Life Sciences

2+2
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Why choose the 2+2 at the University of Liverpool?

Our story began in 1881... The University of Liverpool became one of the first civic universities. The original redbrick.

Nearly 140 years later, we are still as original as ever – offering different viewpoints and daring ideas. Unique perspectives and a city bursting with character. We are uncovering world firsts through our pioneering research and helping you to forge your own original path to success. Studying in Liverpool will provide you with an amazing, life-changing university experience that will help you to achieve your ambitions.

Internationally recognised

• Ranked 181st in the QS World University Rankings (2021)
• Ranked 101-150 in the Academic Ranking World Universities (2021)
• 20th in the UK for research power with 7 subjects ranked in the top 10 in the UK’s Research Excellence Framework (both Chemistry and Computer Science ranked #1 in the UK for 4* & 3* research THE 2014).

Graduate outcomes for 2+2 Students

• 87% of all 2+2 graduates in Liverpool achieved a 1st or 2:1 upon graduation
• 80% of 2+2 graduates in Liverpool who were in further study after graduating from the University of Liverpool were enrolled in QS Top 100 Universities (DHLE 2020, University of Liverpool analysis of unpublished data)
• One of the top 25 UK universities targeted by leading graduate employers (High Fliers 2020).

Support services

Happy students are successful students. In order to help you achieve your ambitions, the University of Liverpool has a wide range of services to support you throughout your studies, including:

• Academic advisors
• International advice and guidance
• English Language Centre
• Careers Studio
• Student services (Health, Counselling, etc)
• Guild of Students
• Sports and Fitness Centre
• Libraries
• On-campus accommodation.

The university offers great facilities, the 24-hour library, informational Career Centre and the gym. The campus is a very friendly, passionate place with a good balance of studying and socialising.

Siqi Li
2+2 alumna in Communications and Media
Life Sciences at Liverpool

Choose Life Sciences at Liverpool and you will have more than 100 years of teaching and research experience supporting you. Over that time, we have developed an academic community that brings together biological and medical sciences, offering you a breadth and depth of flexible study choice we believe is unrivalled in the UK. In Liverpool, you can really shape your studies according to your interests, and be confident that the teaching you receive is informed by the very latest, ground-breaking research. We investigate development and normal function in humans, animals, plants, microbes and single cells, as well as disease processes and treatments. Life scientists work at the heart of critical topics for the planet, such as global warming, new energy sources, food security and pandemics.

Shape your study with real flexibility and choice
You will study in one of the largest Schools of Life Science in the UK, meaning you can shape your studies by choosing modules from across the entire spectrum of the life sciences, according to your degree of choice. We aim to make you an expert in one particular field while having the ability to cross discipline boundaries, a combination of strengths that is highly attractive to prospective employers.

Enjoy excellent career prospects
You will benefit from our excellent international reputation for research in growth areas such as the biotechnology, post-genomic, environmental and pharmaceutical industries. New technological developments in genome sequencing and bioinformatics are providing fresh insights across life sciences, and the demand for graduates in these areas of science is therefore extremely high.

Work in leading-edge facilities
More than £30 million has recently been invested in our facilities, such as our Biology Teaching Centre, the state-of-the-art Biosciences Building, the Biomedical Sciences Building and the Human Anatomy Resource Centre. This ensures your studies are fully supported by the very best in teaching and research equipment.

Languages at Liverpool
Studying a programme within Life Sciences allows you to study a language as an extracurricular course, on top of your degree. See liverpool.ac.uk/languages for more information.

How you are assessed
As well as factual knowledge and understanding, biologists need practical and organisational skills, and an ability to work both alone and with other people. We record development of these abilities through continuous assessment during each semester and by final examination.

You will also prepare posters, complete tests, analyse data, give short talks, research the scientific literature and write essays and reports. The style of examination progresses from multiple choice questions, and short answers towards more extended formats such as essays and reports in the later years of each degree programme, as your understanding deepens.

Summer Abroad
Once you arrive at the University you’ll have the opportunity to apply for one of our exciting Summer Abroad programmes. Summer Abroad allows you to visit a new country whilst undertaking worthwhile academic study. Destinations include Australia, France and Canada. Find out more at: liverpool.ac.uk/study-abroad/outbound/what-is-study-abroad/summer/

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Languages at Liverpool
Studying a programme within Life Sciences allows you to study a language as an extracurricular course, on top of your degree. See liverpool.ac.uk/languages for more information.

