Career opportunities

There are a number of different career paths and opportunities available to pharmacology graduates. Graduates can often continue their training and education by pursuing an MSc or PhD, or working in a pharmaceutical/drug discovery company.

The scientific skills learned within a pharmacology degree make graduates attractive to a wide range of employers, which can open the door to a variety of career options after graduation.

Outside the academic or industrial lab, these could include science consultancy, teaching, marketing, scientific writing or journalism, or scientific or pharmaceutical sales.

Teaching and assessment

The programme will involve a combination of formal lecture-based learning, laboratory practicals and seminar-based question-and-answer sessions that will help you acquire an in-depth understanding of key concepts.

In addition to timetabled direct contact learning sessions, you will undertake a variety of self-learning components. These will include managed student-centred learning exercises and the availability of computer-aided learning software to further solidify your understanding.

The assessment structure will consist of formal summative assessment against the learning outcomes via written examination, coursework assignments, written assignments, problem solving, presentations, laboratory participation and performance and a final-year research project report.
Why study one of these programmes?

BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology is taught by research-active experts in pharmacology, physiology and related scientific disciplines and will offer you a progression route to MSc or PhD study, or employment in the biosciences/pharmaceutical industry.

FdSc/BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology with Integrated Foundation Year is ideal if you do not have the required entry qualifications for BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology. Once you have completed the foundation year and have the necessary marks and credits, you can progress to the BSc element of the programme.

BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology provides a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental principles of pharmacology and of drug actions in the body. Throughout the programme, there will be a strong emphasis on laboratory techniques, research and future employability.

We also offer a sandwich year option which involves a placement in an industrial/research laboratory.

The placement normally begins following your second year. During your placement, you will have the opportunity to put into practice skills you have acquired during the first two years of the programme, as well as acquire new skills that will enhance your future employability.

Why study with us?

The Medway School of Pharmacy is a unique collaboration between the University of Greenwich and the University of Kent. The school is located at the heart of a multi-university campus development at Chatham Maritime in Medway, Kent. Investment in extensive new laboratories and research facilities has seen the campus develop into a major higher education centre.

Currently, there are approximately 650 undergraduates and 150 postgraduates studying at the school. We are ranked in the top 10 in the country for pharmacy and pharmacology in the Guardian University Guide 2015.

Student care and support is integral to our mission “to produce, through innovative teaching and research delivered in a supportive and caring environment, high-quality professional graduates committed to lifelong learning.”

You will benefit from a dedicated and experienced team of staff comprising distinguished research-active academics working together with administrative and technical personnel.

Research takes place alongside teaching under the guidance of our Director of Research. We have made a significant investment in facilities and equipment, and our research was rated as excellent in REF 2014.

We will continue to evolve a strong interdisciplinary approach to research and aim to enhance our internationally recognised reputation in identified research areas.

What will you study?

Foundation Year

(For students on FdSc/BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology with Integrated Foundation Year only)

• Scientific Writing and Communication (15 credits)
• Mathematics for Life Sciences (15 credits)
• Introduction to Chemistry (15 credits)
• Introduction to Biology (15 credits)
• Introduction to Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Introduction to Laboratory Practice (15 credits)
• Drugs and Diseases (15 credits)
• Biochemistry (15 credits)

Stage 1

• Physiology and Pharmacology (30 credits)
• Cell Biology and Biochemistry (30 credits)
• Medicinal Products (30 credits)
• Basic Laboratory Skills (15 credits)
• Analytical Techniques in Pharmacology (15 credits)

Stage 2

• Pharmacokinetics (15 credits)
• Cardiovascular Respiratory and Renal Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Immunopharmacology and Microbiology (15 credits)
• Endocrine and Gastrointestinal Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Research Methods in Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Neuropharmacology (15 credits)
• Two 15-credit optional courses including: Introduction to Toxicology; Introduction to Biopharmaceuticals and Gene Therapy (30 credits)

Stage 3

• Receptor Mechanisms and Molecular Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Clinical Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Professional Skills in Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Drug Discovery and Development (15 credits)
• Pharmacology Physiology Project (30 credits)
• Two 15-credit options from a range including: Advanced Neuropharmacology; Advanced Cell and Molecular Biology (30 credits)

Stage 4

• Drug Discovery and Development (15 credits)
• Pharmacology Physiology Project (30 credits)
• Two 15-credit options from a range including: Advanced Neuropharmacology; Advanced Cell and Molecular Biology (30 credits)

Key facts

UCAS codes:

• B210 (FdSc/BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology with Integrated Foundation Year)
• 2W3R (BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology)

Entry requirements:

• FdSc/BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology with Integrated Foundation Year

Students will be accepted from a wide range of educational backgrounds and each application will be considered individually.

• BSc Hons Pharmacology and Physiology

School/college leavers

Normally a minimum of 120 UCAS points from A/AS-levels over a maximum of 21 units at Level 3. A levels in biology and chemistry are preferred.

PLUS GCSEs in English language and mathematics at grade 4 or above.

Applicants must have reached 17 years of age on admission.

Vocationally related qualifications

We will consider applicants with vocationally related qualifications, including: VCE A-level/ VCE AS-level/ VCE A-level/ A-level Double Award/TEC, on an individual basis.

Scottish Higher

BB at Advanced Higher level with a preference for biology and/or chemistry or one other pure science based subject, and BB at two additional subjects at Higher level; plus English language and mathematics grade B at Ordinary level.

EU students

International Baccalaureate: offers normally in the range of 26 to 30 points (12 to 14 at Higher level, preferably in sciences, e.g. chemistry, biology, physics).

European Baccalaureate: applicants will be considered on an individual basis.

 Mature and overseas students

The Medway School of Pharmacy welcomes students with vocational qualifications and/or relevant work experience and will continue to judge each student on his or her individual merits.

We also welcome applicants who have successfully completed Access courses in an appropriate subject (e.g. science).

Overseas applicants with qualifications obtained in their home country will be judged on merit on a case-by-case basis by the admissions tutor in consultation with the admissions manager. Students must have IELTS at grade 6.5 overall.

How to apply:

Home and overseas students must apply through UCAS. Please carefully consider the programmes available and apply as early as possible. For further information and UCAS deadlines, please visit www.ucas.com.

Irish Leaving Certificate

BB at Higher level with preference for biology and/or chemistry or one other pure science based subject, and BB in two additional subjects at Higher level; plus English language and mathematics grade B at Ordinary level.