Welcome to the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences

Introduction to the School and University services
Head of School

Professor Peter Hobson
Deputy Head of School
Professor Adrian Bevan
Welcome to our new School!

We are a new School formed in August 2021 from the existing School of Physics and Astronomy and the department of Chemistry which was in another School within the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

• Strengthen core disciplines which are vital in any research intensive university.

• Exploit the synergies between Physics and Chemistry in research and teaching.

• A better balance of undergraduate student numbers within the Faculty.

• Catalyse the development of new UG and PGT programmes, and new research initiatives.
Welcome to our new School!

High-level research area structure:
Who is who in the School?

Head of the Department of Chemistry is Dr Isaac Abrahams
Head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy is Prof. Adrian Bevan

Head of the School is Prof. Peter Hobson
Deputy Head of School is Prof. Adrian Bevan
School Manager is Lorna Ireland
Director of Education is Dr Lesley Howell
Director of Research is Dr Jan Mol
Overview of Education

Dr Lesley Howell
Director of Education
Who’s Who in Education in SPCS

Director of Education
Dr Lesley Howell

Student Support Manager – Mrs Leonie Dos Santos

Director of Teaching and Learning – Chemistry
Dr Tippu Sheriff

Director of Teaching and Learning – Physics & Astronomy
Dr Christopher White

Senior Tutor – Chemistry
Dr Giorgio Chianello

Senior Tutor – Physics & Astronomy
Dr David Mulryne

Student Support Officer – Mr Harvey Abraham-Green

Year Tutors

Year Tutors

Module Organisers (MO)

Module Organisers/Assistants

Exam Board Chair
Dr Peter Wyatt

Exam Board Chair
Dr Ulla Blumenschein

Maths Support Tutor
Dr Eli Rezasoltani
The Queen Mary Education Approach: Opening the doors of opportunity

To deliver “an outstanding inclusive, world-class education and student experience, co-created with our diverse student body, enhanced by our world-leading research and latest technological developments“

Ambition – to be the most inclusive university of its kind
Four Pillars of excellence in education and student experience

Underpinning all programmes at Queen Mary University of London

Excellence in Education
The education we provide is led by world-class academics: our students are taught by the people who wrote the textbooks. Our strategy builds on our knowledge and subject excellence to ensure that students are co-creators in their education and the learning environment. Our educators are equipped to meet the needs of diverse learners, and can support students to achieve their full potential and be leaders in their chosen fields.

Excellence in Student Engagement
We will continually develop new approaches to support students in their learning and make sure they have a clear voice in the development of the University, working closely with Queen Mary Students' Union.

Excellence in Learning Environment
Providing a world-class digital and physical learning environment for students is crucial for their success. At Queen Mary, students are partners in the development of their environment.

Excellence in Student Employability
We will ensure our students are supported in realising the careers to which they aspire.
Bringing our Education Approach to life

The foundation of education – ACE – consists of 5 Interrelated Components.

Please click on each Component to find out more.

The Interrelated Components are underpinned by:

- Tailored support from Advisors
- Learning support:
  - writing support
  - Get Ahead transition programme
  - targeted learning surgeries
  - mentoring
  - coaching
- Feedback on learning journey:
  - testing knowledge and understanding
  - discussions with programme directors and module organisers
- Development of key study and transferable skills
Delivery 22/23

- Mixed Mode Education (MME)
  - Bringing together technology and pedagogy to support an inclusive and engaging learning experience

- In first instance you should attend in person on campus
  - Maximise student experience
  - Whiteboards
  - Interaction with peers and staff
  - Learning community

- However, should there be an old occasion where you cannot attend in person you will be able to join via Zoom
- Cannot guarantee the same student experience
- MME not in every session (don’t assume!)
- Some classes like your lab classes have a mark associated with attendance and skills assessments with a qualifying mark.
  - This means you cannot pass this module if you do not meet the qualifying mark
What can you expect from us?

- A safe and supportive environment
- Academic, pastoral and developmental support
- Actively listen to concerns and feedback
- Listen to student voice
  - Student reps
  - Staff Student Liaison Committee
  - Coffee mornings/afternoons
- Make improvements and changes to the programmes based on your feedback (where possible)
  - Module evaluations
  - SSLC
What can you expect from us?

