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# FRONTIERS IN HUMAN HEALTH

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SUMMER 2025  
PROGRAMME HANDBOOK

## Introduction

Welcome to the Frontiers in Human Health Summer School at St George's, University of London. With a strong emphasis on research-informed teaching, this programme is intended to provide you with an understanding of some of the world's major health challenges and the research approaches used to address them in fields including global health, immunology, genomic medicine, oncology and radiotherapy, neurosciences, cardiovascular health, and population health.

This handbook contains general administration information for getting started and outlines the academic programme, assessments, and summary timetable.

## Contact Information

The names of the Summer School course team are shown below, along with the email address to use for any queries.

Summer School Course Directors	Dr Efthymia Papaevangelou <a href="mailto:summer@sgul.ac.uk">summer@sgul.ac.uk</a>
Summer School Officer (general & social programme queries)	Nikki George <a href="mailto:summer@sgul.ac.uk">summer@sgul.ac.uk</a>

In addition, there will be St George's students in the team as Summer School Assistants and they will be your close companions over the four weeks.

## International students only

If you are travelling from abroad, please check both the advice of the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office](#)(FCO) and the advice of your own government before making any arrangements to travel. You cannot currently enter the UK [if you've been in or through a country on the banned travel list](#) (sometimes known as the 'red list') in the last 10 days, unless you're British, Irish or you have the right to live in the UK.

More information about [entering the UK](#) including what to do before you travel and quarantining when you arrive, can be found on the GOV.UK website.

If you have any visa or immigration related questions, please do not hesitate to contact the International Advising Team at [student.immigration@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:student.immigration@sgul.ac.uk)

## Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Induction Day

### Welcome and Introduction to the Frontiers in Human Health Programme

The induction day will start at 10.00 am with a warm welcome from the course leadership team, an introduction to the School and a chance for all participants to get to know one another.

### Tour and Registration

Current St George's students will give you a tour of St. George's University and Hospital site including important features such as coffee shops and restaurants as well as the location of teaching rooms. .

### Lunch

Food and drinks will be provided as you get to know your fellow students.

### Virtual Learning Environment

You will have an interactive demonstration of how you can use Canvas, our online virtual learning environment.

### Welcome Social Event

Join us in our Student's Union bar from 4.00 pm for food and drinks and an opportunity to chat to some of the programme team.

## Academic Programme

### 1. Learning Outcomes

By the end of the Summer School, you will be able to:

- Identify past advancements and current research to address challenges at the frontiers of Global health, Genomic Medicine, Neurosciences, Population Health, Oncology and Radiotherapy, Cardiovascular Health, Immunology and Immunotherapy, and Bench to.
- Appraise and discuss key concepts, research approaches and enabling technologies that underpin(ned) these advancements and apply informed speculation about how they may advance human health in the future.
- Apply hypothesis-driven research principles to laboratory bioscience experimentation, providing a rationale for experimental design and methodology choices.
- Critically analyse experimental data and present findings clearly and meaningfully for a research audience using a visual medium (poster) and associated oral presentation.

(There is no pre-reading necessary for the Summer School).

## 2. Assessment

For award of academic credit, achievement of module outcomes will be assessed by two summative assessments: i) a two-hour written examination and ii) a visual group poster with an accompanying group short oral presentation.

An aggregate mark of 40% across the two assessments will result in award of 15 academic credits.

Students who wish to attend the Summer School without undertaking the assessments can do so and will be given a certificate of attendance (without award of academic credit) as long as they have attended 80% of sessions.

### i) Written examination

You will undertake an invigilated two-hour online examination in which you will answer a single question that will have been presented to you during their first week of the Summer School.

The question, which will be formulated around the theme of Frontiers in Human Health, drawing on insights gained during the course, complemented by your own critical analysis, reflections, and speculations.

To support the assessment, you will have an exam briefing where the assignment will be explained and can be discussed. In the first week you will also have a Writing Workshop led by the Head of Communications at St George's on how to go about writing for informed non-specialists, covering researching a publication, eye-catching headlines, structural tips, and advice on angle/tone of voice/style.

The exam is scheduled for the beginning of Week 3 and is based on learning gained during the first two weeks of the programme. (The second two weeks focus on the laboratory mini-research project).