How you learn
You will experience a range of learning environments during your studies at Liverpool. These will include student-centred activities as well as lectures, tutorials, laboratory practicals, data handling sessions and computer workshops. Some of these activities will be performed individually, such as personal research projects, and others in small tutorial or project groups, in addition to formal lectures and workshops. You will have research staff as well as your own academic advisor for individual tuition on our acclaimed tutorial programme.
In the public sector, Life Sciences graduates are in demand in research institutes, government departments, the National Health Service, forensic science and the Environment Agency. Commercial sectors that actively recruit graduates from the Life Sciences include the pharmaceutical, food, biotechnology, water and agriculture industries.

There is also an increasing demand for life scientists to contribute to the public understanding of science as journalists and information/liaison officers, in view of the ethical and environmental issues that arise, for example, by developments in molecular biology and biotechnology.

In addition to all of the opportunities for graduates in general, including careers outside of biology (such as management, accountancy and human resources), the skills you have obtained in our degree programmes will be of considerable benefit.

In addition there is the option of the LIFE399 Life sciences work-based placement module. LIFE399 is an optional third year module which runs during the course of the summer prior to Year Three. Students will undertake a placement to assist their personal development and employability, and will complete a skills audit, reflective log and report, based on their experience. The module is worth 15 academic credits.

STAFF PROFILE
Dr Rachel Floyd

Dr Floyd is the Programme Director for Biological Sciences. In addition to teaching numerous modules in Biological Sciences, her research focuses on the pathogenicity and persistence of Gram-negative bacteria during urinary tract infections and how they might be manipulated therapeutically. As a result of her research, Dr Floyd won a highly competitive Kidney Research UK fellowship.

Recent employers of our graduates
- AstraZeneca
- BBC
- Blue Planet Aquarium
- Chester Zoo
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Eli-Lilly
- Glaxo SmithKline
- Home Affairs, Security and International Development
- United Utilities
- RSPCA
- NHS
- Ministry of Defence
- Unilever
- Vodafone
- Public Health England
- Red X Pharma
- Royal Society of Biology
- The Environment Agency.

The University of Liverpool conducts advanced biological researches with excellent research facilities covering multiple areas. The modules are taught by the experts in the corresponding areas, so I can learn cutting-edge knowledge in various fields. Additionally, Liverpool provides a wide range of summer internships, which is really beneficial for my future career.

Peng Chai
2+2 alumnus in Biochemistry

Biochemistry BSc (Hons)

Biochemistry is the study of molecular structures and interactions in living organisms. Biochemists seek to understand living organisms in terms of chemical reactions.

If you have a natural curiosity for science and a proven understanding of biology and chemistry, coupled with a desire to learn how science can be exploited for the benefit of mankind, then you have a fascinating career ahead of you.

Biochemists are in great demand by employers and this degree will provide you with the knowledge and skills that employers want in medical and agricultural research, the pharmaceutical and other biotechnology industries, as well as in education.

Programme in detail

What is the biochemical basis of disease? How does DNA control our development, our metabolism and our personal characteristics? How do enzymes work and how do hormones control biological function? These are just some of the fascinating questions addressed in this programme.

In Year Three you will have the opportunity to complete a project in one of our excellent research laboratories. You will become proficient in IT and will use the latest software to retrieve and analyse data. Communication skills, scientific writing and oral presentation, together with a range of other employability skills are also taught, enabling you to present your findings effectively to a range of audiences.

Key modules

Year Two

Core modules
- Advanced biochemical techniques (LIFE224)
- Biological chemistry (LIFE245)
- Cell signalling in health and disease (LIFE202)
- E-biology: informatics for life sciences (LIFE225)
- E-biology: informatics for life sciences II (LIFE242)
- Essential skills for life sciences II (LIFE223)
- From genes to proteins (LIFE201)

STAFF PROFILE
Dr Elliott Stollar

Dr Stollar is a lecturer in Biochemistry. With a PhD from Cambridge University, his research focuses on biophysical tools to probe protein structure, dynamics and interactions to gain a deeper understanding of protein interaction specificity.

