Foundation Science
Undergraduate study 2016
www.nottingham.ac.uk/foundationscience
Welcome to foundation science

Foundation science at The University of Nottingham has been established for the past eight years and has provided excellent students to a variety of science degree subjects. We encourage a range of high-level applicants from a variety of backgrounds. This might include students who have good A level grades but perhaps in the wrong subjects for direct entry, international students who have qualifications that are not accepted for direct entry and mature students who have decided to return to education and have evidence of recent study.

The course is taught by highly experienced teachers who help students gain the necessary skills to progress to degree study. We promote the mixing of a variety of nationalities; home, European Union, and international, and offer students the chance to blend in with university life in the same beautiful location as other students. Previous students have progressed to various degrees and have found the one-year course hard work but an advantage!

Foundation science offers a chance for you to progress to a range of different degrees in the Schools of Life Sciences, Biosciences, Chemistry, Pharmacy and Psychology. More detail is provided in the following pages and if you have any queries, please feel free to get in touch.

Gill Coburn
Assistant Professor
Course Director and Admissions Tutor

Don't forget to watch our videos from staff and students from across the Faculty of Science: www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/watch-sciencefaculty

Students who are interested in progressing onto courses within our Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences can watch videos featuring staff and students by visiting www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/watch-mhsfaculty

Students working in Portland Baguette Bar, Portland Building, which is the hub of student life on University Park Campus.
Course content

Foundation science consists of modules in biology, chemistry, maths, studying science, and man and other animals. Biology and chemistry are the two main components of foundation science and each run throughout the year. There are additional English language modules for those students who require them.

Each module you study will be delivered by highly experienced teachers who coordinate with degree lecturers to deliver content and develop skills necessary for progression to degree programmes.

Fundamental to our courses is a significant amount of laboratory and project work, which will allow you to develop the analytical, team working and problem-solving skills that have set our foundation science students apart from other direct applicants.

The balance of skills and experience among our staff is used to carefully manage the transition between the student-centred learning common in schools and colleges, to the independent way of thinking that characterises our scientists. This transition is achieved using a creative and imaginative approach to learning that includes field work, laboratory classes and e-learning, as well as the more traditional lecture and tutorial classes.

Each full year at university consists of 120 credits. The following table shows each module, the module code and the number of credits each is worth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module code</th>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C10FY3</td>
<td>Foundation Biological Sciences</td>
<td>40 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C10FCL</td>
<td>Foundation Year Chemistry</td>
<td>40 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C10AM1</td>
<td>Man and Other Animals</td>
<td>10 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HGOFNB</td>
<td>Mathematics for Foundation Science</td>
<td>20 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C10SS1</td>
<td>Studying Science at University</td>
<td>10 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong> = 120 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, international students may need to take the following English language modules (see page 19 for more information).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module code</th>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X10ESA</td>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>10 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X10ESB</td>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>10 credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C10FY3 – Foundation Biological Sciences – 40 credits
This module will provide you with an introduction to life at the molecular, cellular, physiological organismal, population and community levels and provide the background to enable you to enter a range of degree programmes in biological and environmental sciences. Topics in the first semester include: biological molecules; cell division and the cell cycle; cells and their organelles; digestion; enzymes; gene manipulation; growth and growth regulation; nucleic acids and the genetic code; sexual reproduction; transport systems in plants and animals; respiration and energy supply; and photosynthesis.

In the second semester you will study: animal physiology, classification; dynamics and human activities; ecosystems energy flow; homeostasis; inheritance and variation; microbiology and biotechnology; movement and integration – nerves, muscles and hormones; natural selection; plant physiology: systematics and taxonomy; trophic levels; and global aspects of conservation. This is the main biological constituent of foundation science and provides a backbone in biological knowledge.

The first semester is molecular-based and provides essential links for many topics studied in semester two. During semester two, some topics are studied in more depth than an equivalent A level syllabus, for example, biotechnology, classification, genetics and microbiology.

