PHARMACOLOGY BSc / 
UCAS CODE: B210 
2018 ENTRY 

www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus/pharmacology
Pharmacology BSc /

The subject of pharmacology is immensely broad and covers areas of physiology, chemistry, neuroscience, biochemistry, and genetics. This flexible three-year programme offers a thorough scientific training in the subject, and students have the option of transferring to the MSci at the end of year two.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2018

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// Pharmacology at UCL offers you an outstanding academic environment. We are internationally renowned in the discipline and are recognised for numerous major discoveries.

// It is our aim to combine excellence in research with high-quality pharmacology teaching. We have particular expertise in areas such as neuropharmacology and immunopharmacology.

// In your final year, you will have the opportunity to join a world-leading research team to carry out your own experimental research project.

// We offer state-of-the-art modern facilities, and are located adjacent to the Medical Research Council’s Laboratory for Molecular Cell Biology, allowing for collaborative final-year projects.

Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

The Research Excellence Framework, or REF, is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. The 2014 REF was carried out by the UK’s higher education funding bodies, and the results used to allocate research funding from 2015/16.

// 82% rated 4* (‘world-leading’) or 3* (‘internationally excellent’)

Learn more about the scope of UCL’s research, and browse case studies, on our Research Impact website.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 0.5 or 1.0 credits, adding up to a total of 4.0 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 1.0 credit is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

The subject of pharmacology is immensely broad and covers the areas of physiology, chemistry, neuroscience, biochemistry and genetics. As a result, some of your modules will be taken with other Life Sciences students and will draw on expertise from across the faculty.

In the first year, all modules are compulsory, giving you a solid foundation on which to draw in years two and three. Year two is mainly comprised of compulsory work, with wide-ranging practical classes and lectures. In your final year you have only one compulsory module, leaving you free to pursue your interests by choosing from a wide range of specialist options.

Many students undertake a nine-week laboratory research project in their final year. This provides an opportunity to work side-by-side with some of the best scientists in the world. You may find this particularly helpful in making choices about your future career, and whether you would like to pursue postgraduate study.

You may also consider a ‘sandwich’ year in your programme, taken between years two and three, spending your time in the pharmaceutical industry or another pharmacology-related area. These are offered on a competitive basis but contacts between our staff and colleagues in industry open up many opportunities.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

- An Introduction to Mechanisms of Drug Action
- Cells and Development
- Cellular and Molecular Biology
- Chemistry for Biology Students
- Mammalian Physiology
- Statistics

Optional modules

- All first year modules are compulsory.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Biochemistry
- Experimental Pharmacology
- General and Systematic Pharmacology
- Immunity to Infection
- Structure and Function of the Nervous Systems

Optional modules

- Options may include:
- Animal and Human Physiology - Maintenance and Regulatory Mechanisms
- Cellular Neurophysiology
- Developmental Neurobiology
- Human Neuroanatomy
- Management Information and Control
- Medical Microbiology
- Modern Languages
- Science in the Mass Media
We will read your UCAS application to ascertain whether you meet, or are expected to meet, our academic entry requirements, and also to find out why you are interested in pharmacology.

Selection will be based on information provided in your UCAS application.

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**Your learning**

Teaching is mainly conducted through lectures and laboratory classes together with regular small-group tutorials involving in-depth discussion of topics being studied. Modules run concurrently; lectures and tutorials are usually held in the morning with practical classes in the afternoons.

**Assessment**

You will be expected to submit coursework (e.g. essays and practical write-ups) and make oral presentations as part of your assessment. You will also take written examinations at the end of each year.

**Your career**

This programme not only provides detailed knowledge of the subject, but also trains you in planning, executing and analysing scientific projects and in quantitative and analytical skills, equipping you with a versatility that will be attractive to many employers.

As with any science degree, our graduates move into many types of employment including financial and managerial professions, scientific publishing, journalism, law and health administration (e.g., the Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency (MHRA)). Unlike many degrees, however, there is a related industry involving drug safety, drug research, drug sales and patent law.

First career destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) of this programme include:

- Assistant Healthcare Scientist, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children (NHS)
- Full-time student, MSc in Drug Design at UCL
- Registration Specialist, Zhaoke Pharmaceutical
- Full-time student, MBBS in Medicine at Imperial College London
- Director, Coast to Coast Pharma

**Your application**

Application for admission should be made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process; however, applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.
Entry requirements

A LEVELS

Grades
AAA-AAB

Subjects
Chemistry required plus one from Biology, Mathematics or Physics.

GCSE

English Language and Mathematics at grade B. For UK-based students, a grade C or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required. UCL provides opportunities to meet the foreign language requirement following enrolment, further details at: www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs

IB DIPLOMA

Points
36-38 overall.

Subjects
A total of 17-18 points in three higher level subjects including Chemistry and one subject from Biology, Mathematics or Physics, with no score below 5.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES (International foundation courses)
The Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

TUITION FEES

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2017/18 academic year and are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for 2018 entry will appear here as soon as they are available.

// UK & EU: £9,250 (2017/18 - see below)
// Overseas: £21,960 (2017/18)

The UK/EU fee quoted above may be subject to increase for the 2018/19 academic year and for each year of study thereafter and UCL reserves the right to increase its fees in line with UK government policy (including on an annual basis for each year of study during a programme). Fees for overseas students may be subject to an annual increase in subsequent years of study by up to 5%.

Please see the full details of UCL’s fees and possible changes on the UCL Current Students website.

FUNDING

Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

CONTACT

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EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to:
www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum

Disclaimer

This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus

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