

Department of Genetics Postgraduate Open House

June 2023



Our Department

The Department of Genetics is host to around 50-65 postgraduate students at any given time. They work on a wide range of problems of modern biology, from population genetics and ecology, to the detailed analysis of the transcriptome.

The Department has its core in the Genetics Building on the Downing site, and is host to a number of enterprises which highlight our open and interactive spirit. In addition it has homegrown ties with;

- [Department of Engineering](#)
- [Cavendish Laboratory](#)
- [Gurdon Institute](#)
- [Cambridge Institute for Medical Research](#), etc.

These interactions act as showcases for a varied offer of courses and seminars from the different institutes which challenge and develop students.

Our programmes

MPhil Genetics (Research Only)

12 months full-time

2 years part-time

Please note: part-time study may not always be viable and will be considered on a case-by-case basis, so please discuss this option with your proposed supervisor before making an application for this mode of study.

Applicants for this course should have achieved a UK **Good II.i Honours Degree**.

If your degree is not from the UK, please check **International Qualifications** to find the equivalent in your country.

[University Minimum Academic Requirements link](#)

PhD Genetics (Research Only)

3-4 years full-time

5-7 years part-time

Please note: part-time study may not always be viable and will be considered on a case-by-case basis, so please discuss this option with your proposed supervisor before making an application for this mode of study.

Applicants for this course should have achieved a UK **Good II.i Honours Degree**.

If your degree is not from the UK, please check **International Qualifications** to find the equivalent in your country.

[University Minimum Academic Requirements link](#)

Related programmes

The **MPhil in Biological Sciences** is offered by the Faculty of Biology as a full-time period of study and research, and introduces students to research skills and specialist knowledge in the Faculty's key research areas or 'pathways'.

These include:

- Biomolecular Science
- Cell Science
- Crop Science
- Developmental Biology
- Infection Biology & Molecular Immunology
- Reproduction & Embryogenesis

Prospective students to apply directly to the pathway of their choice.

**If you have any questions please reach out to the MPhil Co-ordinator
anita.kovacs@admin.cam.ac.uk**

MPhil Course Outcomes

Most MPhil candidates start in October, to take advantage of Departmental and University induction programmes and funding opportunities, but admission in January or April is also possible.

The examination consists of a thesis, not more than 20,000 words in length, exclusive of tables, footnotes, bibliography, and appendices. **The assessment also includes an oral examination on the thesis and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls.**

Please note: part-time study may not always be viable and will be considered on a case-by-case basis, so please discuss this option with your proposed supervisor before making an application for this mode of study.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the programme, students will have:

- a comprehensive understanding of techniques, and a thorough knowledge of the literature applicable to their own research;
- demonstrated originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in their field;
- shown abilities in the critical evaluation of current research and research techniques and methodologies; and
- demonstrated some self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and acted autonomously in the planning and implementation of research.

PhD Course Outcomes

PhD students undertake three to four years of research supervised by one of our group leaders, where they will develop an original research question and address this through laboratory or computer-based research.

Students undertake specific training in their research area as well as more generic skills training during their degrees as well as have opportunities to supervise undergraduate students. Students are expected to submit their thesis by the end of their fourth year.

Towards the end of their first year of study, students are required to complete a satisfactory first-year report and viva.

Most PhD candidates start in October, to take advantage of Departmental and University induction programmes and funding opportunities, but admission in January or April is also possible.

Please note: part-time study may not always be viable and will be considered on a case-by-case basis, so please discuss this option with your proposed supervisor before making an application for this mode of study.

Learning Outcomes:

- a comprehensive understanding of techniques, and a thorough knowledge of the literature applicable to their own research;
- demonstrated originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in their field;
- shown abilities in the critical evaluation of current research and research techniques and methodologies;
- demonstrated self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and acted autonomously in the planning and implementation of research;
- independence in designing and conducting a substantial body of original research, and preparing that data in a format suitable for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

Application Requirements

In order to apply for either MPhil or PhD course you'll need to think about getting a few things ready before you apply.

- **Two academic references**
- **Transcript**
- **CV/resume**
- **Evidence of competence in English**
If required - you can check using our [tool](#)
- **Proposed Supervisor (Mandatory)**
- **Statement of Interest (Mandatory)**
- **Research experience (Mandatory)**
- **Research Proposal (Optional)**

How to Find a Supervisor

Prospective students must identify a potential supervisor (or supervisors) in the Department before applying. Supervisors and their research areas are listed on the Department of Genetics [website](#). Applicants are strongly advised to contact prospective supervisors to discuss potential projects before a formal application.

Language Requirement

IELTS (Academic)

Element	Score
Listening	7.0
Writing	7.0
Reading	6.5
Speaking	7.0
Total	7.0

TOEFL Internet Score

Element	Score
Listening	25
Writing	25
Reading	25
Speaking	25
Total	100

Field in online form	Character limit (including spaces)
Research Summary (Research)*	1,500
Research Experience (Research)	1,500
Career Goals (Other Information)	1,000
Additional information to support application (Other Information)	1,000
Funding opportunities identified (Funding Application)	1,000
Gates Cambridge Personal Statement (Funding Application)	3,000
Required adjustments (Adjustments)	1,000

Funding Competition

Every year the University of Cambridge awards over £100m in scholarships to new postgraduate students, from a number of University and College endowments as well as government Research Council (UKRI) funds. Many students also fund their studies from external sources, such as loans, charities or government schemes.

