practises.

DR SUZANNE JOHNSON

Course Director and
Lecturer in the Division of Cancer Sciences

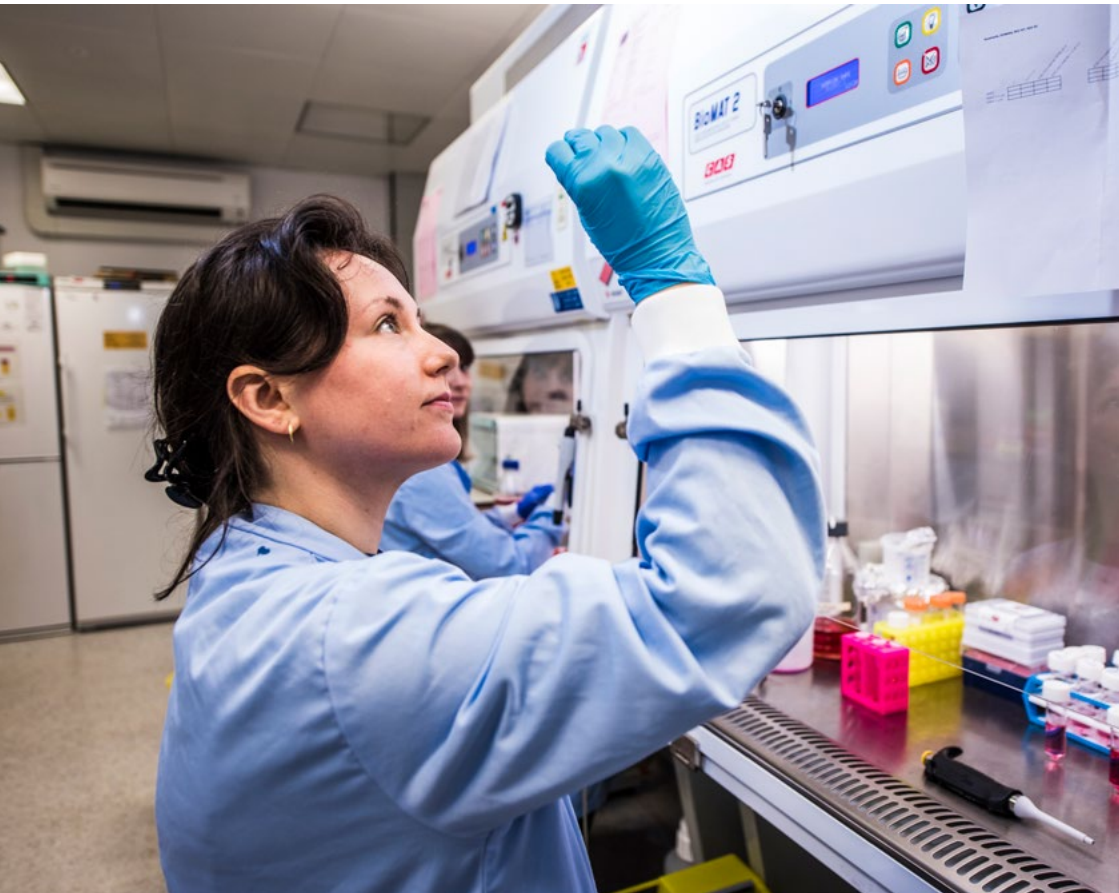
HEAR FROM SUZANNE ↗

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course is designed to reflect the changing needs of cancer care and healthcare more broadly.

If you're a clinician, registered nurse, radiographer, scientist, or other Allied Health Professional in the cancer care pathway and you want to upskill and specialise in the field of oncology, Transformative Oncology is right for you.

Our students come from a variety of backgrounds, whether trainee doctors, biomedical scientists, clinical nurse specialists or other clinical care professionals, studying this course will empower you to specialise and branch out professionally and upskill, transforming clinical outcomes for patients with cancer in the process.



BENEFITS TO YOUR CAREER

Our Transformative Oncology course is designed to develop your skills and bring you up to speed with the latest industry techniques and methods to effectively transform both clinical outcomes for patients with cancer and the future of healthcare.

Through this course, you will enhance your skills in this rapidly evolving field and advance in your career by:

- Benefitting from world-leading specialist oncology researchers, scientists and clinicians
- Drawing on the skills of a multi-disciplinary team linked to The Christie Hospital and other leading cancer organisations
- Having access to world experts in radiotherapy, early detection of cancer and personalised medicine from The Division of Cancer Sciences
- Collaborating and building global relationships, opening doors to the future

You will be learning at the forefront of cancer science and will gain the expert knowledge and specialist skills to truly understand cancer and the way we think about treatment, prevention and care.

