



Statement of Provision for PGT Students: M.Sc. in Theoretical Chemistry

1. *Who is the Course Director with overall responsibility for students on this course?*

Prof. David Logan

2. *What induction arrangements will be made?*

At the start of the year students are provided with a comprehensive programme together with all new research students in the PTCL, which includes safety information; and information about setting up computer accounts. See attached programme.

3. *What is the overall length of the course, and for how many weeks are students expected to work in Oxford?*

This is a full-time one-year course. Students are expected to work for about 44 to 46 weeks.

4. *What is the pattern of lectures, classes, seminars, tutorials and self-directed work for this course?*

Three lecture courses are given in Michaelmas term, covering Quantum Mechanics, Statistical Mechanics and Calculus of many variables. Four courses are given in Hilary term, covering Complex analysis, Differential equations, electronic structure theory and Applications of Statistical Mechanics. One final lecture course devoted to Many-body methods is given in Trinity term. There is either a weekly problems class or an office hour associated with each lecture course, depending on what is most appropriate for the material.

5. *What one-to-one or small group teaching will students on this course receive?*

The course only has a small number of students, so all teaching is small group teaching. The project is supervised one-on-one.

6. *Who will take overall responsibility for an individual student's progress and for completing the joint progress report form in each term of the course?*

Overall responsibility is held by the Course Director, who has a formal progress meeting with each student, at least once per term and following each assessment. Responsibility for an individual student's progress in the project is taken by the supervisor, but the Course Director also monitors progress of all students throughout the course.

7. *What workspace will be provided? What IT support/library facilities/experimental facilities will be available?*

Each student is allocated a desk on one of the research groups with an associated networked computer. The Department has its own computing support group if there are problems with equipment or software. Students have access to a wide variety of site licensed software,



electronic resources and the departmental library facilities.

8. *What opportunities are provided for students to take part in research seminars or groups? What formal graduate skills training will be provided?*

There is a variety of seminars available in the department, which the students are invited to attend, notably the Theoretical Chemistry seminar, which takes place every two weeks during term and the Physical chemistry seminar, which is weekly. There are also regular research group meetings. The whole course is set up to give students the necessary scientific, mathematical and computational skills to function as a theoretical chemist. No formal training in more generic skills is provided, this is a highly selective course and the students are already graduates. The supervisor is responsible for any training that may be necessary in scientific writing for the project report. Students may attend skills courses provided by the Division if they wish.

9. *What are the arrangements for student feedback and for responding to student concerns?*

In addition to the formal meetings with the Course Director, the students have regular personal contact with the lecturers on the course and the Course Director, at which any concerns can be raised. There is a graduate representative on the CJCC and the divisional forum, and graduate matters are a standing agenda item at every CJCC meeting.

10. *What arrangements for accommodation, meals and social facilities will be made for students on a graduate taught course?*

This question relates mostly to colleges, but the department does provide a common room that can be used by graduate students.

Your college may be able to provide you with accommodation and with meals throughout the year, but provision will vary from college to college, especially during vacations, and you will need to familiarise yourself with your college's detailed arrangements. In addition there are usually self-catering facilities available in graduate accommodation. You will be a member of the Middle Common Room, or equivalent, of your college, which is the main social centre for graduates. The MCR provides a common room and usually organises a programme of social events throughout the year. The college will also provide a bar, some computing facilities and a library, and may often have dedicated funds for research (conference and field grants). It also represents the interests of its members to the college through an elected Committee or through elected representatives to College Committees. Again, details will vary from college to college. Graduates are also welcome to participate in all other social and sporting activities of the college. Please see individual college websites for further details about all aspects of college provision.

Graduate students may become members of the University Club in Mansfield Road, and participate in the range of sporting activities provided by the University.

11. *What arrangements are in place for pastoral and welfare support?*

This course is small, and the Course Director assumes the pastoral role filled for undergraduates by the College Tutor, which provides a rapid and efficient route for the identification and resolution of problems. Many other people within the Department also provide pastoral and welfare support, e.g. the Supervisor, the College Advisor and the Director of Studies. If a student



does need support, then we ensure that we communicate with the college so that this can be coordinated.

There is an extensive framework of support for graduates within each college. Your college will allocate to you a College Advisor from among its Senior Members, usually in a cognate subject, who will arrange to see you from time to time and whom you may contact for additional advice and support on academic and other matters. In college you may also approach the Tutor for Graduates and/or the Senior Tutor for advice. The Tutor for Graduates is a fellow of the college with particular responsibility for the interests and welfare of graduate students. In some colleges, the Senior Tutor will also have the role of Tutor for Graduates. Each college will also have other named individuals who can offer individual advice.

The University also has a professionally staffed confidential Student Counselling Service, which offers assistance with personal, emotional, social, and academic problems (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/shw/counserv.shtml>) and a Careers Service (<http://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/>).