PHARMACOLOGY MSci / UCAS CODE: B211 2018 ENTRY

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

This programme is intended for students who want to pursue careers or further study in pharmacology or related disciplines. It offers an additional year on top of the Pharmacology BSc in which to undertake your own major, cutting-edge research project, alongside advanced modules.

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.

// We combine excellence in pharmacology 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 group, working side-by-side with some of the most outstanding scientists in the field and carrying 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 scientific 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 sound knowledge of the discipline and enabling you to identify your own strengths and interests. Year two is mainly comprised of compulsory modules, but by the third year you will take only one compulsory module, leaving you free to choose from a wide range of specialist options.

MSci students also undertake a literature-based research project in their third year, whilst in year four, a compulsory, laboratory-based research project accounts for 50% of the year’s work. 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 apply for 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 also 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
YEAR THREE
Core or compulsory module(s)

- Molecular Pharmacology
- Library Research Project (1.0 credits)

Optional modules

- You will select 2.5 credits of optional modules. Options may include:
  - Drug Design And Development
  - Immunopharmacology
  - Neuropharmacology
  - Psychopharmacology
  - Receptor Mechanisms
  - Synaptic Pharmacology: The Synapse, a Major Site Of Disease and Drug Action

FINAL YEAR
Core or compulsory module(s)

- Extended Research Project

Optional modules

- You will be able to select advanced modules from a wide range of options.

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. This will equip you with a versatility that will be very attractive to many employers.

Pharmacology brings together different aspects of biomedical sciences, opening up many fields of employment. If you are interested in laboratory research, you could progress to a postgraduate research degree (PhD) leading to opportunities in the pharmaceutical industry, governing research institutes, hospital laboratories, forensic science or university-based research.

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

- Recruitment Consultant, Independent Clinical Services (ICS)
- Financial Analyst, HSBC
- Pharmacy Assistant, Sainsbury’s
- Full-time student, 4-year PhD in Clinical Neuroscience at UCL
- Full-time student, PhD in Neuroscience at Aix-Marseille Université

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.

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.
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