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

Transformative Oncology has been designed with working professionals in mind. Throughout the course you'll gain valuable real-world skills that you can apply to your work from day one.

APPLIED RESEARCH

The course content is medically applicable, balanced with cutting edge research, therapeutic strategies and approaches to achieve effective personalised cancer care.

REAL-WORLD CASE STUDIES

Throughout this programme you will gain experience using real-world case studies, learn directly from world leaders and experts in the field of oncology and be equipped to move your practise towards precision oncology. Practice applying your skills in real-life scenarios through our simulation platform, and be prepared for a range of situations.

PATIENT-FOCUSSED TEACHING

Taught from a progressive, patient-focussed and research-guided perspective, Transformative Oncology aims to equip you with the skills to effectively transform clinical outcomes for patients with cancer.

COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

STUDY PATHWAYS

To gain an **MSc,** you'll complete six core 15 credit units, followed by a choice of two of four optional 15 credit units and either 60 credits of Research Skills in Practise or a 60 credit practise-based enquiry project for a total of 180 credits. For a **PGDip**, you'll complete all six core 15 credit units and a choice of two of four optional 15 credit units, totalling 120 credits. For a **PGCert**, you'll complete four core 15 credit units for a total of 60 credits. Explore the course units and study paths below:

01

UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES OF TUMOUR BIOLOGY (15 CREDITS)

+ **Mandatory for MSc, PGDip & PGCert**

+ Building on your background knowledge of basic tumour biology, this unit will extend and update your understanding of how the underlying biology of any tumour might impact detection and treatment success.

02

CANCER IS AN INDIVIDUALISED DISEASE (15 CREDITS)

+ **Mandatory for MSc, PGDip & PGCert**

+ This unit will provide an appreciation of the underlying complexity of individual tumours and an understanding that every patients' cancer experience and treatment journey is different.

03

ESTABLISHED AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS (15 CREDITS)

+ **Mandatory for MSc, PGDip & PGCert**

+ This unit will explore the principles which underpin the rapidly expanding field of Immuno-Oncology and other targeted therapies.

04

THE BRANCHES OF ONCOLOGY (15 CREDITS)

+ **Mandatory for MSc, PGDip & PGCert**

+ This unit will provide you with a thorough understanding of how the 3 branches of oncology: Medical, Clinical and Surgical can complement each other to provide the best possible outcome for patients.

05

THE SCIENCE OF RADIOTHERAPY (15 CREDITS)

+ **Mandatory for MSc & PGDip**

+ This unit will provide an essential understanding of the physics underlying radiotherapy. You will learn about the key developments and current challenges facing the field and how research in Manchester is leading the way with innovative approaches.

06

DELIVERING THE BEST CANCER CARE (15 CREDITS)

+ **Mandatory for MSc & PGDip**

+ Using a patient-centered approach, we will explore the importance of listening to patients, ensuring clear and appropriate communication and the case for shared decision making.

07

STRATEGIES FOR EARLY DETECTION (15 CREDITS)

+ **Optional for MSc & PGDip**

+ This unit will provide a fundamental understanding of the importance of early detection as a power tool to revolutionise cancer patient outcomes.

08

PRINCIPLES OF PERSONALISED MEDICINE (15 CREDITS)

+ **Optional for MSc & PGDip**

+ This unit focusses on key principles and discoveries which underpin the drive towards personalised medicine. In the technological era, both biological and genetic understanding and technological capability are evolving at a rapid rate.

09

EXPERIMENTAL CANCER MEDICINE (15 CREDITS)

+ **Optional for MSc & PGDip**

+ This unit will provide you with a grounding in the key concepts involved in the development of novel systemic anticancer treatments with more in-depth knowledge about the design and delivery of early phase trials.

10

UNDERSTANDING ADVANCED THERAPIES IN THE CANCER SETTING (15 CREDITS)

+ **Optional for MSc & PGDip**

+ This unit will examine the scientific rationale which underpins Advanced Therapy development and delivery, with a focus on cell and gene therapies.

