

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					
	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Distinctive Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
	<p>On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
	<p>All teaching is internet-based. The course material is released in several sections on a dedicated, password-protected website.</p> <p>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.</p>

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

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	Programme Director	Professor Nicholas Keep
21	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 1996
22	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 1996
23	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 1996
24	Date(s) updated/amended	October 2019 for 2020/21