

MSc Clinical Trials Programme

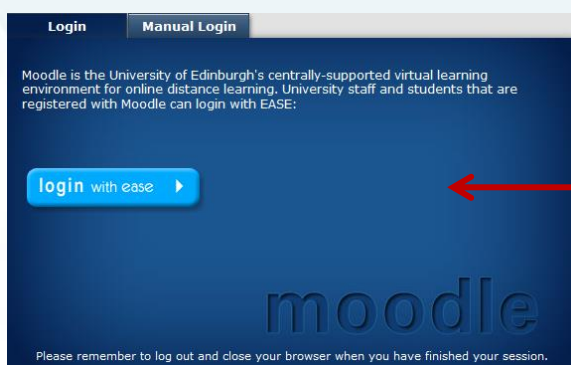
Introduction to Clinical Trials [MCLM11002]

Semester 2013/14

Getting started

Teaching and learning activities on the MSc Clinical Trials (MSc CT) are supported by the virtual learning environment (VLE) **Moodle**. Moodle offers you a range of tools that include online discussion boards, online quizzes, electronic assignment drop boxes, an ePortfolio and more. All MSc CT online distance learning (ODL) students have access to Moodle with their unique student ID. In order to use Moodle and a range of further technologies the following information will help get you started online.

1. Once you are matriculated off-campus access to the MSc CT on Moodle will be available by **September 16th, 2013** at <https://www.moodle.is.ed.ac.uk/login/index.php> where you login with EASE:



Should clicking on the link as it appears above not work, please copy and paste the URL into the address bar of your browser (preferably Firefox for Moodle/multilingual download guidance here: <http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/all/>).

2. Login to Moodle by entering your student ID (also known as the UUN) and then your EASE password (pw). EASE setup instructions should have already been sent to you by the University. This login is synchronized with your email login and library resource access as well.

EASE Login

The University of Edinburgh web login service

Your username will be your University Username (UUN) or the email address used to create an EASE Friend account. Usernames should be entered in lower case.

Username:

EASE password:

By using this service you agree to abide by [The University of Edinburgh Computing Regulations](#).

3. You will then find yourself on your **Moodle** homepage. Under Course List **from Sept. 16th, 2013** you should see your course, Introduction to Clinical Trials. This is where we will all meet, study and work online together!

The screenshot shows the Moodle homepage. On the left, there are two sidebars: 'MY COURSES' and 'NAVIGATION'. The 'MY COURSES' sidebar lists 'Introduction to Clinical Trials [2013-2014] [SEM 1]' and 'Student Moodle Help'. The 'NAVIGATION' sidebar lists 'Home', 'My home', 'Site pages', 'My profile', 'Current course', and 'My courses'. The main content area is titled 'MY COURSES' and lists two courses: 'Introduction to Clinical Trials [2013-2014] [SEM 1]' and 'Student Moodle Help'. A red arrow points to the 'Student Moodle Help' course.

Take a look around and enter the course, “**Student Moodle Help**” for a range of helpful support materials before the official start of the semester.

5. The course “**Introduction to CT**” will be available **noontime** (GMT) **Sept 16th**. Once you can access the course you will see the **MSc CT welcome message** from the main section. Please proceed as instructed from there.

The screenshot shows the Moodle course page for 'Introduction to Clinical Trials 2013'. On the left, there are three sidebars: 'NAVIGATION', 'SETTINGS', and 'WORLD CLOCK'. The 'NAVIGATION' sidebar lists 'Home', 'My home', 'Site pages', 'My profile', 'Current course', and 'My courses'. The 'SETTINGS' sidebar lists 'My profile settings'. The 'WORLD CLOCK' sidebar shows the time for 'UoE' and 'You'. The main content area is titled 'WELCOME TO INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL TRIALS' and features a large banner with the 'MSc in Clinical Trials Online' logo. Below the banner, there is a message: 'Welcome to the MSc in Clinical Trials!'. A red arrow points to this message.

Weeks 1 & 2

The course begins with a 2-week Foundation module which is split into 3 lessons over the period of 2 weeks as follows:

Week 1: Foundation module Lessons I & II

Day 1-2: General induction & technology toolkit

Day 3-5: Library and medical literature tutorials

Week 2: Foundation module Lesson III

Day 1: Week 1 catch-up

Day 2-5: Basic medical statistics tutorial

Friendly word of warning:

It is not unusual in the first weeks to feel overwhelmed and somewhat lost so please do not hesitate to seek help and support from the course teaching team (and your peers) in the (Not just for) problems forum in Moodle.



Indicative resources

Please find a short list of recommended resources in preparation for course lessons. There is no expectation that you consult or purchase these resources before the start of the term. Most course materials will be made available through the University of Edinburgh's ebook and ejournal service once the semester has commenced.

Books

- Designing randomised trials in health, education and the social sciences (2008)
By D. & C. Torgerson
Palgrave-MacMillan Publ.
- A concise guide to clinical trials (2009)
By A. Hackshaw
Wiley-Blackwell Publ.

Periodicals

- British Medical Journal
- New England Journal of Medicine
- Lancet

Web resources

- Clinical trials toolkit
<http://www.ct-toolkit.ac.uk/routemap/protocol-development>
- International clinical trials registry platform <http://www.who.int/ictrp/en/>
- COCHRANE library
<http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/index.html>
- AllTrials website
<http://www.alltrials.net/>

Help & support

Online distance learning (ODL) student checklist

Helpful resources and guidelines for the online distance learner at UoE

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/staff-students/students/new-students/checklists/getting-started-odl>

IT & Moodle help

University of Moodle information page for general queries:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/learning-technology/virtual-environments/moodle/entitlement>

Moodle help documentation for students:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/help-consultancy/is-skills/catalogue/educational-technologies/moodle-students>

Video screencast from the Student Moodle Help course for access outside of Moodle:

<http://www.screencast.com/t/lqDozCkxSS>

[may require Adobe Flash Player installation at <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>]

Information Services email for EASE, Moodle, library and email access problems:

IS.Helpline@ed.ac.uk & +44 (0)131 651 5151 (restricted on weekends and holidays)

More information about the general UoE Help services can be found here:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/help-consultancy/help-services/about-helphservices>

MSc CT personal help and support

MSc CT students enrolled on Introduction to CT are kindly requested to raise any course-related teaching, learning or assignment issues in the online (Not just for) problems forum in Moodle. This will help the teaching team manage and resolve prevalent issues more efficiently and quickly.

A dedicated help email account helpmscct@ed.ac.uk has been created for matriculated MSc CT students with problems of a more private nature which will become available from **Sept. 16th, 2013**.

We look forward to seeing you online very soon!

Kindest regards from Edinburgh, Scotland,



The MSc CT Programme and Teaching Team

September 2013

[Image attribution: Edinburgh University campus from <http://www.flickr.com/photos/88792132@N00/2706216433>
Found on flickrcc.net]