FINAL PROJECT

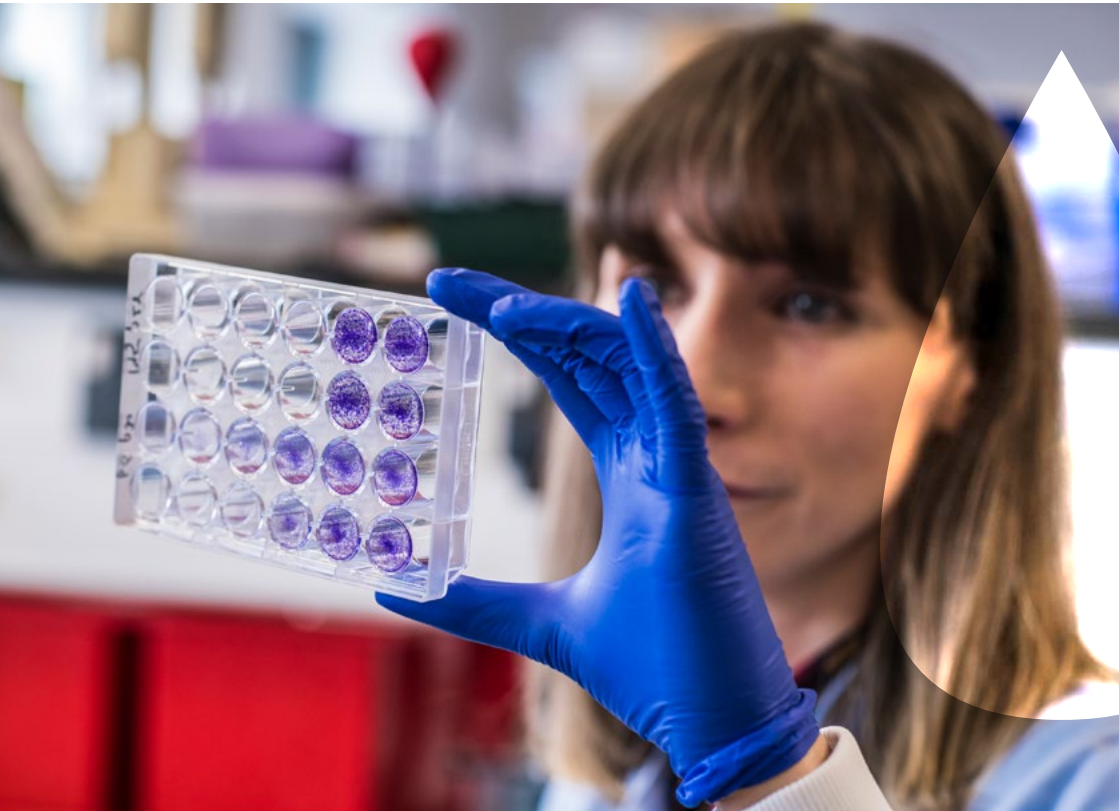
For your final project to gain an MSc, you'll have the choice of either the fully online Research Skills in Practise module, or a practise or lab-based Research Project aligned with your chosen theme.

RESEARCH SKILLS IN PRACTISE (60 CREDITS)

In this fully online unit, transferable skills including formulating a research question, literature review, methodologies, and communication are contextualised with Oncology-specific materials, case studies and examples. Each module attracts 10 credits and you'll be assessed through a range of activities based around the modules.

PRACTISE OR LAB-BASED RESEARCH PROJECT (60 CREDITS)

If you want to gain hands-on experience of research in either a laboratory or clinical setting, we will support you in arranging a suitable placement. There will be an opportunity for a limited number of placements in Manchester. Alternatively, you can arrange your own placement in your home country.



01 UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES OF TUMOUR BIOLOGY

UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES OF TUMOUR BIOLOGY (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit is designed to deepen your knowledge of tumour heterogeneity and its implications for detection and treatment.

It expands on your foundational understanding of tumour biology by focusing on tumour diversity, including cellular composition and the tumour microenvironment.

You'll explore the challenges posed by different tumour types in clinical settings and learn about current strategies used to inform decision-making.

The unit is delivered entirely online, with recorded lectures and online materials as well as interaction with academic staff and peers.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Complexities of Tumour Heterogeneity
- Challenges of Toxicity
- Rarer cancers and non-palpable tumours

WATCH UNIT OVERVIEW ↗

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the complexities of tumour heterogeneity, including cellular diversity and microenvironmental factors.
- Differentiate between tumour types and recognise the clinical challenges each presents.
- Comprehend the mechanisms of cytotoxicity and the effects of various therapeutic strategies.
- Identify and critically assess biomarker sources and methods for tumour analysis.
- Reflect on the challenges of screening for rare and non-palpable tumours.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessment is based on written assignments, a reflective journal, and online tests

Academic Lead: Dr Elham Santina

02 CANCER IS AN INDIVIDUALISED DISEASE

CANCER IS AN INDIVIDUALISED DISEASE (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit focuses on the personalised nature of cancer, where both the tumour and the patient are viewed as unique.