During the progression of the biological science module, you will gain practical experience in labs. Practical work is a vital component of foundation science and students have the opportunity to develop various lab techniques. There are 10 biology practical sessions, eight are lab-based and the last two are field work carried out at Attenborough Nature Reserve. You will be taught how to write up practical experiments in the standard scientific format in order to prepare you for progression to degree-level study.

C10FCL – Foundation Year Chemistry – 40 credits
You will learn to use the periodic table to make predictions about elements, the basics of chemical bonding and the forces between molecules and their shapes. Experimental work will enhance understanding and skills development. You will then learn quantitative aspects of chemistry based on laboratory activities, including appreciation of experimental error. Redox reactions, equilibria and energetics are introduced, supported by practical work. The introduction to organic chemistry and isomerism will be delivered through the chemistry of alkanes and alkenes followed by halo alkanes, alcohols, carbonyl compounds (alkanal and alkanone) and carboxylic (alkanoic) acids.

Experimental work moves towards synthetic techniques. The identification of organic molecules through NMR, infrared and mass spectroscopy is covered before looking at functional groups containing nitrogen; including the chemistry of amines, amides and amino acids. Finally, the kinetics of chemical reactions including both inorganic and organic examples through to biochemical examples are covered.

In this module you will develop the knowledge and understanding of safe laboratory practice; familiarity with common techniques and equipment; an appreciation of physical, inorganic and organic chemistry; the need for careful recording of observation and measurements; an appreciation of sources of error; and conventional approaches to reporting experimental work.

C10AM1 – Man and Other Animals – 10 credits
This module introduces you to the origins of man and other animals, the relationships between them and some of the disciplines that study questions in these areas. Topics include: evolution, natural selection and sexual selection; the evolution of primates and man; the similarities and differences between man and other animals, and animal welfare. The approaches used will draw on a range of disciplines including ecology, ethology, evolutionary psychology and socio-biology.

HGOFNB – Mathematics for Foundation Science – 20 credits
This module will provide knowledge and competence of core mathematical topics to students, and experience of relevant quantitative aspects prior to embarking on a course in biological sciences. This module covers algebra and algebraic manipulation; linear algebra; functions and trigonometry; differential calculus; integral calculus; simple modelling; elementary probability; and statistics.

Maths workshops are based on topics delivered in lectures in the first semester and biological or scientific examples are given where possible. During the second semester maths workshops are more related to genetics and statistics, two areas of biology where mathematical knowledge and understanding is a distinct advantage. You will carry out statistical analysis of raw data obtained during field work at Attenborough Nature Reserve.

C10SS1 – Studying Science at University – 10 credits
This module will introduce you to the nature and processes of studying science at university. It will address the transition into university study and the qualities necessary to be a successful scientist. Topics include: finding, evaluating and summarising sources on the internet and in the library; strategies for reading, writing and taking notes effectively; time management and exam techniques; and the scientific method and its historical context, ethical dilemmas and representation in the media.

For more information visit our online prospectus: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy
How will I study?

Teaching
The teaching year is divided into two semesters. The first semester lasts for 14 weeks, with 12 weeks for teaching and revision and two weeks for assessment. The second semester follows the same pattern, but there are an additional two weeks at the end to complete the assessment process and to enable returning students to discuss their results with tutors and begin to plan the next session’s work.

You will be taught through a combination of lectures, tutorials, practical sessions, seminars and workshops. This varied approach will give you the opportunity to learn in both formal and informal environments. You will receive one-to-one tuition as well as being encouraged to take part in group discussions and activities. Theoretical-based sessions are usually supported by practical workshops where you can gain hands-on experience.

Resources
The foundation science course is supported by a number of schools, and as a student at Nottingham, you will benefit from access to state-of-the-art equipment and staff expertise. The University also has an extensive collection of printed and online library resources. In addition, you will have both on and off-campus access to a wide range of databases, ejournals and ebooks relevant to your studies.

