Why choose the MBCM

The Master Programme in Cellular and Molecular Biology (MBCM) aims at training students to do research in biomedicine at the cellular and molecular levels, and to pursue any career requiring strong technical and analytical skills in biology. The programme provides intensive training in forefront topics in the field, through the immersion of students in a research environment, and their exposure to an international context. The programme equips students with solid background for evidence-based understanding of fundamental biology concepts. Students develop skills to study mechanisms of disease, and to design advanced diagnostic and therapeutic strategies. Critical and creative thinking are fostered. The MBCM functions ininterruptly since 1982, and has trained annually an average of 30 students in the last 10 years, in close collaboration with the CNC - Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology.

MBCM – at a glance

Courses:
- Advanced level taught by national and international experts

Laboratory rotations:
- CNC, CNC@UC-Biotech, CHUC and other institutes

Courses in English

Research work leading to thesis: one year

MBCM – key features

- Research-oriented training
- Emphasis on experimental strategies
- Problem solving-based learning
- Flexible curriculum
- Teaching in English
- International students
- Collaboration with international programs

MBCM – areas of study

- Neuroscience
- Brain Diseases
- Reproduction Biology
- Cellular & Mitochondria Toxicology
- Cancer Biology
- Host-pathogen Interactions
- Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine

MBCM – collaborations

- CNC - Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology, University of Coimbra
- Neurasmus (Erasmus Mundus Master Program in Neuroscience)
- Double degree with the Università degli Studi del Sannio, Italy
- Janssen Pharmaceutica (Beerse, Belgium)
- VIB Discovery Sciences (Leuven, Belgium)
- Technology-oriented courses abroad with InnoCore (Erasmus++)
- Exchange students with partner European Universities

MBCM Alumni - their opinion

I undoubtedly believe that the MBCM was crucial for my upbringing as a scientist. The fact that teaching was not limited to formal classes but was conveyed also through direct interaction with researchers and through hands-on lab rotations, was particularly appealing and efficacious. I feel that the way I think as a scientist has been highly influenced by the MBCM. I believe that everything I have done so far, from the most basic technical methodologies to the most elaborated theoretical treatment of complex subjects, has been supported by what I have learned, ten years ago, during the MBCM.

Carlos Matos, Univ. Algarve

The bulk of my growth as a young and enthusiastic neuroscientist took place in the MSc of Cellular and Molecular Biology. There I had the first glimpse of what was to become my major research interest and the critical support to finish my thesis abroad. The training given by this MSc turned me in a well-rounded scientist and had a decisive contribution when engaging my PhD.

Tiago Campelo, Univ. Bordeaux

Receiving my Master’s degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology from the University of Coimbra was a great way to step into the research world. As master student I started building an international network that has been essential in key moments of my career.

Andrea Marques, Univ. California San Francisco

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