You'll gain a deeper understanding of how genetics, health, and lifestyle choices influence each patient's cancer journey and treatment options.

The unit introduces precision medicine by examining genetic diversity, co-morbidities, and how lifestyle factors impact treatment success and long-term survival.

This unit is delivered online through various materials, including lectures, podcasts, and case studies, with opportunities for real-time interaction with faculty and peers.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Impact of Genetic Diversity
- Complication of Co-Morbidity
- Molecular and Lifestyle Variability

WATCH UNIT OVERVIEW ↗

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the role of genetics in cancer risk and treatment.
- Appreciate the impact of co-morbidities on therapy selection and patient outcomes.
- Critically assess the influence of molecular characteristics and lifestyle choices on treatment success.
- Evaluate current genomic medicine approaches and identify their limitations.
- Reflect on real-world data to individualise cancer care.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments include written assignments, a reflective journal, and online tests

Academic Lead: Prof David Wedge

03 ESTABLISHED AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS

ESTABLISHED AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

The unit provides a comprehensive overview of current and emerging cancer treatment strategies.

You'll explore the principles behind Immuno-Oncology and targeted therapies, learning how translational research directly informs clinical decisions.

By understanding the partnership between research and practise, you'll also gain insights into repurposing existing drugs and investigating novel therapies such as gene and cell therapies.

This unit includes various materials including case studies, videos, and discussions.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Principles of Immuno-Oncology
- Targeted Therapy
- Novel approaches and repurposing existing drugs

WATCH UNIT OVERVIEW ↗

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the immune system's role in cancer prognosis and treatment outcomes.
- Evaluate targeted therapy principles and the process from research to patient application.
- Critically assess emerging therapies such as gene therapy, cell therapy, and tissue engineering.
- Explore how existing drugs can be repurposed for new cancer treatments.
- Apply clinical research insights to real-world therapeutic decisions.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead: Dr Jamie Honeychurch

04 THE BRANCHES OF ONCOLOGY

THE BRANCHES OF ONCOLOGY (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit provides a comprehensive introduction to the three main oncology disciplines - Medical, Clinical, and Surgical Oncology - and how they work together to deliver optimal patient outcomes.

You'll gain insights into each specialty's role in cancer treatment, from systemic therapies to surgical interventions, and how they complement each other in clinical decision-making. This understanding will enhance your ability to interpret, communicate, and apply treatment strategies effectively in your own practise.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Medical Oncology
- Clinical Oncology
- Surgical Oncology

WATCH UNIT OVERVIEW ↗

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the key aspects of Medical, Clinical, and Surgical Oncology, and how they work synergistically in patient care.
- Explain the principles of different oncology treatments, including chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and surgery.
- Construct treatment plans tailored to individual patient needs and demonstrate understanding of technological innovations in oncology.
- Critically appraise challenges in combining therapeutic approaches and argue for the use of new technologies and therapies.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead: Prof Bilal Alkhaffaf

05 THE SCIENCE OF RADIOTHERAPY

THE SCIENCE OF RADIOTHERAPY (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit offers a comprehensive understanding of the physics behind one of the core cancer treatments: radiotherapy.

You'll explore key developments and the challenges facing the field, with a focus on how research is leading to innovative approaches in Manchester.

The unit covers how advanced imaging and precision techniques are revolutionising radiotherapy, improving accuracy and patient outcomes.

You'll gain critical insights into modern technologies such as proton beam therapy and adaptive radiotherapy.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- The Physics of Radiotherapy
- Clinical Radiotherapy
- Imaging for Radiotherapy

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the physical principles of radiotherapy and evaluate modern radiotherapy equipment.
- Critically appraise imaging techniques and their role in enhancing the precision of radiotherapy treatments.
- Explore innovative technologies such as proton therapy and adaptive radiotherapy.
- Explain the interaction of radiation with human tissue and assess safety precautions.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead: Dr Marianne Aznar

06 DELIVERING THE BEST CANCER CARE

DELIVERING THE BEST CANCER CARE (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit focuses on establishing efficient and effective clinical pathways to achieve optimal patient outcomes.

