Year of entry: 2020/21

Programme Specification

1	**Awarding body**	University of London							
2	**Teaching Institution**	**Birkbeck College**							
3	**Programme Title(s)**	**Postgraduate Certificate in Structural Molecular Biology**							
4	**Programme Code(s)**	TPCBISCL_C							
5	**UCAS code**	N/A							
6	**Home Department**	Biological Sciences							
7	**Exit Award(s)**	N/A							
8	**Duration of Study** (number of years)	**1-year**							
9	**Mode of Study**	FT		PT		DL	**x**		
10	**Level of Award (FHEQ)**	7							
11	**Other teaching depts or institution**	N/A							
12	**Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details**	N/A							
13	**QAA Benchmark Group**	N/A							

14	**Programme Rationale & Aims**
	Main Aims: Structural biology allows students to understand how macromolecules work at the atomic level of detail. This is important particularly in designing drugs which act at the molecular level to affect macromolecules. This postgraduate programme provides has been designed for scientists wishing to update their knowledge, or as part of the background studies of research students, particularly those whose undergraduate studies were in a different area. **Distinctive Features:** • An innovative course taught entirely using the internet. You study part-time in your own time, wherever you are in the world. Many of our students have full-time jobs or extensive family responsibilities. • Taught within the Department of Biological Sciences which, with University College London, is part of the leading research-based Institute of Structural and Molecular Biology. Several of the department's world-class researchers contribute to the course. • May be taken as a stand-alone certificate course or as part of our acclaimed internet-based MSc Structural Molecular Biology.

15	**Entry Criteria**
	Degree in science, computing or mathematics, or equivalent qualification, or relevant work experience.

16	**Learning Outcomes**
	On successful completion of this course, students should be able to: • demonstrate detailed knowledge of the theoretical basis of the key experimental techniques in modern structural biology, and appreciation of how they have been used to advance the field • select the correct methods to use when carrying out structural biology research.

17	**Learning, teaching and assessment methods**
	All teaching is internet-based. The course material is released in several sections on a dedicated, password-protected website. Students must successfully complete both coursework and the written exam, which may be taken at an examination centre close to them. All modules are examined by a single 3 hour exam.

18	**Programme Description**
	This programme consists of any combination of two 30-credit modules from the list shown below.

19 **Programme Structure**

Part Time 1-year programme

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
Two 30-credit option modules chosen from the indicative list below:				
7	SCBS056S7	Principles of Protein Structure	30	Optional
7	SCBS057S7	Protein Structure Determination	30	Optional
7	SCBS058S7	Protein Expression and Purification	30	Optional
7	SCBS059S7	Protein Bioinformatics	30	Optional
7	SCBS060S7	Protein Crystallography	30	Optional
7	SCBS061S7	Macromolecular Electron Microscopy	30	Optional

20	**Regulations**
	• ***Admissions*** This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf • ***Credit Transfer*** Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf

	• ***Programme Regulations*** This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations • ***Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable)*** N/A

21	**Student Attendance Framework – in brief**
	The full version of the 'Student Attendance Framework' is available http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf . **Principle** Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded. **Attendance expectation** Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations. **E-Registers** All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.

21	**Student Support and Guidance**
	All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities

22	**Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards**
	The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input. For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality .

23	**Programme Director**	Professor Nicholas Keep
24	**Start Date** ***(term/year)***	Autumn 1996
25	**Date approved by TQEC**	Spring 1996
26	**Date approved by Academic Board**	Summer 1996
27	**Date(s) updated/amended**	October 2019 for 2020/21