Key Information Sets
Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full or part-time undergraduate courses and are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students. All KIS data is published on the Unistats website: www.unistats.com
For Nottingham’s KIS data, please see individual course entries at www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

Progression requirements

Foundation science allows progression to the following schools, provided students perform well during the foundation course and meet the progression requirements as outlined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Module requirements</th>
<th>Overall requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>C10FY3 55% and C10FCL 55%</td>
<td>Overall Pass (40%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biosciences</td>
<td>C10FY3 55% and C10FCL 55% (MNutr/Dietetics – see below)*</td>
<td>Overall Pass (40%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry**</td>
<td>C10FCL 60%</td>
<td>Overall average of 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>C10FCL 60% X10ESA 55% X10ESB 55% (if taken)</td>
<td>Overall average of 60% and subject to a successful interview***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology (international students only)</td>
<td>X10ESA 55% X10ESB 55% (if taken)</td>
<td>Overall average of 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Progression to dietetics is only available to home/EU students and is subject to further application and a successful interview. Students also have to gain 55% in C10FY3, 55% in C10FCL and an overall average of 55%.
** For the following courses only: BSc Chemistry; MSc Chemistry; MSci Medicinal and Biological Chemistry; and MSci Medicinal and Biological Chemistry with an Assessed Year in Industry.
*** International students who wish to be considered for progression to pharmacy are encouraged to apply for the foundation year through UCAS. All students interested in progression to pharmacy may be required to give further information and are not guaranteed selection for interview. If invited for interview they will be expected to show motivations for being a pharmacist, knowledge of the profession, scientific understanding and demonstration of good communication skills.
More information on destination schools

School of Life Sciences
The School of Life Sciences aims to provide excellence in education in the biological and biomedical sciences. As a school we offer science degrees in biochemistry, biology, genetics, neuroscience and zoology (with some variations such as molecular medicine and tropical sciences). Our teaching is very much research-led, ensuring that our courses are cutting-edge and our students are prepared for a wide range of careers. All of our students in their final year join a research group and conduct an original research project. Some students also have the opportunity to study an undergraduate masters degree over four years.

We are committed to supporting equality and diversity in our students and staff, and in April 2014 the School of Life Sciences was awarded the Athena Silver Swan award in recognition of this.

We have extensive links with companies and institutions working in the field of biosciences nationally and internationally, helping to ensure our courses are relevant to industry. For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/biosciences

School of Chemistry
The School of Chemistry at Nottingham has a reputation for excellence in both teaching and research. The school achieved 97% student satisfaction in the 2014 National Student Survey and 95% of research activity was scored as internationally excellent or world-leading in the most recent Research Excellence Framework. For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/chemistry

School of Pharmacy
The school is a leader in the training of future pharmacists and in undertaking world-changing research. The school was rated joint 1st for research quality and impact on society in the latest Research Excellence Framework. For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/pharmacy

School of Psychology
We have one of the leading schools for psychology in Britain, offering students state-of-the-art resources to support their studies. We were ranked in the top 10 of all psychology departments in the UK for research power in the latest Research Excellence Framework. Our range of popular courses can help prepare you for a variety of career paths. For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/psychology

For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/life-sciences

School of Biosciences
The School of Biosciences is Britain’s strongest teaching and research centre for fundamental and applied biological, agricultural, environmental and food sciences. Our students are taught by world-class specialists, many of whom are expert advisers to national and international bodies.

For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/biosciences

Athena SWAN Silver Award

For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/life-sciences

Foundation Science
www.nottingham.ac.uk/foundationscience

Students taking a break outside the Trent Building on University Park Campus.
Student profiles

"Being about to embark on a PhD graduate course in Evolutionary Biology at the University of Edinburgh, I have become very conscious of how important the foundation year has been to make this possible. Coming from a background in the arts, with little knowledge of biology, there was no chance I could enrol directly onto an undergraduate biology course. The foundation year came to my rescue and offered a way in.