Drawing on the entire Transformative Oncology programme, this final unit will enable you to prioritise practice-changing approaches in your institution.

Through a patient-centered lens, you will explore the importance of listening to patients, shared decision-making, and clear communication.

Additionally, the unit covers the benefits of multidisciplinary team (MDT) working and strategies to improve inclusivity in cancer care delivery. By the end of this unit, you will be equipped with the skills to influence and deliver the best possible cancer care.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Understanding the Patients Perspectives
- Treatment Planning
- Multidisciplinary Approaches

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the value of patient involvement and shared decision-making in cancer care.
- Develop communication skills tailored to patient needs and inclusive practice.
- Analyse the role of multidisciplinary teams in enhancing cancer care pathways.
- Reflect on how to support cancer patients during and beyond treatment.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead: Prof Cliona Kirwan

07 STRATEGIES FOR EARLY DETECTION

STRATEGIES FOR EARLY DETECTION (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit focuses on the critical role that early detection plays in improving cancer patient outcomes.

You will explore various screening programmes, medical imaging tools, and emerging technologies that aid in the detection of precancerous changes and early-stage cancers.

With case studies from Manchester, you will learn how risk stratification, public awareness, and patient involvement are crucial for the success of early detection strategies.

This unit covers key methodologies, molecular imaging, and advanced technologies like PET-CT, all designed to enhance cancer diagnosis and treatment.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Methodology of Screening
- Functional Molecular Imaging
- Medical Imaging Tools & Technologies

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the importance of early detection strategies and the role of screening in improving patient outcomes.
- Evaluate methodologies for cancer screening and appraise how technology can enhance current programmes.
- Analyse molecular imaging techniques and their applications in early cancer detection.
- Critically assess and reflect on screening practices to implement new approaches.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead:
Dr Grazyna Lipowska-Bhalla

08 PRINCIPLES OF PERSONALISED MEDICINE

PRINCIPLES OF PERSONALISED MEDICINE (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit introduces the key concepts driving precision oncology.

You will explore how biological, genetic, and technological advancements are helping to identify cancer subtypes that respond to specific treatments.

The unit covers the importance of integrating big data, assessing cancer risk in populations, and ensuring patient and public involvement.

You will also delve into the ethical considerations surrounding precision medicine and discuss strategies for addressing cancer disparities.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Precision Oncology
- Characterising Molecular Alterations
- Principles of Risk Stratification

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the fundamental principles of personalised medicine and precision oncology.
- Evaluate current methodologies for identifying treatment-sensitive cancer subtypes.
- Appraise approaches to cancer risk stratification and population-based research.
- Reflect on the ethical considerations and barriers to precision oncology.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead: Dr Kiran Batta

09 EXPERIMENTAL CANCER MEDICINE

EXPERIMENTAL CANCER MEDICINE (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit focuses on the development of novel systemic anticancer treatments, with a particular emphasis on the design and delivery of early phase clinical trials.

You will gain a thorough understanding of how to investigate safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetics in Phase 1 trials and learn about the role of preclinical and translational data in shaping trial design.

The unit highlights key methodologies for dose escalation and translational medicine's role in optimising trial outcomes.

This unit incorporates videos, lectures, and interactive tasks, all aimed at preparing you to engage with cutting-edge experimental cancer research.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Introduction to clinical trials in oncology
- Early phase trials in oncology
- Preclinical and translational strategies for novel agents in oncology

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the phases of drug development in oncology and the key challenges of designing first-in-human trials.
- Evaluate the utility of preclinical data and biomarkers in shaping Phase 1 clinical trials.
- Critically appraise research methodologies and their application to experimental cancer medicine.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead: Dr Louise Carter

10 UNDERSTANDING ADVANCED THERAPIES IN THE CANCER SETTING

UNDERSTANDING ADVANCED THERAPIES IN THE CANCER SETTING (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit offers a comprehensive exploration of the scientific, clinical, and regulatory aspects of Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) in oncology.

This unit focuses on the development, manufacturing, and delivery of advanced therapies such as cell and gene therapies. You will gain insights into the complexities of clinical trial design and regulatory frameworks, as well as challenges related to production and long-term follow-up.

Through case studies and discussions, the course also addresses potential solutions to bottlenecks in advanced therapy development and deployment. The unit is delivered online through dynamic, interactive media.