### ii) Poster and oral presentation

The mini-research project is assessed in the form of a conference-style poster presentation and accompanying oral presentation in groups. In your research project groupings, you will design and produce a scientific poster describing the background, rationale, methods, and findings of your mini-research project, critically analysing the results and discussing their limitations, wider implications, and next steps. The group will give an oral presentation on their poster to peers and an expert panel of assessors, with each member of the group participating.

### Assignments weighting

The Examination contributes 60% to the final grade and the mini-research project 40%. Of this, the quality of the group poster contributes 20% and the oral presentation 20%.

## Summary Timetable

The at-a-glance summary timetable gives you a sense of the shape of the programme across the four weeks and across a day. Further details about sessions, teachers, keynote speakers and the people you will meet will follow, and more information is included below.

The first half of the Summer School is built around themes on Global health, Genomic Medicine, Neurosciences, Population Health, Oncology and Radiotherapy, Cardiovascular Health, Immunology and Immunotherapy, and Bench to Bedside. The academic teams leading the themed sessions will mostly be using the format below and may end with an interactive panel discussion.

Outline format for Themed morning sessions			<i>The session will aim to (i) give you a sense of past revolutions that have improved human health, (ii) explore how research (and/or enabling technologies) are addressing current human health challenges, and (iii) speculate on future challenges and possible ways of tackling them.</i>
Setting the scene	10.00 – 10.30	30 mins	
Expert session 1	10.30 – 11.15	45 mins	
Break	11.15 – 11.30	15 mins	
Expert session 2	11.30 – 12.15	45 mins	
Break	12.15 – 12.30	15 mins	
Panel discussion	12.30 – 1.30	60 mins	

These themed morning sessions are complemented with interactive workshops or visits including one to our Museum of Human Diseases, and two Research Insights talks.

Learning across the first two weeks is assessed in the Exam at the beginning of Week 3 so that it is out of the way for you to enjoy the mini-research project that is the focus of the last two weeks. These sessions will be flexible and highly interactive, involving a sequence of experimental design workshops where you will negotiate and design your cell and molecular research in groups followed by sessions in the laboratory to conduct your research.

Data analysis and presentation workshops afterwards will guide you on how to go about finding the meaning of your findings and their significance for the field, and how to present them in a conference-style poster. Groups will present their research findings via the poster and oral presentation to fellow students, the course team and some assessors on the morning of the last day.

The timetable (on Canvas) allows you a day off with several free afternoons. On these days you can participate in optional visits/workshops aligned with your interests or choose to have a day off. One-hour lunch breaks are built in from 1.30-2.30 across the weeks and all sessions include regular breaks.

Sessions do not start before 10 am. The day usually ends at 4 pm (sometimes earlier) except for the two days with Research Insights talks. These events, which will start with tea and cakes and end at 5.30, will be opened up to Master's students across the university.

## Social Programme

Details of your social activities will be included in your timetable and further correspondence will be sent to you in advance of your arrival.

If you have any questions regarding the social programme, please email [summer@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:summer@sgul.ac.uk)

## Behavioural expectations

### Attendance

In a small course rich in interactive sessions, having all participants attending and engaging is particularly important for all to get the most from the School and prepare well for the assessment. If you are absent from teaching or examinations due to illness, please inform Nikki George ([summer@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:summer@sgul.ac.uk)) as soon as possible.

### Expectations during Teaching Sessions

1. In order to make the most of your time on the course, be sure to arrive on time for teaching sessions. You should aim to get there ahead at least **5 mins before** the start of the teaching to avoid any disruption.
2. Please **switch off your mobile phone** and watch bleeps, and refrain from conducting phone or text conversations during a lecture.
3. Please do not record, make videos or audio recordings without permission.

### Communications from Staff

You will receive your St George's email account shortly after starting your course. Your St George's email account will serve as the main point of contact between staff and students, so make sure to check your e-mail regularly.

The Registry holds your contact details. Details of this are in the SGUL Data Protection Statement. You can view the statement at any time on St. George's website <https://www.sgul.ac.uk/about/our-professional-services/information-services/information-governance/data-protection/privacy-notice>

St. George's may also contact you by SMS (text message) in the case of major incident or national emergency. It is important to keep your address and telephone information up to date. You can make amendments by coming into the Student Centre or by logging into the Portal.

### Our facilities

St George's is the only UK University based on a hospital site, St George's Hospital, which is where the Channel 4 television series *24 hours in A&E* is filmed. We offer a unique opportunity to study and work alongside the full range of clinical professionals and their patients. Based in the thriving multi-cultural hub of Tooting in South-West London, our location has the added advantage of being just a short tube ride from Central London and all the city lifestyle has to offer.