The thing I found most attractive about this course was the academic touch it had. I did not feel like an A level pupil, but rather a student who just took a preparatory year specifically tailored for the degree I wanted to obtain. There was plenty of practicals and independent work during the foundation year, which gave me the confidence to excel in my first and second year, and I am now reaping the rewards. From a professional point of view, taking the foundation year has been to make the best decision I have taken so far."

**Rasmus T Lindberg**
BSc: Biology (graduated 2013)

"The Foundation Biological Sciences module helped me a lot in my first year in biosciences. In year one, most of the modules I did were about various areas in biology and its application such as genetics and cell biology, and application of biology. The module I took in my foundation year established a knowledge base for me. For example, what is DNA? What are its functions? How can it be manipulated to create a desirable characteristic? As a result, it was quite easy to catch up with the new pace of studying in year one.

I really appreciated the practical sessions as they provided me with the essential skills and knowledge to work in a laboratory, such as streaking plate and sterile techniques in microbiology staining, using a microscope, and working in pairs or groups. I also got experience in giving presentations and improved my writing skills as I practised writing reports and essays. I believe what I learned in the foundation year, especially in the biology module, will definitely help me a lot. I would recommend the foundation course to anyone who wants to prepare for a degree in biosciences."

**Trang Phan from Vietnam**
BSc: Biotechnology (graduated 2014)

"Having decided on the degree course I wanted to pursue, I didn’t have the right A levels to progress straight onto zoology. The foundation science course allowed me all the required background information I needed before starting my zoology degree the year after. The foundation course was the perfect way to ease me back into academic work after my gap year of travelling.

The range of subjects covered allowed me to remind myself of past studies, and learn new things I would later require. I’ve many fond memories of the course, I particularly liked the smaller class size and the range of foreign students I got to study with. I’m now travelling around South and Central America, participating in volunteer conservation projects and aiming to get myself some work out here in the Amazon! The foundation year gave me an extra year at The University of Nottingham, and considering student years have been the best years of my life so far, is no bad thing at all!"

**Philip Burnett**
BSc: Zoology (graduated 2012)

"Four years after the completion of the science foundation course, I do not regret my choice at all. I realised the benefits of the foundation course during my first year as a BSc student. I already knew how to write lab reports and essays, I was equipped with presentation skills and learned how to prepare for exams.

I can proudly say that four years later, I’m already a University of Nottingham graduate in BSc (Hons) Biology and I’m now working towards the completion of my postgraduate course at the same university."

**Iqbal Bassi**
BSc: Genetics (graduated 2014)

I owe my academic progression to all the science foundation staff as they equipped me with various skills which were proven to be more than valuable. I would definitely recommend the science foundation course and I can also assure you that you will love the University campus and Nottingham city!"

**Nasia Kafa**
MMedSci Assisted Reproduction Technology (graduated 2014)

"My experience regarding the foundation course has been nothing but positive. Although at times I found the workload challenging, this only made me more disciplined and better equipped to continue my studies at university. The module was not only beneficial in terms of providing theoretical knowledge and practical skills, it was also essential in giving us confidence and preparing us for further study.

When starting my current course, I definitely felt on par with the other students who had taken the A level route, if not slightly at an advantage. The experience has been invaluable. If you are prepared to put in the hard work, take on board any advice and feedback given, you will definitely reap the rewards later."

**Rasmus T Lindberg**
BSc: Biology (graduated 2013)

The Foundation Biological Sciences module helped me a lot in my first year in biosciences. In year one, most of the modules I did were about various areas in biology and its application such as genetics and cell biology, and application of biology. The module I took in my foundation year established a knowledge base for me. For example, what is DNA? What are its functions? How can it be manipulated to create a desirable characteristic? As a result, it was quite easy to catch up with the new pace of studying in year one.

I really appreciated the practical sessions as they provided me with the essential skills and knowledge to work in a laboratory, such as streaking plate and sterile techniques in microbiology staining, using a microscope, and working in pairs or groups. I also got experience in giving presentations and improved my writing skills as I practised writing reports and essays. I believe what I learned in the foundation year, especially in the biology module, will definitely help me a lot. I would recommend the foundation course to anyone who wants to prepare for a degree in biosciences."