The unit is composed of three 5-credit topics:

- Scientific Rationale Underpinning Advanced Therapies
- Complexities of Manufacturing and Regulatory Issues
- Clinical Delivery of Advanced Therapies

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the principles of cell and gene-based cancer therapies and target identification.
- Evaluate the manufacturing and regulatory challenges in ATMP development.
- Critically assess clinical trial methodologies and challenges in delivering advanced therapies.
- Reflect on the health economic impact and long-term considerations of ATMPs.

KEY INFORMATION

150 hours total study time (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Includes 35 hours teaching through live/ recorded lectures, tasks and activities

Assessments through written assignments, reflective journals, and online tests.

Academic Lead:
Prof Fiona Thistlethwaite,
Michelle Davies

11 RESEARCH SKILLS IN PRACTISE

RESEARCH SKILLS IN PRACTISE (60 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

Research Skills in Practise allows you to complete your master's by developing advanced research skills tailored to the oncology field.

This 60-credit unit provides oncology-specific case studies and examples to contextualise transferable skills such as research design, critical literature appraisal, ethical considerations, and reflective practise.

You will explore every stage of the research process, from formulating a research question to disseminating your findings.

The unit is delivered entirely online, allowing for flexible learning while ensuring a comprehensive foundation in research methodologies and practises.

MODULES AND ASSESSMENT

The unit is composed of six 10-credit modules, each exploring a different stage of the research process and is assessed through a combination of written assignments, tests, and presentations:

- Formulating a Research Question
- Critical Appraisal of the Literature
- Designing Study Methodology
- Your Responsibilities as a Researcher
- Communicating Your Research
- Reflective Practise and Your Research

KEY INFORMATION

60 credits total study over six months to gain a master's (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Delivered entirely online

Assessed through a variety of methods including written documents, presentations, and online tests

12 RESEARCH PROJECT / CLINICAL PLACEMENT

RESEARCH PROJECT / CLINICAL PLACEMENT (60 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

MSc students have the option to complete a placement that will allow you to gain practical, hands-on experience in either a laboratory or clinical setting.

You can arrange a suitable placement in Manchester or within your home country. The unit consolidates your learning and enables you to demonstrate mastery of the course outcomes by completing a research project or clinical placement that directly relates to your area of study.

TYPES OF DISSERTATION & EXAMPLE PROJECTS

Research projects can range from empirical experiments and audits to systematic reviews and policy analyses, giving you flexibility to focus on your particular interests. Examples include:

- Research proposals
- Publication-based/dissertation by publication
- Service development/professional report
- Systematic reviews
- Qualitative/quantitative empirical research
- Secondary data analysis

KEY INFORMATION

60 credits total study over minimum six months to gain a master's (approx. 20 hours per week part-time)

Lab or clinical placement

Assessed through a 10-15,000 word dissertation reflecting on your project's focus, methods, execution, findings, and implications for future research and practise

STUDY TIMELINE

September — November

01

UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES OF TUMOUR BIOLOGY (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 1

December — February

02

CANCER IS AN INDIVIDUALISED DISEASE (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 1

March — May

03

ESTABLISHED AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 1

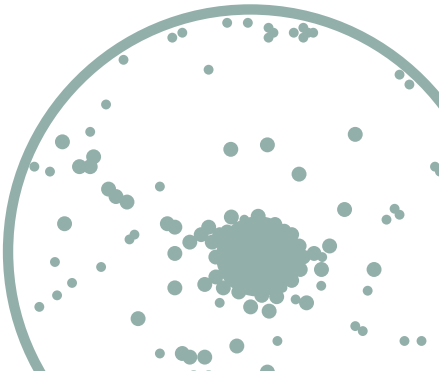
June — July

04

THE BRANCHES OF ONCOLOGY (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 1



September — November

05

THE SCIENCE OF RADIOTHERAPY (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 2

December — February

06 OPTIONAL UNIT

STRATEGIES FOR EARLY DETECTION OR EXPERIMENTAL CANCER MEDICINE (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 2

March — May

07 OPTIONAL UNIT

PRINCIPLES OF PERSONALISED MEDICINE OR UNDERSTANDING ADVANCED THERAPIES IN THE CANCER SETTING (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 2

May — July

08

DELIVERING THE BEST CANCER CARE (15 CREDITS)

Weeks 1-6 - Teaching online
Week 7-8 - Self-study and assessment

YEAR 2

September — May

09

PRACTISE OR LAB-BASED PLACEMENT OR RESEARCH SKILLS IN PRACTISE (60 CREDITS)

Six month placement and disseration or online study and teaching

YEAR 3

ONLINE LEARNING AT A GLANCE

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Our online courses are created and taught by the same established scholars as our on-campus options.

