

Basic details

UID	 	Cohorts covered	Earliest cohort 2025-26
Long title	Masters Research Project		
New code	PHYS70034	New short title	
Brief description of module (approx. 600 chars.)	<p>A 4-month research project on a state-of-the-art problem within the area of optics. The project will encompass either a laboratory-based practical project, computational or theoretical project, either within one of our research groups or with an industrial partner. You will be supervised by a member of staff with expertise in the area, and will receive guidance and support from the guidance of research-active staff. You will be able to choose from a range of projects that reflect your interests and the background they have developed through their prior studies.</p>		

Available as a standalone module/ short course?

N

Statutory details

	ECTS	CATS	Non-credit	HECOS codes
Credit value	30	60	N	
FHEQ level	Level 7			

Allocation of study hours

	Hours	
Lectures	0	
Group teaching	0	<i>Incl. seminars, tutorials, problem classes.</i>
Lab/ practical	400	
Other scheduled	20	<i>Incl. project supervision, fieldwork, external visits.</i>
Independent study	330	<i>Incl. wider reading/ practice, follow-up work, completion of assessments.</i>
Placement	0	<i>Incl. work-based learning and study that occurs overseas.</i>
Total hours	750	
ECTS ratio	25.00	

Project/placement activity

Is placement activity allowed?

Yes

Module delivery

Delivery mode	Taught/ Campus	Other	
Delivery term		Other	May to September (4 months)

Ownership

Primary department	Physics
Additional teaching departments	Projects in other departments or by external companies are possible

Delivery campus **South Kensington**

Collaborative delivery

Collaborative delivery? **N**

External institution	N/A
External department	N/A
External campus	N/A

Associated staff

Role	CID	Given name	Surname
Module Leader		Christopher	Dunsby

Learning and teaching

Module description

Learning outcomes	<p>On completion of this module you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - design a research plan for addressing the problem being pursued - critically assess techniques appropriate to meeting the project's aims - carry out laboratory/computational/theoretical work at the state-of-the-art - evaluate the performance of different methods and their suitability for the problem studied - present, by both a written thesis and an oral presentation, on the research problem and addressing the problem
Module content	<p>A research-led project in a chosen area of optics and photonics. This is a substantial, open project which tackles an open problem in optics and photonics, or may make a significant, stand-alone contribution to a major research project within the department. It may be theoretical, laboratory based or computational in nature. The project is selected from topics offered by research staff, and is supervised by research staff.</p>
Learning and Teaching Approach	<p>Students will work individually or in pairs on a research-led project with a high degree of independence. Project choice is decided through discussion between the student and project supervisor. Once students have completed their last examinations and runs for 4 months (May to September), in the period students have regular meetings with the project supervisor giving students an opportunity to discuss progress and future plans.</p>
Assessment Strategy	<p>The module is assessed by a written thesis (dissertation) that contributes 80% of the total mark. Students working on their own submit their own individual dissertation. Students working on their own give a 15-minute presentation to the whole MSc class plus the project's supervisor(s) and other students. This has a weight of 20%. Students supervised in pairs give a joint 23-minute presentation followed by 5 minutes of questions to the whole MSc class plus the project's supervisor(s) and other students. This has a weight of 20%. Students supervised in pairs give a joint 23-minute presentation followed by 5 minutes of questions to the whole MSc class plus the project's supervisor(s) and other students.</p> <p>Students will also receive feedback on a progress and future plans oral presentation (to the supervisor) which they give approximately 1.5 months into their project and which does not contribute to the overall mark of the module.</p>
Feedback	<p>Informal feedback will be provided to the students from their project supervisor(s) continuously throughout the duration of the project. Formative feedback is also provided on the progress and future plans oral presentation.</p> <p>Students will receive feedback from the supervisor on the structure of their thesis and on any issues that they wish to consult their supervisor on.</p>

Reading list A set of initial reading appropriate to the particular project will be provided by the

Quality assurance

Date of first approval
Date of last revision
Date of this approval

June 2024

Module leader

Christopher Dunsby

Notes/ comments

Office use only

QA Lead
Department staff
Date of collection

Date exported
Date imported

Template version

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Latest cohort

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partner and under
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491 characters

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open-ended project alone contribute to a computational in / a member of

independence. Initial Project work begins (member). During this opportunity to discuss

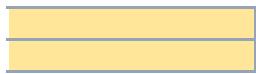
1 mark. Each student presentation followed by academic staff that followed by 7 minutes for

the whole class plus not contribute to the

ously through the presentation.

any specific areas

supervisor.



16/06/2017