Feedback on your work and progress

• Comes in different formats
• Unlikely to be a “model” answer or a mark scheme
• Formative
• Could be an informal discussion in the lab with a demonstrator
• To more formal written feedback
• Provides an opportunity for reflection
• Self assessment – how can I improve?
• How can I act on this feedback for next time?
How to succeed?

Engagement
Thank you
SPCS Student Support

Harvey Abraham-Green
Welcome to the School

From your Student Support Officer
Harvey Abraham-Green

Student Support Officer

h.abrahamgreen@qmul.ac.uk

MS Teams
Where to find us?

SPCS Admin Office – Room 110 (first floor)

Open Monday to Friday (10 – 4pm)

Academic and pastoral information and support

Book a support meeting online or visit the office.
What does a SSO do?

• First point of contact for all students and signposting support
• Offer advice on matters which may be impeding your ability to study
• Monitor attendance and engagement with your studies and coursework.
• Feedback and Improving the student experience
• Oversees all EC claims made by Physics and Chemistry students
If you need support don’t leave it too late!

If we don’t know that you are struggling then we can’t help you!

The biggest regret of first year students is not asking for help sooner If you are having any difficulties at all with your programme of studies please let us know. We are here to help and can provide you with guidance and support.

If you do not feel comfortable approaching us you can always talk to someone else in the School who you have found supportive (such as a module organiser or seminar tutor).
Extenuating Circumstances (ECs)

What are Extenuating Circumstances?

Extenuating circumstances are usually personal or health problems that are both unforeseen and outside of your control.

Health problems include your emotional wellbeing and mental health, as well as your physical health.

Extenuating circumstances do not include computer problems, misreading your exam timetable, employment commitments, planned holidays or events, or local transport delays.
Extenuating Circumstances (ECs)

How to make a claim?
Please visit MySIS to make an EC claim online.

Claims must be supported evidence (unless you self-certify)

Student’s can self-certify up to 3 times each year (for up to 7 days each time)

No back-to-back self-certification claims.

Receiving a decision
University Support Services

Advice and Counselling Service
• Located in Geography Square

Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS)
• Located in the Bancroft Building Room 3.06 (3rd Floor)

QMUL Library
Located on Library Square (Temporary entrance opposite Ground coffeeshop)

Careers Services
Located in room WG3 of the Queens' Building

Students’ Union (QMSU)
Located within the Students’ Union Hub
Staff Student Liaison Committee (SSLC)

FIRST YEAR REPS NEEDED!

Meetings held each semester
School of Physical and Chemical Sciences
Undergraduate Information Zone

School Admin Office

Programmes and Module Information

Degree Programmes

The School of Physical and Chemical Sciences runs the following Undergraduate Programmes

BSc Programmes
- BSc Physics
- BSc Astrophysics
- BSc Theoretical Physics
- BSc Physics with Particle Physics
- BSc Physics with Astrophysics
- BSc Physics with Data Science
- BSc Chemistry
- BSc Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Student Wellbeing at QMUL
Advice and Counselling Service
Advice and Welfare Advisors

- Funding your studies
- Applying for Hardship Funds
- Dealing with Debt
- Budget planning
- Welfare rights and benefits
- Tuition fee issues
- Immigration Law
- International student issues
Counselling

Counsellors are currently offering online appointments via MS Teams, and some face-to-face appointments.

- Relationship problems
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Difficult decisions
- Identity and Sexuality
- Family Problems
- Exam Stress
- Homesickness
- Group therapy
How to contact Advice and Counselling?

Online via MySIS or their webform
The Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning differences and mental health issues at Queen Mary University of London (QMUL).
Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS)

There are specially trained advisors to support with:

- Dyslexia and specific learning differences
- Disabilities and DSA support
- Autism support and assessments
- Mental health issues
- Exam access arrangements (extra time etc.)
- Accommodation and dedicated study space

The Disability and Dyslexia Service is located on the 3rd floor of the Francis Bancroft Building in 3.06.

Please email the Disability and Dyslexia Service or use the DDS online contact form to get in touch or book an appointment.
Student Health Service

It is very important that you protect your health while studying at Queen Mary

You can register online – www.studenthealth.qmul.ac.uk
There is a free Student Health Service available on campus (located in the Geography Building at Mile End Campus).