**Trang Phan from Vietnam**
BSc: Biotechnology (graduated 2014)

"Having decided on the degree course I wanted to pursue, I didn’t have the right A levels to progress straight onto zoology. The foundation science course allowed me all the required background information I needed before starting my zoology degree the year after. The foundation course was the perfect way to ease me back into academic work after my gap year of travelling.

The range of subjects covered allowed me to remind myself of past studies, and learn new things I would later require. I’ve many fond memories of the course, I particularly liked the smaller class size and the range of foreign students I got to study with. I’m now travelling around South and Central America, participating in volunteer conservation projects and aiming to get myself some work out here in the Amazon! The foundation year gave me an extra year at The University of Nottingham, and considering student years have been the best years of my life so far, is no bad thing at all!"

**Philip Burnett**
BSc: Zoology (graduated 2012)

"Four years after the completion of the science foundation course, I do not regret my choice at all. I realised the benefits of the foundation course during my first year as a BSc student. I already knew how to write lab reports and essays, I was equipped with presentation skills and learned how to prepare for exams.

I can proudly say that four years later, I’m already a University of Nottingham graduate in BSc (Hons) Biology and I’m now working towards the completion of my postgraduate course at the same university."

**Iqbal Bassi**
BSc: Genetics (graduated 2014)
Your student experience

You've read lots about the degree programme you're interested in, now it's time to explore life outside the lecture theatre. There's so much for you to get involved in and explore at the University and around the city. We are proud to be one of the leading universities for student experience in the UK*, which will ensure that you have a university experience you'll never forget.

Your University of Nottingham – at home and around the world

We are proud of our stunning campuses and are continually investing in our grounds, buildings and amenities to ensure that you only have the best surroundings in which to live and study. Our main UK campuses have a mix of state-of-the-art facilities, including sports centres, places to eat and excellent learning facilities on every campus. We've made getting from campus to campus as easy as possible and students can benefit from our free inter-campus Hopper Bus, so you're never far away from the striking architecture and innovative technology of Jubilee Campus, the rolling parkland and period buildings at University Park, or the cutting-edge features of Sutton Bonington.

The University of Nottingham is Britain’s global university with campuses in the UK, China and Malaysia. We also have links with more than 300 universities in over 40 countries, adding a truly global flavour to your degree and giving you the chance to explore the world. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/about/campuses

Your new home from home

At Nottingham we offer a range of different accommodation options, rooms are available as single or shared, en suite or shared bathroom, all the way through to studio flats, and vary from self-catered to fully catered (19 meals per week). We also offer a guarantee of University accommodation for one year to all new full-time undergraduate students, subject to the following conditions: you firmly accept your course place at Nottingham, accept your offer of accommodation by the deadline given in your offer letter, and have an unconditional status no later than 31 August in the year you intend to begin your studies. If you are a new, full-time undergraduate student who is classified as international for fee purposes, this guarantee applies for three years**. For more information, including a breakdown of pricing, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

Your support network

Throughout your university journey there will be numerous people on hand to support you, including tutors and dedicated staff who will be able to advise you on various aspects of life as a student. We have Student Services Centres on all three of our UK campuses, which provide a range of support, information and specialist services to enhance your student experience. This support includes:

- Academic Support – can provide practical advice on areas of academic study; the service also provides specialist academic support for students with dyslexia, dyspraxia and other specific learning difficulties
- Disability Support – coordinates support and access arrangements for students with a disability or long-term medical condition
- Financial Support – provides information on the sources of finance available from government agencies and the University itself, and gives advice about financial matters
- Student Services – also advise on issues ranging from childcare, counselling and health to international student support, chaplaincy and faith support, as well as offering advice on paying your tuition and accommodation fees

Whatever you may need support with, they will either be able to help or point you in the direction of someone who can. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studentservices

** Providing you submit your returners’ application in line with the requirements of the accommodation providers.
Getting involved in your Students’ Union
As soon as you start at The University of Nottingham, you are automatically enrolled as a member of our Students’ Union, which is considered to be one of the best in the country. There are hundreds of activities that you could be part of, providing you with the perfect opportunity to take up a new hobby or pursue existing interests. Choose from over 200 student-run societies, covering all interests and abilities, as well as local and national volunteering projects, to which you can commit as much or as little time as you wish.

