

**INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE
POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS - TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

- **Introductory Talk and Overview of PGR provision:**

The Institute holds an introductory talk twice per year (generally May and November); delivered by the Institute Director for Postgraduate Research (IDPR), Professor Andrea Varro. The Institute Postgraduate Student Office will notify students and their Departments when each event is scheduled.

It is recommended that all students should make themselves familiar with the information about the PGR Development Programme on the University website (www.liv.ac.uk/pgr-development/) and also subscribe to the PGR Development blog to receive regular updates (<http://pgrnews.liverpool.ac.uk/>).

- **Training Programme for PhD students:**

The training programme for PhD students consists of five elements. Taking part in all five will enable a student to gain the 190 credits necessary to complete this part of their programme.

Type of training (PhD)	Year of study	Max credits available	Compulsory / Exemption available
1. Subject Specific Training	Any year of study	30	Compulsory
2. First Year Development Workshops or the First Year Development Online course	Year 1 (FT) Year 1 or 2 (PT)	30	Exemption available
3. Poster Day	Year 2 (FT) Year 3 or 4 (PT)	10	Compulsory
4. Career Development	Year 2 or 3 (FT) Year 5 or 6 (PT)	30	Exemption available
5. Annual Progression Requirements consisting of Supervisory Meetings and the PGR Portfolio of Activity	Each year of study	90	Compulsory

- **Training Programme for MD Students:**

MD students are required to follow the same training programme as a PhD student except that they will be given exemption from taking part in Career Development. To claim any exemption an exemption request form should be sent to the Institute Postgraduate Student Office.

Type of training (MD)	Year of study	Max credits available	Compulsory / Exemption available
1. Subject Specific Training	Any year of study	30	Compulsory
2. First Year Development Workshops or the First Year Development Online course	Year 1 or 2 (PT)	30	Exemption available
3. Poster Day	Year 3 or 4 (PT)	10	Compulsory
4. Career Development	N/A	N/A	Exemption for MD students
5. Annual Progression Requirements consisting of Supervisory Meetings and the PGR Portfolio of Activity	Each year of study	90	Compulsory

- **Training Programme for MPhil Students:**

MPhil students (including intercalating MPhil students) are required to obtain a minimum of 90 credits from the training areas listed in the table below.

Type of training (MPhil)	Year of study	Max credits available	Compulsory / Exemption available
1. Subject Specific Training	Year 1 (FT) Year 1 or 2 (PT)	30	Compulsory
2. First Year Development Workshops or the First Year Development Online course	Year 1 (FT) Year 1 or 2 (PT)	30	Exemption available
3. Annual Progression Requirements consisting of Supervisory Meetings and the PGR Portfolio of Activity	Each year of study	30	Compulsory

- **Subject Specific Training in the Institute of Translational Medicine (ITM):**

The Institute consists of 6 Departments whose breadth of research is extensive and diverse. As such the IDPR seeks to encourage students to use this element of their training for the best research interests of themselves and their supervisory team. Before deciding on an activity; it is expected that students consult with their supervisory team to ensure the activity is of relevance.

Subject Specific Training credits can be awarded by completing the activities listed on this page (not exhaustive) or relevant short courses run by University Departments (see the section titled “University Subject Specific Training Courses” below). However, students who have alternative relevant experiences may also be given special dispensation at the discretion of the IDPR.

Activity type	Credits per single activity	Max credits for activity	Exclusions	Evidence required
1. Attendance at the ITM PGR Networking Event	5	5	N/A	Evidence of attendance
2. Scientific meeting/conference attendance (ITM Seminar, UoL or external event)	5	5	A maximum TOTAL of 15 credits ONLY can be claimed from a combination of activity types 2, 3 & 4.	Evidence of attendance and/or copy of programme
3. Presentation of a poster or talk at the ITM PGR Society Away Day	5	5		Evidence of attendance and copy of poster or talk
4. Presentation of a poster or talk at a scientific conference	5	10		Evidence of attendance and/or copy of programme
5. Organising a scientific conference	5 – 10*	10	N/A	Evidence of contribution and a copy of programme
6. Publication of a scientific paper	5 – 10*	10	N/A	Copy of published paper
7. Alternative relevant activities/training	5 – 10*	10	N/A	Relevant evidence

* Credits per activity awarded at the discretion of the IDPR.