The Student Health Service is provided by Globe Town Surgery.

Students living in Queen Mary accommodation at Mile End or Whitechapel and students living in the borough of Tower Hamlets (postcodes E1, E2, E3 and E14) are encouraged to register with the Student Health Service.
A very warm welcome from Queen Mary Library Services!
1. Your Library Services Online  qmul.ac.uk/library
Your Library Services on QMPlus
2. Using Scholarly Sources of Information

Queen Mary Library Services helps you to access and use the information you need to succeed at university.

- Scopus
- Web of Science
- Sage Research Methods
- PubMed
- Science Direct
- Jstor
QMUL Library Subject Guides
https://www.qmul.ac.uk/library/library-skills/resource-guides-by-subject

- Databases
- Useful Websites
- Other Libraries
3. Welcome Week Library Tours

Going on a self-directed library tour is a great way to get to know the resources and services that we provide.
4. Study spaces – to suit your study needs

- You might be studying in a group where you need to discuss your work or working on your own where you need a quiet study environment.

- We provide a range of spaces in our three libraries and at other locations at Queen Mary to meet both these needs.
Mile End Library Transformation 2021-2023

• Two-storey extension to the south end of the building, providing an additional 500 study spaces
• More loanable laptops and new PCs
• Sympathetic refurbishment to the 1st and 2nd floors
• A new, enlarged Archives Reading Room
• Fetching Service to retrieve books from 2nd floor for now.
5. Getting Help

- Check Library website for information
- Search our FAQs
- Try our Webchat during staffed hours.
- Email us at library@qmul.ac.uk
Getting Help with Subject Related enquiries

Email the Science and Engineering Teaching & Learning Support Team at:

library-sande@qmul.ac.uk

James Soderman
Faculty Liaison Librarian
Science & Engineering
Getting Help with Academic Skills

- Effective reading and writing
- Revision and exam preparation
- Dissertations
- Maths and statistics
- Academic Integrity
- and more…

Arcadia Woods
Senior Academic Skills Adviser
Science and Engineering

Email our Academic Advisers at:
academicskills@qmul.ac.uk
We wish you every success during your time at Queen Mary!

Thank you
SPCS Careers Consultant – Pash Selopal
QM Careers Hub video
QM Careers Hub

To receive vacancies and events, complete your ‘Profile’ and…

Unlock your QM Careers Hub!

QR code to access QM Careers Hub
You career journey… EAST

EAST is the Queen Mary student career journey, which will help you prepare for your next steps, whether that be work, study, or your own enterprise.

• **Explore** your career options
• **Acquire** experience and skills
• **Showcase** your experience and skills
• **Transition** towards your next steps
In the **Explore** stage, identify:

- Your own career preferences, values, skills and strengths.
- What roles and opportunities you may want to pursue in the future.
Ways you can ‘Explore’

Strongly recommend ✔✔✔
• QM Careers Hub
  • “What can I do with my degree?” pathway
• Careers events
• QTaster

Take a look ✔✔
• Insight Weeks
• Micro Internships
• Workshops
• Mentoring
• Entrepreneurial opportunities

For further support book a Career Guidance appointment
Acquire experience and skills

By **Acquiring** experience and skills you can:

- Pursue different opportunities and progress your career thinking.
- Enrich your CV and future applications.
Ways you can ‘Acquire’ experience and skills

Strongly recommend ✔✔✔
- The Student Consultancy Project
- Mentoring
- QTemps
- Micro Internships / Internships
- ‘Gain Experience’ web page

Take a look ✔✔
- Alumni panels
- QTaster
- Careers Fairs

- CareerSet (CV and Cover Letter tool)
- Entrepreneurial opportunities
- Study Abroad
- Industrial Placement Year
Employability Programmes and Events

- **Qmentoring**: Explore career ideas with a mentor from the QM alumni community or a UK based professional.

- **QTaster**: Gain insight into different companies and roles by visiting a different employer each week. **Deadline: 26th September**

- **Student Consultancy Project**: Build your employability skills working with fellow students on a real-life consultancy project for a business/charity. **Deadline: 26th September**
Employability Programmes and Events

- **Micro Internships**: Complete a 40-hour flexible internship supported with training.

- **Internships**: Complete meaningful internships of varying length, available throughout the year.