## The Museum of Human Diseases

Our on-site museum houses a collection of over 2,000 pathological specimens, including a number of original specimens donated by Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie in 1843. You will have the opportunity to visit it during the Summer School and attend to a workshop organised by our Pathology Museum Curator.

## Research laboratories

Our research laboratories are fully fitted with all the equipment necessary for the students mini-research projects. This includes benchtop and high-end microscopes, spectrophotometers, DNA amplifiers, organ baths and specialist glassware.

## Library and learning technology

Our modern health sciences library offers a wide range of books, e-books, academic journals, and other resources to support you. You will also have access to online resources, such as the Canvas virtual learning environment and our Hunter discovery service to help you find the information you need. The library is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and comprises silent, quiet and group learning areas, as well as four group discussion rooms.

## IT facilities

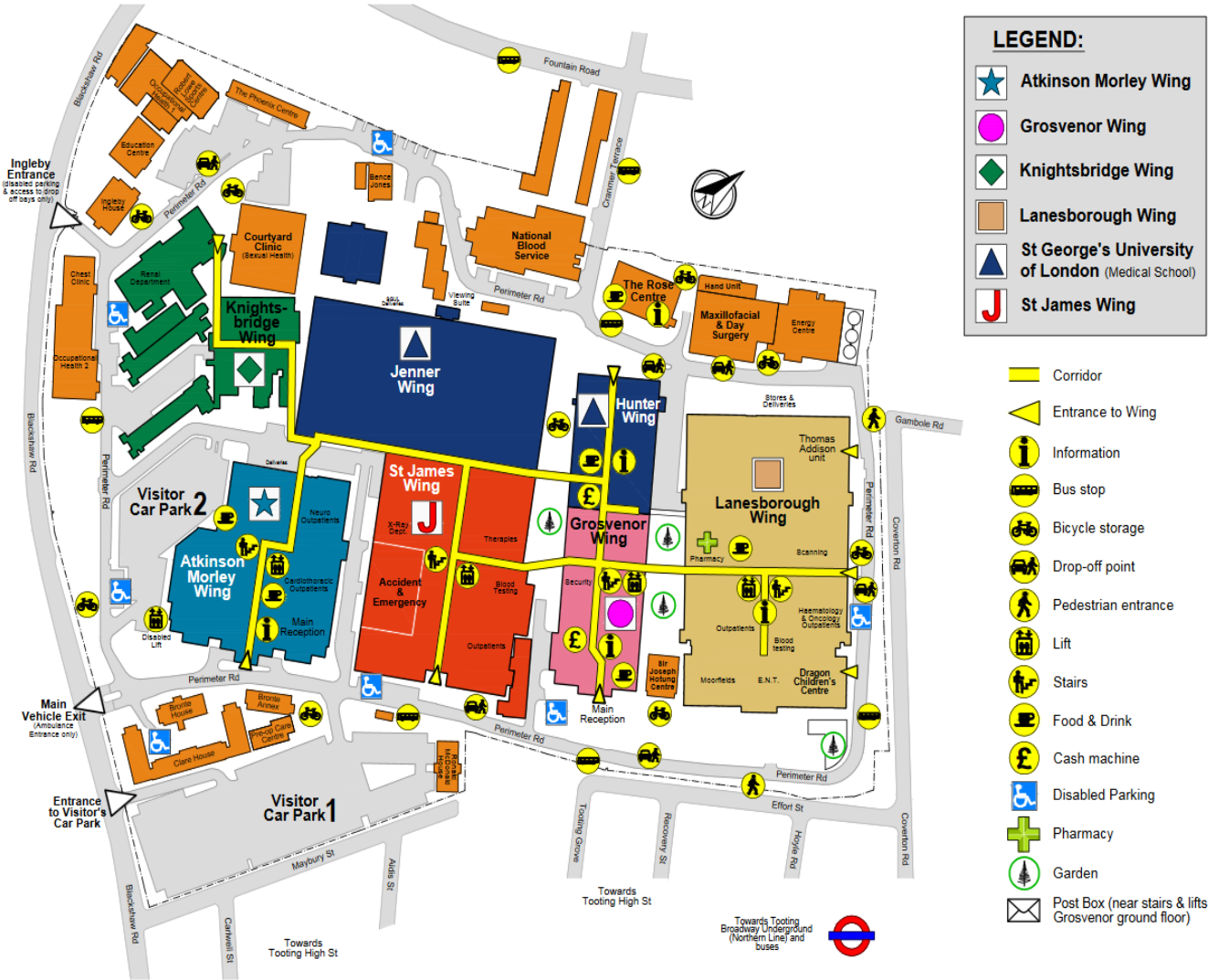
We have five computer suites housing 260 workstations. Three of these suites are accessible 24 hours a day. It's easy to find a free space with our handy real-time computer locator. We also have 75 self-service laptops available. Free Wi-Fi covers the whole campus, including all accommodation. You can use these resources to access your course materials, discussion boards and feedback through Canvas.