Dr Stollar teaches a variety of modules, including Biochemistry, Biotechnology and Molecular Science.

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- Crown Prosecution Service
- Eli-Lilly
- Glaxo SmithKline
- Home Affairs, Security and International Development
- United Utilities
- RSPCA
- NHS
- Ministry of Defence
- Unilever
- Vodafone
- Public Health England
- Red X Pharma
- Royal Society of Biology
- The Environment Agency.
Microbiology BSc (Hons)

In spite of their size, the impact of microbes on the planet is so extensive that life as we know it could not exist without them. In addition, microbes cause many of the known diseases of humans, animals and plants. Knowledge of microbiology will enable you to improve the quality of our lives in relation to the environment, to fight disease, and to combat pollution. Microbiology plays a key role in genetic engineering and other modern biotechnologies, such as antibiotic production and the exploitation of new sources of food and energy.

Programme in detail
This programme covers a broad range of topics, with in-depth knowledge of both natural processes and human affairs. You will study modules such as Microbial diversity and versatility, Biotechnology and Advanced microbiological techniques.

You will be able to identify individual species and grow them in pure culture, using aseptic techniques so that they can be safely handled and examined by microbiological methods. Project work will include the use of specialised research equipment alongside the members of the Microbiology Research Group and members of other departments, including medical and veterinary microbiologists in the Institute of Infection and Global Health and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

Key modules
Year Two
Core modules
- Advanced skills in biological sciences (LIFE355)
- or life sciences work based placement (LIFE399)
- Research project (LIFE363).

Selected optional modules
- Advanced biotechnology (LIFE327)
- Bacterial disease mechanisms (LIFE318)
- Becoming human: genomics, development, and evolutionary anthropology (LIFE364)
- Cell signalling in health and disease (LIFE305)
- Chemotherapy of parasitic disease (LIFE338)
- Current skills and topics in evolutionary biology (LIFE224)
- Drug metabolism and drug response (LIFE315)*
- Gene expression and development (LIFE323)
- Genes and cancer (LIFE302)
- Genome biology and technology (LIFE342)
- Human and clinical genetics (LIFE321)
- Microbiomes – microbial diversity and host interactions (LIFE343)
- Molecular medicine (LIFE306)
- Parasitology (LIFE361)
- Protein structure, function and organisation (LIFE303)
- The body in motion: Musculoskeletal functioning in health, performance and disease (LIFE335)
- Topics in global health (LIFE340)
- Vector biology: theory, research and implementation (LIFE359)
- Viral disease mechanisms (LIFE320).

*With the agreement of the Programme Director

Selected optional modules
- Advanced genetics techniques (LIFE226)
- Cell signalling in health and disease (LIFE202)
- Drug action (LIFE206)
- E-biology: informatics for life sciences (LIFE225)
- E-biology: informatics for life sciences II (LIFE242)
- From genes to proteins (LIFE201)
- Molecular and medical genetics (LIFE208)
- Molecular science (LIFE203)
- The immune system in health and disease (LIFE221).

Year Three
Core modules
- Advanced skills in microbiology (LIFE325)
- Bacterial disease mechanisms (LIFE318)
- Chemotherapy of parasitic disease (LIFE338)
- Drug metabolism and drug response (LIFE315)*
- Microbial diversity and versatility (LIFE329)
- Microbiomes – microbial diversity and host interactions (LIFE343)
- Research project (LIFE363)
- Vector biology: Theory, research and implementation (LIFE359)
- Viral disease mechanisms (LIFE320).

