

**The Biology of Neoplasms (BN) doctoral study program** is at the cutting edge of cancer research and its related fields, merging ground-breaking insights from molecular biology with the complexities of carcinogenesis, cancer diagnosis, and oncological treatment. Our curriculum reflects the current advancements and methodologies in the management of neoplasms, ensuring our graduates are well-versed in the latest scientific developments.

Our esteemed faculty, comprising pathologists and their associates—including clinicians, immunologists, molecular biologists, geneticists, biochemists, chemists, and statisticians—delivers an interdisciplinary approach that emphasizes the intricacies of tumor development, diagnosis, and treatment. This collaborative environment enriches the program by fostering a culture of knowledge acquisition and innovation through advanced techniques and a profound understanding of neoplasm biology.

The BN program is a joint initiative between the University of Split School of Medicine and prestigious collaborating institutions such as the Ruđer Bošković Institute, University of Zadar, and University of Dubrovnik. Our faculty is further enhanced by guest professors from renowned institutions in Great Britain, France, Germany, and Switzerland, bringing diverse perspectives and expertise to our academic community.

The program features a robust curriculum, offering seven compulsory and 36 elective courses, allowing students to tailor their educational experience to their interests and career goals. Eligible candidates must possess a degree in biomedicine or a related field with a graduate score of at least 3.5. Each academic year, we enroll 20 select students each year, with study options available on either a partial or full-time basis over the course of three years (180 ECTS credits).

Each student is paired with a dedicated mentor who provides guidance on course selection and research direction. The Study Programme Council conducts biannual interviews to monitor progress on each student's research thesis, reinforcing a commitment to academic excellence. During the first year, students engage in a balanced workload of teaching and research (30:30 ECTS), moving to a 15:45 ECTS split in the second year, culminating in a concentrated scientific focus in the final year (60 ECTS). Additionally, any published research or active participation in scientific conferences earns students supplementary ECTS credits, promoting an active engagement in the scientific community.

Research is primarily conducted at the Laboratory of Biology of Neoplasms, as well as within the Departments of Pathology, and Anatomy, Histology, and Embryology. Our program attracts ambitious young physicians and clinical specialists who are at the nascent stages of their professional journeys. Several BN students have successfully collaborated on research projects at prestigious international institutions such as Harvard, Johns Hopkins, University of Connecticut in the USA, Goethe University in Germany, and various esteemed universities across France, the Netherlands, and the Czech Republic.

At the core of the Biology of Neoplasms program is a commitment to fostering research excellence that empowers our students to contribute significantly to the evolving landscape of cancer research and its clinical applications.