Site maps

# St George's Hospital - Site map

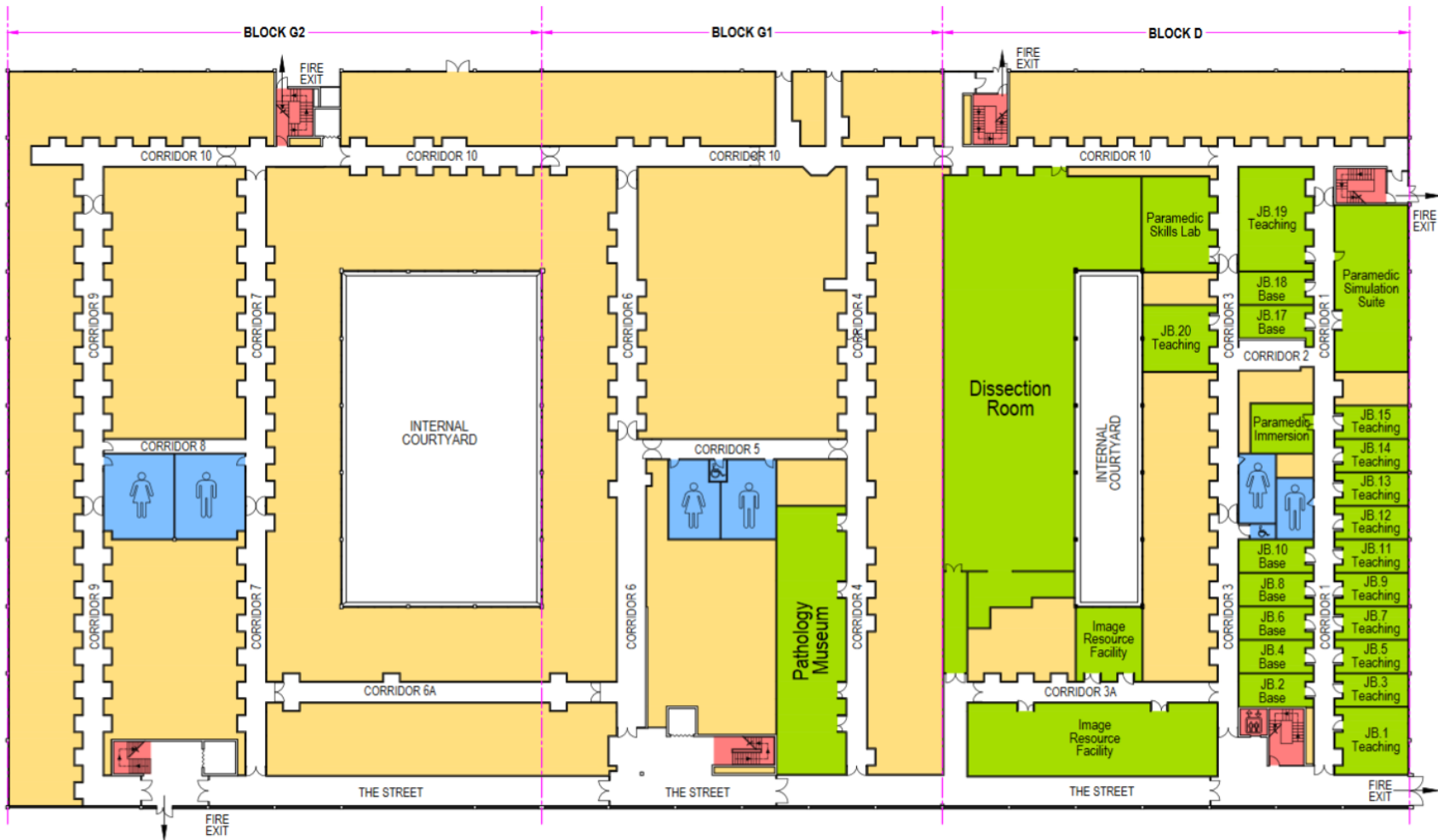
St George's Healthcare **NHS**  
NHS Trust