FLEXIBILITY

Online learning offers much more flexibility than traditional on-campus study, which makes it the perfect fit for working professionals.

HIGH QUALITY RESOURCES

You will have access to the same range of excellent facilities as on-campus students.

AN ONLINE COMMUNITY

Our virtual learning environment provides an opportunity to discuss and collaborate with your peers and academics with interactive features.

A GLOBAL APPROACH

Online learning at The University of Manchester is designed to be accessed by students from around the globe.

ONLINE LEARNING IN PRACTICE

Online learning can help you to access the excellence of The University of Manchester from anywhere in the world. The online model is ideal for working professionals who want to study alongside their careers and other commitments by offering flexible, part-time study

VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Our online, postgraduate courses are taught using a virtual learning environment. This is home to all of the teaching on your course including lectures tutorials, videos and more as well as all learning materials such as reading, discussion boards and journals.

FLEXIBILITY AND TIMETABLING

Our online, part-time postgraduate courses give you the opportunity to take full responsibility for your studies so you can fit learning around your life.

There are live tutorials online, however, we understand attendance to these will not always be possible around a busy work schedule, so they are recorded for you to watch at a time that suits you.

All the resources you require for your studies are available to you 24/7 so you can adjust your studies to fit around your work and personal life.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ONLINE LEARNING ↗

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Upon receiving an offer you will be asked to confirm that you can meet the following technical requirements for successful completion of the course:

- An average of 15-20 hours available to devote to studying each week.
- Regular access to a computer with internet speeds fast enough to run video conferencing and stream video lectures.
- A computer that meets the software requirements of video conferencing and other software, broadband internet connection, desktop or laptop PC with windows 10 or later, 4GB RAM, 6GB disk space for installation (administrator rights are required to install software).
- If your course is blended and includes some face-to-face activity, further information will be sent to you about expected attendance once you have received an offer.
- Some courses will also require you to download relevant software - you will be provided access to this.
- A smart phone on Android 11.0 or greater, or iOS 11.0 or greater, as you'll need to authenticate your credentials to access your learning materials.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSIONS

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
14 September 2026

COURSE START DATE:
28 September 2026

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

We require an honours degree (minimum Upper Second) or overseas equivalent in medicine, dentistry, or subjects allied to medicine such as biosciences, nursing or pharmacy

With sufficient evidence of the relevant units taken. We may also consider exceptional applicants with a Lower Second if you have research experience or equivalent professional experience.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

International students must demonstrate English proficiency through a secure and approved testing system. We ask for English language proof if you are from a non-majority English speaking country.

Specifically, we require a minimum of:

- IELTS (Academic): 6.5 overall (and a minimum of 6 for writing) or equivalent
- TOEFL Internet Based Test 90 overall with 20 in writing

WHAT TO SUBMIT WITH YOUR APPLICATION

When applying for this course you will be required to submit the following:

- Copies of official degree certificates and transcripts of your previous study, showing the subjects taken and grades obtained. If these documents are in languages other than English, please provide official translations in addition to your official certificates and transcripts.
- English language score report (if applicable) or alternative evidence to demonstrate your English language competency.
- A copy of your CV detailing your full work experience.
- A personal statement addressing the questions below (max 500 words):
  - What attracts you to apply to this course?
  - How does your work experience support you in applying for this course?
  - What do you hope to gain from this course?
  - How will this help you achieve your future aims and aspirations?

BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION ↗

FEES AND FUNDING

£

TUITION FEES

- MSc - £17,300
- PGDip - £11,600
- PGCert - £5,800

HOW TO FUND YOUR COURSE

Funding your online course is a key consideration when looking to begin your academic journey and your individual circumstances will determine how you can fund your studies.

Whilst funding options for online postgraduate taught courses are not as numerous as those for undergraduate and PhD study, there are still a variety of options to explore for your online course including:

- Postgraduate loans
- Employer funding
- Self-funding
- Scholarships
- Bursaries
- Tuition discounts (including 10% NHS Employee Discount)

EXPLORE FUNDING OPTIONS ↗

CATHY'S STORY

Cathy Tsang, a registered nurse at The University of Hong Kong, has always had a strong desire to help patients struggling with their cancer diagnoses.