*With the agreement of the Programme Director

STAFF PROFILE
Dr. Gemma Wattret

An alumna of the University of Liverpool, Dr. Wattret is a Lecturer in the School of Life Sciences and is the Programme Director for Microbiology. With research interests in food borne diseases and host-pathogen interactions, Dr. Wattret has published in numerous prestigious journals. Dr. Wattret teaches modules within the School of Life Sciences.
## Selected module overview

**Year Two**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced biochemical techniques LIFE224</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Provides practical training in a number of techniques used in biochemistry, including analysis of enzyme activity and stability and protein purification and analysis using chromatography and electrophoresis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced experimental design and analysis LIFE238</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Builds competence in formulating and testing hypotheses and choosing the appropriate statistical analyses. Learn to design and execute scientific experiments and analyse and interpret experimental data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced genetics techniques LIFE226</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Provides practical training that will help you to carry out your projects in genetics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced microbiological techniques LIFE228</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Develops practical, research skills in microbiology by illustrating key concepts in microbiology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological chemistry LIFE245</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module aims to develop knowledge and understanding of the chemical process that underpins biology. Contents include thermodynamics, chemistry of water, organic structure and reactions, kinetics and enzyme activity, spectroscopy and bioinorganic and redox chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biotechnology LIFE210</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module introduces the ways in which biology is utilised for commercial purposes and describes the production of antibiotics, biomass, single cell protein, biopolymers and vaccines. You will develop your knowledge and understanding in biotechnology, and the ability to apply, evaluate and interpret this knowledge to solve problems in biotechnology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell signalling in health and disease LIFE202</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module gives an understanding of the molecular mechanisms that allow cells to communicate with each other and explains the general principles of these signalling mechanisms and then goes on to describe some of these in more detail. This module also illustrates how defects in these signalling processes can result in a variety of diseases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical techniques CHEMO22</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>The aim of this module is to introduce students to the basic techniques used in synthetic organic chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug action LIFE206</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module will enable students to develop their understanding of the cardiovascular, endocrine and central nervous systems and the mechanisms by which drugs interact with physiological processes operating within each of these systems. It will provide an insight into the mechanisms of immune function and dysfunction, and the actions of drugs that target the immune system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-biology: informatics for life sciences LIFE225/LIFE242</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Provides a practical appreciation of the nature and significance of both the scientific and ethical dimensions of digital data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrine and neuro-physiology LIFE204</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module aims to explain the essential background knowledge to understand basic neuroscience. This module will also provide an understanding of physiological homeostatic regulatory mechanisms, with particular regard to the endocrine and digestive systems and develop knowledge and understanding in physiology, and ability to apply, evaluate and interpret this knowledge to solve physiological problems.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: modules are illustrative only and subject to change.

<table>
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<th>Module title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essential skills for life sciences II LIFE223</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Further develops the essential life science skills that are required to improve your study skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evolutionary biology LIFE213</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides a modern framework for understanding how organisms evolve and the major transitions in evolution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From genes to proteins LIFE201</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module gives knowledge and understanding of the mechanisms involved in gene expression and how these mechanisms are regulated in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. You will gain the ability to explain how post-translational modifications modify protein structure and function and the ability to apply, evaluate and interpret this knowledge to solve problems in genetics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular and medical genetics LIFE202</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the range of biological mechanisms that control the structure and stability of the genetic material.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular science LIFE237</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>This module aims to provide students with practical experience in a number of techniques used in molecular biology and equip students to perform analysis of DNA fragments by agarose gel electrophoresis. You will be introduced to PCR-based assays for gene cloning and demonstrate methods used for cloning, and analysing genes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacological chemistry CHEMO038</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The module offers students a grounding in organic chemistry and spectroscopy that is directly relevant to Pharmacology. There is a particular emphasis on relating each topic studied to pharmacological examples.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical skills in tropical diseases LIFE236</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Enhances knowledge and understanding of the biology and control of parasites of medical importance, and their vectors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of pharmacology LIFE207</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develops an understanding of the quantitative aspects of drug action on cellular receptors and demonstrates the relationship between drug efficacy and chemical structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure and dynamics of macromolecules LIFE203</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides knowledge and understanding of the latest methodologies and techniques that are used to study the fine detail of macromolecules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Techniques in cell biology LIFE227</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Trains you in microscopy, and the ability to use different microscopic techniques to analyse cell structure and function.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The immune system in health and disease LIFE221</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develops knowledge of the immune system and its role in protection against disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The multicellular organism: tissues, development, regeneration and aging LIFE205</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Extends knowledge of the structure and function of fundamental tissues, such as epithelial and connective tissue and of specialised tissues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virology LIFE209</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the fundamental features and properties of viruses and viral infections and builds on knowledge and understanding of the use and development of molecular biology technologies in virology and the capacity to describe problems associated with viruses and their control, and identify positive applications of viruses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: modules are illustrative only and subject to change.