Our Students’ Union is home to a number of award-winning student-run media groups, which give you the chance to gain practical work experience both behind the scenes or centre stage as a presenter, actor or journalist. The Nottingham New Theatre, Impact magazine, Nottingham Student Television (NSTV) and University Radio Nottingham (URN) have all been recognised as the best in their field, winning a clutch of awards for outstanding achievements.

However you decide to become involved in the Union, you can be sure you will make new friends and learn new skills, all while having a lot of fun! Find out more: www.su.nottingham.ac.uk

Sports
We offer sport at all levels and an excellent all-inclusive student membership offer, so whether you enjoy sport as a hobby or are an elite athlete we will have just what you need. We have over 70 sports clubs, which means we have the 2nd highest number of sports clubs of any UK university. If you’re not interested in joining a team but want to stay fit, we have sports centres on all of our main UK campuses.

Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/sport

Exploring your new city
With Nottingham city centre just a 10-minute bus ride away from University Park Campus, our students are always close to the action. Buses run through campus regularly and many run late-night services too, which is handy if you’re a night owl.

For music lovers, you can take your pick from the world-famous Rock City, Capital FM Arena or one of the smaller gig venues for a more intimate live show. Nottingham is rich in performance venues, with comedy clubs and theatres catering for lovers of drama, musicals, ballet and panto. We are very proud of our sporting heritage, and with football clubs Nottingham Forest and Notts County in the city, as well as Trent Bridge cricket ground and the National Ice Centre on your doorstep, you might just become a sports fan if you’re not one already.

History and culture can be found in all corners of the city, with Nottingham Castle, Nottingham Contemporary arts centre, the Galleries of Justice Museum, Nottingham Lakeside Arts – the University’s public arts centre located on our University Park Campus – arthouse cinemas and three of the world’s oldest pubs all providing points of interest. If you enjoy shopping, Nottingham is perfect for you; independent boutiques and vintage shops in the bohemian area of Hockley mix with high street names in our large shopping centres to make Nottingham a veritable shopping haven.

Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/nottinghamlife

Download our city guide: www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/cityguide
Applying for a place

Application process
Applications for an undergraduate place at Nottingham can be made in one of two ways depending on where you are applying from:

Home/EU applicants should apply via the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) using the institution code N84 and UCAS code CFGZ. Applications should be made online via www.ucas.com. Candidates will be notified of decisions via UCAS Track at track.ucas.com. If you wish to progress to a four-year course (MSc or MSc) from the foundation year we advise you to apply for CFGZ which covers a full five years. CGFO is for those who wish to progress to a BSc and therefore will remain at the University for four years.

International applicants can apply through UCAS using the institution code N84 and UCAS Code CFGZ, or applications can be made directly to the University using the application form on our website: www.nottingham.ac.uk/internationalstudents/applicants. Those who wish to be considered for progression to degrees in the School of Pharmacy must apply through UCAS using the course code CFGZ.

Your personal statement
This is the section of your UCAS form that tells us the most about you, and you should make the best use of it. We would like to see that you are a student who can work hard, be self-motivating and make the best possible use of the opportunities this course might have to offer you. Use this opportunity to explain why you wish to progress to the degree of your choice.

Entry requirements
All students entering foundation science are expected to have obtained GCSEs (or equivalent) in mathematics and science (single science or Double Award) at grade B or above and at least five other GCSE subjects including English at grade C or above. Students studying foundation science will typically hold grades BBB or above at A level, but in subjects that do not allow direct entry to a degree programme. Some may only have one science subject, rather than two.