- **QTemps**: Build you experience by gaining paid temporary work at the university or local community.

- **Events**: Programme of employer-led activities across Semester A and B to enhance your understanding of the sectors available and provide insight into the recruitment process.
Enterprise

- **QHack**: Develop your entrepreneurial skillset in our weekend bootcamp. Starting early November.

- **QIncubator**: Test your business idea in our 8-week online programme. **Deadline: 26th September**

- **QAccelerator**: Designed to support growing businesses.

- **Funding**:
  - **Try It** – £500 to test an idea.
  - **Build It** – up to £10,000 to build a product.
  - **Launch It** – up to £3,000 to launch a business.
  - **Grow It** – up to £3,000 to grow a business.
Careers Events

• Programme of employer-led activities across Semester A and B to enhance your understanding of the sectors available and provide insight into the recruitment.

• List of events and signup here: [https://www.qmul.ac.uk/careers/events/](https://www.qmul.ac.uk/careers/events/)

Scan here to find out more
School specific support

Regular **newsletters** with a round-up of opportunities – offered by QMUL, employers and external partners.

SPCS Careers-related information on QMplus

1:1 Careers Appointments (In-Person and/or Online)

Highlighting opportunities and resources to your **Academic Advisors**

‘Science & Engineering’ wide events & workshops

Week 7
SPCS School Rep: Al-Habib Mraish
Hello from your Students’ Union!

Muneer Hussain – Vice President
Science and Engineering
Welcome to Queen Mary Students’ Union!

About us

• Queen Mary Students’ Union is student-led and is here to represent and support you during your time here and make sure your experience at Queen Mary is the best it can be.

• We work to improve the student experience by representing students’ views, supporting student skills development and providing hundreds of opportunities and events throughout the year.

• We also offer several on-campus services including shops, bars and cafes, an Academic Advice Service and volunteering programme.

• Many students also work for the Students’ Union, with all roles paying at least the London Living Wage.

• Our aim is simple – we want to make your time at Queen Mary the best it can be!
Our Mission
Together, we improve students’ lives

Our Vision
We want to be at the heart of the student experience

Our Values
Student-led, Democratic & Transparent
Supportive, Inclusive & Accessible
Welcoming, Fun & Committed
Executive Officers 2021-22

Adi Sawalha
President
@PresidentQMSU

Jojo Croft
VP Welfare
@WelfareQMSU

Radhika Thiagarajan
VP Communities
@communitiesqmsu

Saynab Sharif
VP Humanities & Social Sciences
@VPHSSQMSU

Muneer Hussain
VP Science & Engineering
@VPSEQMSU

Charlie Sellar
VP Barts and The London
@officialblsa
Get Involved

Are you ready for some new experiences? We have loads of opportunities available to you to make friends, spark new interests and gain new skills. With so much on offer there’s something for everyone!

**Societies**
We have over 200 student-led Societies. These include academic, campaigning, cultural, faith, educational, music groups and more.

**Volunteering**
From one-off one-day opportunities to regular ongoing roles, we offer lots of ways to volunteer and make a difference in the local community. We also offer opportunities at events like the London Marathon!

**Student Media**
Our Student Media Outlets cover filmmaking, journalism and radio broadcasting.

**Green Mary & Sustainability**
If you’re passionate about the environment get involved in our Green Mary projects and campaigns! We run regular events on and off campus, including at our on-campus allotment and garden and along Regent’s Canal.
Sport & Fitness

There are lots of ways to get involved with Sport at Queen Mary. We have something for everyone from complete beginners to talented athletes.

Club Sport
We offer over 60 Sports Clubs who provide opportunities to get involved in competitive & non-competitive sport through training sessions, social events and participation in local, national and international competitions.

Qmotion Sport & Fitness Centre
Our on-campus Sport and Fitness Centre offering great facilities across three floors, including female only gym, olympic lifting platforms, studio spaces, a sports hall and squash court. There’s great value flexible memberships and over 25 group exercise classes per week including HIIT, Yoga, Circuits & Pilates.

All members receive a free personalised training programme every 6 weeks, with fitness instructors on hand at all times.
Get Active
Our turn up and play, no commitment sports programme offering over 20 sports sessions every week in a relaxed and fun environment for just £2.50 a session. Some sessions and our outdoor pop-ups are free, and we also run a weekly wellbeing walk!