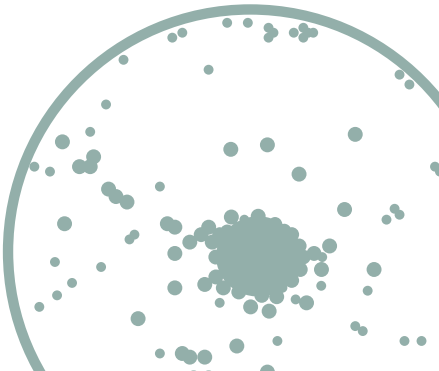
"This course has been very useful for my work. It has helped me to develop supportive relationships with my patients who are undergoing treatment and improve my understanding of the treatments they are receiving. Because of the stretched medical systems in place in Hong Kong, patients receive limited contact time with medical professionals. My role is to fix that problem and provide patients with the support they need so they can feel as at ease as possible. This course has developed my confidence immensely when dealing with these situations.

"I can communicate to a higher standard with my patients, as I understand their treatments at a more in-depth and theoretical level."

As a working mother, it can be challenging to find the time to study. However, because of the flexible nature of this course, the content is extremely easy to slot into my day-to-day routine. Because all the course content is recorded, it's really easy to catch up on my studies and get back on track with my learning after a particularly busy week. This online style of learning eases my understanding of the challenging technical subjects involved within the study of oncology and allows me to work completely at my own pace. The flexibility of the course allows me to choose exactly when I want to work and when I can hand my coursework in.

It's so fascinating to work and communicate with people from all around the world, from nurses in Uganda to doctors in India. Learning about the specific health practices in different countries has allowed me to gain a wider understanding of the oncology field in general.

I really appreciate what Dr Suzanne Johnson, our Course Director, has done for us. Throughout the course, she has tried to reach us in a variety of ways, such as discussion forums, where we have felt confident to express our honest opinions surrounding the content we are learning and of the course in general. If I have any questions or am facing any difficulties with the course content, the academics always answer me and support me in a timely manner. With it being a brand-new program, the course content is really up-to-date, especially the modules surrounding genetic testing. The standard of teaching is so high at The University of Manchester. I would recommend this course to any healthcare professional who wants to grow their knowledge of the cancer field and gain a more fundamental understanding of today's modern practices.



STUDENT STORY

"The main thing that attracted me to this course was its accessibility and autonomy. I was able to access outstanding educational resources from leading industry professionals without geographical or time zone barriers.

CATHY TSANG

Registered Nurse,
The University of Hong Kong

香 港 大 學
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

WHY MANCHESTER?

AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED UNIVERSITY

In the Academic Ranking of World Universities (2025), the University is placed:

- 6th in the UK;
- 13th in Europe;
- 46th in the world.

WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

The University of Manchester's research beacons are examples of pioneering discoveries, interdisciplinary collaboration and cross-sector partnerships that are tackling some of the biggest questions facing the planet.

OUTSTANDING TEACHING

This quality of research feeds into our taught courses, many of which are also designed to meet the needs of industry.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We were the first university in the UK to set social responsibility as a core goal - this is reflected in our commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

GLOBAL INFLUENCE

There are more than 170 nationalities among our student population and our range of online and blended learning courses enable a global audience to benefit from a Manchester education.

Much of our research has a global impact, in areas including health and wellbeing, climate change, international trade and cohesive communities.

We also have agreements with a host of international institutions and organisations that inform our global approach to research and education.

SUPPORT AND SERVICES

As a student of The University of Manchester, you will receive full access to our facilities and resources such as the online library, careers service and wellbeing support. Many of these services offer personalised support and 24/7 access, and are all accessible to our global community.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the world's call to action on the most pressing challenges facing humanity and the natural world, and we're playing a leading role in tacking them.

At The University of Manchester, we address the SDGs through our research and particularly in partnership with our students. To illustrate how our teaching will empower you as a change maker, we've highlighted the key SDGs that this course addresses:

GOAL 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being for all at all ages is essential to sustainable development.

GOAL 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION

Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to improving people's lives and sustainable development.

GOAL 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES

To reduce inequalities, policies should be universal in principle, paying attention to the needs of disadvantaged and marginalized populations.

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF CANCER TREATMENT

manchester.ac.uk/transformativeoncology

studyonline@manchester.ac.uk

BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION ↗