

## Part II Anatomy Project FAQs

1. How much dissection is involved and is any dissection teaching provided or prior experience required?

The amount and difficulty of dissection varies between projects. While some projects are highly centred on dissection of regions which are more delicate hence making it more challenging. Others may use dissection alongside functional experiments or not involve dissection at all, for example in theoretical anatomy projects. Prior dissection experience is not required but may be helpful. The teaching technicians in the DR provide valuable guidance and support to help you learn the techniques required.

2. Are there opportunities for publications?

Yes, previous anatomy projects have submitted abstracts and papers to clinical and anatomical journals. There is also the potential to present your work at national conferences.

3. How long does data collection take?

Generally data collection is completed by the middle of Lent, however this is variable between projects and is dependent on a number of factors, such as:

- How much time is spent learning and refining techniques in Michaelmas.
- Difficulty of dissection.
- If the focus of your project changes
  - The initial project title is not set in stone, and may evolve based on what you find or observe during the course of the project.
- Gaining access to facilities and resources

4. How long does the write-up take?

Generally the introduction and methods sections of the write up can be started during the Christmas holidays. Most of the write-up, however, is done during Lent term and the Easter holidays.

5. Is prior statistical knowledge required?

There are statistics lectures organised by the PDN department as well as supervisions, which can be arranged with the statisticians. Thus, only a basic knowledge of statistics is required at the start of the project.

6. How much contact do we have with the supervisors?

Meetings are arranged with supervisors throughout the term to discuss your progress and future direction as well as address any challenges. If you wish to have more meetings/additional support, supervisors can be contacted and meetings arranged.

7. How much independence do students have in the project?

Whilst supervisors provide advice and guidance on how to progress with the project, students are given independence and encouraged to develop upon the given framework based on findings and their own ideas inspired by scientific literature.

8. Can we continue working on the project after 3<sup>rd</sup> year?

There can be the opportunity to continue with the project whilst in clinical school.

9. Do you share the write-up with your partner?

Though collaboration is essential for experimental work and collecting data, the project write-up is done individually, with the students focusing on different aspects of the project by analysing different data sets, thus having a separate direction.

10. What could be done over the summer holidays to prepare for the project?

It would be a good idea to read through the reference list provided for the project, and also to look at other literature to aid your understanding, providing a background for the project. In addition, revising the local anatomy of the area of study will help you familiarise yourself with the specimens more quickly.

11. Are there any extra opportunities during the course of the project?

As part of your project you may be given the opportunity to see clinical procedures of relevance to your project, for example observing surgeries.