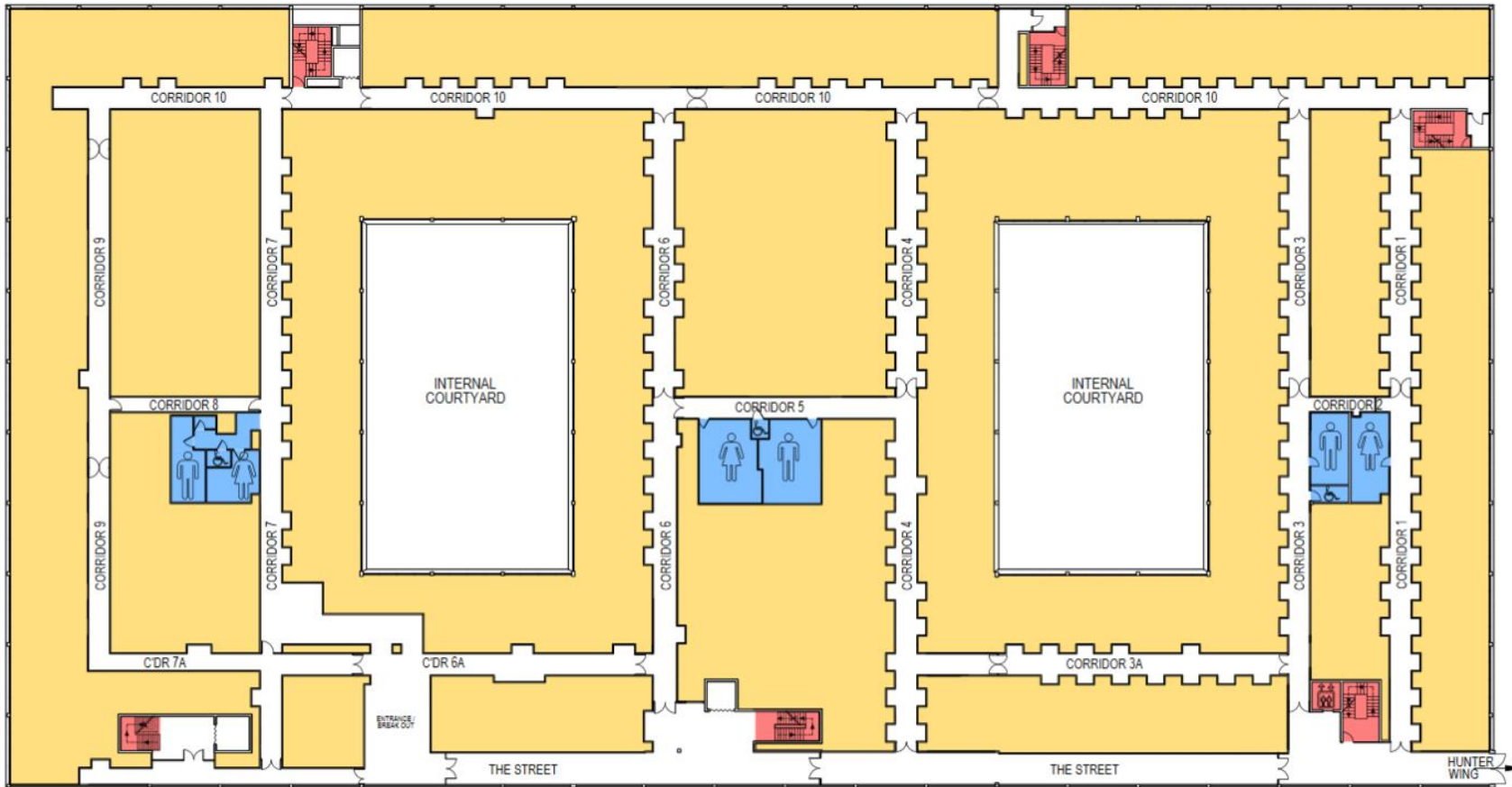




Hunter Wing - Ground Floor



## Jenner Wing - Basement



## Jenner Wing - Second Floor