We recommend you carefully read the links below to help you understand what is required of you, and what funding opportunities Cambridge offers. There are **two major funding deadlines, GATES US (Application deadline is typically October, please check their website over the summer)** and the **University Funding competition (Application deadline* Dependent on your course – bur for our department it is 4 January 2024)**

The major internal sources of funding are: Cambridge Trust, Gates Cambridge Trust, Harding Distinguished Postgraduate Scholars Programme, Research Councils and collectively College and departmental schemes. Please use the student funding link to help with your search, <https://www.student-funding.cam.ac.uk/>.

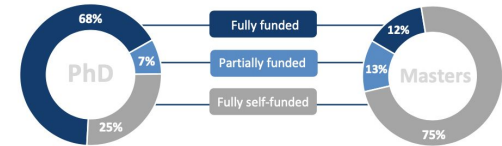
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

65% students fully or partially-funded (204/313)

PHD (192):	83% (160)	4% (8)	13% (24)
MASTERS (121):	18% (22)	12% (14)	70% (85)

Postgraduate Funding 2021/22*

Funding per % of applicants by type of course:



Fully funded applicants could be fully funded by one award only, or by multiple awards to completely cover the liability of their tuition fees and maintenance costs.

PhD category contains doctoral, doctoral 1+3 and MRes courses.

2317 awards given in total.	940 applicants fully funded by a single award.	75% of applicants recorded as fully funded had a full scholarship as a single award, 25% were made up by multiple awards.
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Helpful funding links

- [PhD in Genetics | Postgraduate Admissions \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Funding | Postgraduate Admissions \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Welcome - Postgraduate Funding Search \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Cambridge University Scholarship Deadlines | Gates Cambridge Scholarships \(cambridgegetrust.org\)](#)

Gates Funding Competition Details

Applications for the academic year 2024-25 entry will open in **September 2023**.

The US Gates Cambridge Scholarship deadline will be confirmed as we get closer to the admission cycle, however the deadline is typically early to mid October.

Gates Cambridge manages two selection rounds each year; full details are below. If after reading the details below you are not sure in which round you should apply please email info@gatescambridge.org with details.

US Citizen: This is the earlier round for applicants who are both US citizens and currently resident in the United States; it is specific to Gates Cambridge. **Students meeting these criteria must apply by the Fall deadline and submit all their documents by this date (including references), they are not eligible for the later round.** US citizens who are studying/working overseas at the time of application should apply in the later round (see below).

All other eligible applicants The large majority of applicants will apply in this round, which is aligned with the University's postgraduate funding competition. There are two possible application deadlines and these are based on the course to which you are applying, the **Department of Genetics follows the January 4th Deadline.**

* Please apply by the *Graduate Funding Competition* deadline referenced in the [University Course Directory](#).

Cambridge Virtual Postgraduate Open Days 2023

23 October to 3 November 2023

This is your chance to find out all about postgraduate study at Cambridge. Chat with current students and academics, gain practical advice and find out whether Cambridge is the right place for you.

To be notified when booking opens, [sign up for their newsletter here!](https://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/newsletter)

<https://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/openday>

What to expect

Warm-up webinars (14 August – 13 October)

Start preparing with some warm-up webinars. These will cover a range of topics primarily focused on the practical aspects of making an application to Cambridge.

Live sessions (23 October – 27 October)

Join us live, for online sessions where you can:

- Find out more about our courses and explore your subject
- Chat with academics, current students and other staff
- Discover more about the Colleges
- Learn about funding opportunities

On demand (30 October – 3 November)

Watch some of the sessions from the first week of the Open Days. Many of these will be recorded and available to view on demand until 3 November.

Virtual Tour

Explore University facilities and Colleges in your own time, using 360 degree photography, videos and photo galleries through our Virtual Tour.

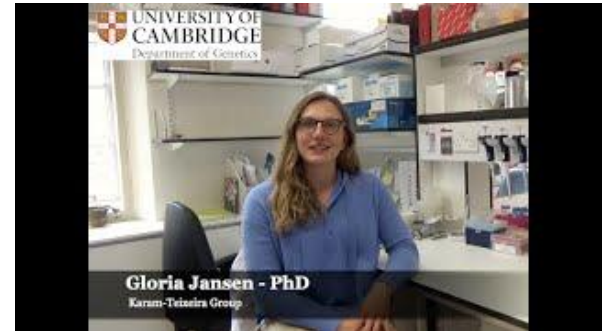
[Genetics | University of Cambridge | Virtual Tour](#)





Cambridge Virtual Postgraduate Open Days 2023

Check out the below University Open Day video and some of our student testimonials





Helpful Links

- [Postgraduate Admissions pg.admissions@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:pg.admissions@admin.cam.ac.uk)
- [International Student Office international.students@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:international.students@admin.cam.ac.uk)
- [International Student Office Visa Guidance international.students@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:international.students@admin.cam.ac.uk)
- [Cambridge Students Page. https://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/](https://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/)
- [Contact Us \(cambridgetrust.org\) Cambridge.Trust@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:Cambridge.Trust@admin.cam.ac.uk)
- [Cambridge life | Cambridge students https://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/cambridge-life](https://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/cambridge-life)
- [Search - Postgraduate Funding Search \(cam.ac.uk\) https://www.student-funding.cam.ac.uk/](https://www.student-funding.cam.ac.uk/)

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LINKEDIN

