PhD studentship (Full-time)

Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
School	Wisdom Lake Academy of Pharmacy
Supervisors	Principal supervisor: Dr Shining Loo (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Dr Antony Kam (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Dr Meng Huee Lee (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Dr Xiaoli Meng (UoL)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	Facile "Plug-and-Play" Nanoscale Protein Nanoparticles for Versatile Targeted Immune Checkpoint Protein Degradation
Contact	Please email Shining.Loo@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) with a subject line of the PhD project title. The principal supervisor's profile is linked here: https://scholar.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/persons/ShiningLoo

Requirements:

A Master's degree with Merit and a Bachelor's degree with first-class or upper second-class honors are required for PhD admissions.

Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an IELTS (or equivalent) 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 99,000 per annum). It also provides up to RMB 16,500 to allow participation at international conferences during the period of the award. The scholarship holders are expected to conduct the majority of their research at XJTLU in Suzhou, China.

Project Description:

This PhD project focuses on developing and optimizing a modular "plug-and-play" protein nanocage platform for targeted cancer therapy. By systematically assembling different targeting and degradation modules onto protein nanoparticles, we aim to create a tunable system that efficiently directs therapeutic agents to specific proteins on cancer cells and promotes their selective degradation.

The project will explore how the arrangement and combination of these modules affect the efficiency of protein targeting and degradation. By optimizing these parameters, the goal is to establish a versatile and effective delivery platform for protein degradation-based therapies in cancer treatment. Applicants interested in innovative protein engineering and targeted therapeutics are encouraged to apply.

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

https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/global/entry-requirements/

https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/global/fees-and-scholarship

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are advised to email Shining.Loo@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) the following documents for initial review and assessment (please put the project title in the subject line).

- CV
- Two formal reference letters
- Personal statement outlining your interest in the position
- Certificates of English language qualifications (IELTS or equivalent)
- Full academic 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)
- PDF copy of Master Degree dissertation (or an equivalent writing sample) and examiners reports available