

PhD studentship (Full-time)

Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
School	Academy of Pharmacy
Supervisors	Principal supervisor: Professor/Dr. Gang Ruan (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Professor/Dr. Neill Liptrott (UoL)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	Investigation of the special intracellular transport process of nanoparticles in mesenchymal stem cells
Contact	Please email Gang.Ruan@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) 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 bioengineering, chemistry, materials science, biomedicine, pharmacy, or a related field. Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an IELTS score of 6.5 (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component), 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 provides a monthly stipend of 5,000 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. It is a condition of the award that holders of XJTLU PhD scholarships carry out 300-500 hours of teaching assistance work per year. The scholarship holder is expected to carry out the major part of his or her research at XJTLU in Suzhou, China. However, he or she is eligible for a research study visit to the University of Liverpool of up to six months, if this is required by the project.

Project Description:

Understanding the underlying biological transport process is fundamental for developing delivery systems of pharmaceuticals and nanoparticles. “Hard-to-transfect cells” are cells known to present special difficulty in intracellular delivery. However, the special transport process underlying the special delivery problem in these cells has not been examined carefully. This project will investigate the intracellular transport of nanoparticles in mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs), a type of hard-to-transfect cells important for regenerative medicine, compared to common cell lines. We will further develop intracellular delivery methods tailored for MSCs, and pursue applications of the thus-obtained MSCs in regenerative medicine.

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/doctoral/entry-requirement-phd/>
<https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/doctoral/postgraduate-research-scholarships>

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are advised to email Gang.Ruan@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 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 with a minimum of 5.5 in each component)
- 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)
- PDF copy of Master Degree dissertation (or an equivalent writing sample) and examiners reports available

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Professor/Dr. Gang Ruan (Gang.Ruan@xjtlu.edu.cn), whose personal profile is linked below, <http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/faculty/gang-ruan>.