

PhD studentship (Full-time)

Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
Department	Department of Biological Sciences
Supervisors	Principle supervisor: Dr Rong Rong (XJTLU, Department of Biological Sciences) and Prof Feng Ma (Suzhou Institute of Systems Medicine) Co-supervisor: Professor Zhiliang Lu (XJTLU, Department of Biological Sciences) Co-supervisor: Dr Neil Blake (UoL, Institute of Infection and Global Health)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	The roles of long non-coding RNA and m6A RNA methylation in host antiviral immunity. 长链非编码 RNA 和 m6A RNA 甲基化在抗病毒免疫中的功能及机制研究
Contact	Please email Rong.Rong@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) and copy doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn with a subject line of the PhD project title

Requirements:

The candidate should have a first class or upper second class honours degree, or a master's degree (or equivalent qualification), in Molecular Biology, Cell Biology, Immunology, Microbiology, or Medicine. Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an IELTS score of 6.5 or above, if the first language is not English. This position is open to all qualified candidates irrespective of nationality.

Degree:

The student will be awarded a PhD degree from the University of Liverpool (UK) upon successful completion of the program.

Funding:

The PhD studentship is available for three years subject to satisfactory progress by the student. The award covers tuition fees for three years (currently equivalent to RMB 80,000 per annum) and Suzhou Institute of Systems Medicine (ISM) will provide a monthly stipend of 3500 RMB as a contribution to living expenses. It also provides up to RMB 16,500 to allow participation at international conferences during the period of the award. The scholarship holder is expected to carry out the major part of his or her research project at ISM in Suzhou, China. However, he or she is

eligible for a research study visit to the University of Liverpool of up to three months, if this is required by the project.

Project Description:

Although extensive evidence has suggested the important roles of lncRNAs and m6A RNA methylation in host-pathogen interactions and host antiviral immunity. However, it is still unclear which lncRNA broadly or specifically controls host antiviral immunity during viral infection. In addition, it is unknown whether the RNA m6A modifiers also participate in the battle between invading pathogens and host immune systems. In this project, we plan to answer these questions and figure out the detail molecular mechanisms. Based on the studies of the project, we will provide diagnosis and therapy strategies and targets for the infectious diseases.

For more information about doctoral scholarship and PhD programme at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU): Please visit

<http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/phd/entry-requirements.html>

<http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/phd/feesscholarships.html>

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are advised to email Rong.Rong@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) or feng.ma.sam@gmail.com (ISM principal supervisor's email address) the following documents for initial review and assessment (please put the project title in the subject line).

- CV
- Two reference letters with company/university letterhead
- Personal statement outlining your interest in the position
- Proof of English language proficiency (an IELTS score of 6.5 or above)
- Verified school transcripts in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)
- Verified certificates of education qualifications in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Professor Feng Ma (feng.ma.sam@gmail.com) or Dr. Rong Rong (Rong.Rong @xjtlu.edu.cn)