**STAFF PROFILE**

**Professor Luciane Vieira de Mello**

Professor Mello is a Professor of Bioscience Education at the University of Liverpool. In addition to publishing over 40 research articles in biochemistry and bioinformatics, she recently was awarded the Biochemical Society’s 2019 Teaching Excellence Award. She is also the Chair of the Biochemical Society’s Training Theme Panel, the director of of Internationalisation in the School of Life Sciences and teaches a wide variety of modules within the School of Life Sciences.
### Selected module overview

**Year Three**

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<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advanced biotechnology LIFE327</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Describes current approaches to exploit microorganisms and microbial processes in the context of modern developments in biotechnology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advanced skills in biochemistry LIFE301</strong></td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module develops your science presentation skills in various formats and to various target audience and will enhance your ability to search, identify, apply, critically evaluate and interpret biochemical knowledge to solve complex problems. This module also provides advice, inspiration and guidance for career development and employability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advanced skills in microbiology LIFE325</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develops the skills necessary for using databases to solve problems in microbiology. Introduces current scientific methodologies and topical issues within microbiology and develops enhanced presentation skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bacterial disease mechanisms LIFE318</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>To explain to students the common themes and diversity of mechanisms used by bacteria to cause disease. To develop in students an understanding of virulence strategies used to achieve infection, including subversion of host immunity, expression of bacterial toxins motility and intracellular survival.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Becoming human: Genomics, development and evolutionary anthropology LIFE364</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module aims to develop an understanding of the genomics, development, ancient and modern evolutionary history of the human and evolutionary lineage. Students will be able to appreciate the mechanisms that underlie evolutionary change, with particular reference to examples relating to human evolution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biological messengers and signal transduction LIFE305</strong></td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Evaluates and describes the latest knowledge and ideas on how cells respond to external signals and how signalling information is transferred within and between cells.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cell signalling in health and disease LIFE305</strong></td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Acquire skills required for interpretation of cell signalling experimental data and develop an understanding of advanced concepts that are fundamental to modern ideas in biophysics and cell signalling from a systems physiology perspective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemotherapy of parasitic disease LIFE338</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develops an understanding of current concepts of antiparasitic chemotherapy, with attention being directed at the major classes of anthelmintics and antiprotozoal drugs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current skills and topics in evolutionary biology LIFE324</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>To develop in students the skills to construct phylogenetic trees and to use them to infer the evolutionary origins of novel traits, using the latest software packages. To encourage students to explore key concepts in contemporary evolutionary biology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drug metabolism and drug response LIFE346</strong></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Looks at drug metabolism, pharmacokinetics, drug response, and pharmacodynamics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gene expression and development LIFE323</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides a systematic knowledge and a critical understanding of how living organisms control their pattern of gene expression.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student support in the School of Life Sciences and next steps

As a Life Sciences student, you will have access to state-of-the-art technology within the recently refurbished Biology Teaching Centre and laboratory facilities. Not only will the physical environment support your learning, but the support within the school will help you to succeed.

Supportive staff
We are a large, but friendly School. You will have an allocated personal tutor who will offer you support and instruction both formally and via one-to-one drop-in sessions.

Employability
The School of Life Sciences Employability team offers events and provides resources to help you decide where you want your degree to take you.

Next steps
You will be automatically registered for the modules which are compulsory for your programme.
You will register for your optional modules during Welcome Week (week 0) upon your arrival in Liverpool. Staff will be available to answer any questions that you may have about your module selections.

The University of Liverpool provides diverse courses in my interest area.

Yihan Dai
2+2 alumnus in Genetics
Find out more
liverpool.ac.uk/study

Accommodation: liverpool.ac.uk/accommodation
Fees and student finance: liverpool.ac.uk/money
Life in Liverpool: liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/welcome-to-liverpool
Student Welfare Advice and Guidance: liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport

@LivUniLifeSci

Enquiries
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two-plus-two@xjtlu.edu.cn

Life Sciences
The University of Liverpool
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Information provided is correct at time of going to press and is subject to change.