- **Requesting Subject Specific Training Credits from ITM:**

Students should complete the **ITM Subject Specific Training Credit Request form** to request that credits be added to their SPIDER record (available from the Institute Postgraduate Student Office). Credits will be added at the end of each academic year and in some cases not until a student’s final year of study (depending on type of activity and the possibility of accumulating credits for the activity).

- **University Subject Specific Training Courses:**

As part of a student's Subject Specific Training, they can choose for some, or all, of their 30 credits to be accumulated by attending relevant short courses run by Departments at the University. Supervisors are able to guide their students to relevant courses.

Information on the short courses offered by the Department of Biostatistics is available here: <http://www.liv.ac.uk/medstats/courses.htm>. Students should enrol themselves onto these modules using Spider (Select "Student Records", "Registration", "Add Drop Modules" etc). If you experience technical difficulties with enrolling using Spider, please contact the Institute Postgraduate Student Office in the first instance (provide your student number, module code and module title).

Module Code	Title
FLHR 621	Statistical Issues in the Design and Analysis of Research Projects
FLHR 624	Design and Analysis of Laboratory-Based Studies
FLHR 626	Introduction to Logistic Regression
FLHR 627	Introduction to Longitudinal Data Analysis
FLHR 004	Meta- analysis
FLHR 652	Validity and Reliability of Diagnostic Tests and other Methods of Measurement
FLHR 653	Survival Analysis
FLHR 654	Unbiased design and statistical analysis in research projects

- **Further information on the Training Programme:**

Information on the First Year Development Workshop, First Year Development Online Course, Poster Day, Career Development and the Annual Progression Requirements is available from the PGR Development Programme website: www.liv.ac.uk/pgr-development/programme/.

Students should enrol themselves on modules using Spider (Select "Student Records", "Registration", "Add Drop Modules" etc). However, if students experience difficulties with this, they should contact the Institute Postgraduate Student Office in the first instance. Students must provide the following information when contacting the office: their full name, student number, module code and module title.

Students wanting to claim exemption for any of these non-compulsory activities should download an exemption form from the PGR Development Programme website and forward the completed form to the Institute Postgraduate Student Office: www.liv.ac.uk/pgr-development/programme/exemption/.

- **Additional requirements for PGR students specific to the Institute of Translational Medicine (ITM):**

Students within ITM are required to participate in the following activities as part of their Annual Progression Requirements. Questions regarding these requirements should be directed to your supervisor or Departmental Director for Postgraduate Research in the first instance.

- ✓ To give a talk at the end of 1st and 2nd year.
- ✓ Meetings between the student and their Mentor (minimum of 1 per year in May/June).
Departmental Directors for Postgraduate Research appoint a Mentor to each student.
- ✓ Yearly write up in the format of a thesis chapter to be submitted to supervisors.

Key contacts

Institute Postgraduate Student Office:
Room LG.43
Sherrington Building (Main Entrance)

Ms Lisa Crimmins
Mrs Rachel Flynn

itm-pgr@liv.ac.uk
itm-pgr@liv.ac.uk

Institute Director for Postgraduate Research: Professor Andrea Varro

avarro@liv.ac.uk

Departmental Directors for Postgraduate Research:

Biostatistics

Dr Marta Van der Hoek

Cellular & Molecular Physiology

Dr Alec Simpson

Gastroenterology

Dr John Jenkins

Molecular & Clinical Cancer Medicine

Dr Joseph Slupsky

Molecular & Clinical Pharmacology

Dr Dean Naisbitt

Department of Women's & Children's Health

(Alder Hey): Dr Kevin Southern

(Women's): Dr Dharani Hapangama