Social Leagues
Create a team and join one of our Social Leagues with your friends, flatmates or coursemates. Sports include netball, cricket, football and more!

Community Foundation
Our Community Foundation offers the opportunity to gain qualifications and coaching experience, alongside making a positive difference in our local community through sport.

Talented Athlete Programme
Offers support to high performing athletes. We offer support to each athlete to achieve their degree and performance goals whilst at Queen Mary.
Events and activities

To make your time at Queen Mary exciting and unforgettable we offer a packed programme of events throughout the year on-campus, online, around London and further afield!

• Our events include weekly club nights on-campus including the legendary Hail Mary night, urban night E1 and indie night Monday’s Calling.

• We also run trips & tours, theatre visits, arts & crafts sessions, wellbeing events and gala events.

• Events this year have included a petting zoo, day out at Thorpe Park, Boat Ball down the Thames, dog therapy, Greatest Show Circus Event, outdoor cinema, picnics and many more.

• We also run celebrations and liberation campaigns for things like Black History Month, LGBT+ History Month and Lunar New Year.

• Our main Students’ Union events programme is complemented by hundreds of events throughout the year from our Clubs & Societies.
The Students’ Union is also responsible for representing students at Queen Mary, and we help students to have their say and make their voice heard. Elected reps listen to student feedback and work with the University to change things to improve your experience here and run campaigns and projects throughout the year.

Elections & Reps

• The Students’ Union Elections run in September and January so students can decide who represents them. We have over 50 part-time representations and every school and year group has a Course Rep. Everyone has the opportunity to run to be a rep.

• Being an elected rep is a great experience and you can make a real difference to the student experience here at Queen Mary!

• We make sure our reps are able to improve their CV, meet new people, build new skills and help them to have a positive impact. You’re able to run your own campaigns and projects and be the voice of the students you represent.
Help & Support

Academic Advice Service
The Students’ Union’s Academic Advice Service is here to help students if they encounter academic problems while studying, offering confidential advice and guidance on appeals, complains, assessment offences and de-registration.

Advice & Counselling
The Advice and Counselling service provide a range of specialist, professional and confidential services to support you whether you are disabled, have financial problems, need immigration advice or just need to talk to someone or pointing in the right direction.

Liberation Work
We have dedicated, elected Liberation Representatives to assist with any needs. We also run liberation campaigns throughout the year including Disability Awareness Fortnight, Black History Month, LGBT+ History Month and Jewish Heritage Fortnight.
The Students’ Union is a not-for-profit charity.

Every penny of profit we make is reinvested back into the activities, campaigns and opportunities we provide for students. We run lots of spaces on campus and offer over 250 student staff roles every year - giving you the opportunity to have a job on campus whilst you study. All our student jobs pay at least the London Living Wage.

Venues

Drapers Bar and Kitchen and The Griff Inn are located on campus and have a tasty range of food and drink at student friendly prices! By night these venues are home to some of our biggest on-campus events. They’re a great place to hang out with friends, have fun and party!

Cafés

Ground Café and The Shield Café offer the best coffee on campus and are the perfect spot to take a break between lectures, study or catch-up with friends. They offer hot drinks, smoothies, delicious pastries from the local Rinkoff Bakery and a range of sandwiches, paninis, sushi and salads.
Our Places and Spaces

Shops
The Village Shop and Union Shop are located on the campus and offer a lunchtime meal deal, stationery and groceries. Union Shop is also home to all our official swag and merch, whilst the Village Shop located in the Student Village is our convenience store offering groceries, toiletries, fresh & frozen food, alcohol, stationery and much more, all on the doorstep of halls.

Places & Spaces
If you need somewhere to chill out or study, the Students’ Union Hub and The Nest are great places to spend time between lectures. A student favourite is our table football and lunch area where we have microwaves to heat up your own lunch.

Our Multi-Faith Centre is also located in the Students’ Union Hub, with Friday Prayer held each Friday in The Nest.
Find out more....

Visit the Welcome Fair on 21, 22 & 23 September.

Visit our welcome website
www.qmsu.org/welcome

Follow us on social media to see what we’re up to
@QMSU
Thank you!

qmsu.org
QMSU
@QMSU
Queen Mary Students' Union (QMSU)
QM Alumni Network