Mature applicants
We encourage applications from mature students (which means all those aged 21 or over when the course begins). Mature students who hold non-standard qualifications may also be considered for entry to the programme. Typically, students offering recent study qualifications (such as Access or a BTec) would be considered if their qualification does not have enough science for direct entry. Students will need to show an aptitude for mathematics and science and may be invited for interview, where we will look for evidence of your ability to study at a high academic level and of commitment to the subject. If in doubt, please contact the admissions tutor, who will be happy to answer any specific queries you have about applying as a mature student. For more information please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/mature

Deferred entry
Applicants who wish to defer their entry by a year will not be at a disadvantage. Please tell us something about your plans for your gap year in your UCAS personal statement.

Flexible admissions policy
In recognition of our applicants’ varied experience and educational pathways, we employ a flexible admissions policy. If we judge that your situation has adversely affected your achievement, then we will consider this when assessing your academic potential. If you wish to mention information about your experiences in your personal statement, then you should ask the teacher or tutor writing your reference to confirm what you have written. We may ask for further evidence and may consider a range of factors. For more information, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/admissionspolicies

International applicants
We welcome applications from international students and have students from many parts of the world studying with us. Foundation science offers a bridging route on successful completion, to a range of degree programmes. The University’s International Office offers guidance and advice on matters such as visa and immigration regulations, working and living in the UK, entry requirements and preparing for coming to Nottingham – and arranges a Welcome Programme for new international students each September. If you would like to visit the University and are unable to attend an open day, the International Office will be happy to arrange a tailor-made visit for you. For further information please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/studywithus/international-applicants

Advice on the suitability of different international qualifications is given on an individual basis and the International Office is more than willing to help: www.nottingham.ac.uk/internationalstudents/applicants/countryinformation

English language requirements
International students who score 5.0 in any element of their IELTS (irrespective of the overall score) will need to take an additional 20 credits of English language modules (X10ESA and X10ESB) and will be required to achieve 55% to 65% in each module, depending on which degree they wish to progress to, for example progression to pharmacy will require 65% in each module.

Students who have IELTS 5.5 (no less than 5.0 in any element) will be considered for entry to foundation science but will be expected to complete an English language module.

Students who have IELTS 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in any element) will not be required to complete an English language module if they wish to progress to pharmacy.

For more information and a list of the alternative English language requirements we accept, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/alternativerequirements

Preparing to study in English – academic English preparation and support
The University of Nottingham Centre for English Language Education (CELE) offers high-quality academic English and study skills (presessional) programmes to prepare you to study your degree in English. Our programmes are designed to give international students excellent preparation for their academic studies and are taught by experienced, professional tutors.

CELE provides a range of programmes throughout the year, including five-week subject-specific courses (in some subjects) and a four-week course in September for students with unconditional offers, with a focus on academic study skills.

You can continue to benefit from academic English support with free classes and one-to-one consultations throughout your study (insessional programmes). For more information about CELE please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/cele

Equal opportunities policy
The University aims to create the conditions whereby students and staff are treated solely on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of gender, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, age, socio-economic background, disability, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, family circumstances, sexual orientation or other irrelevant distinction.

For tips and advice at every step of your application journey, visit our undergraduate applicants’ area: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugapplicants
Frequently asked questions

How much are the fees?
Like many universities in England, Nottingham charges full-time UK and EU students an annual tuition fee of £9,000. However, you will not have to pay your fees while studying – the government will lend eligible students the money, which you will start to pay back once you have left university and are earning at least £21,000. For more information, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees

For September 2015 entry, the foundation science fee for students from outside the EU was £12,720. For up to date fees for September 2016 entry, please contact the school using the details on page 23.

Fees for international students (from outside the EU) vary, depending on which degree they progress to after the foundation year. For more information, please see the ‘New international students’ section on www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees

What bursaries are available?
Although bursary figures for 2016/17 are yet to be finalised, the University will continue to offer a generous package of bursary support to students from lower income households. These are in addition to any support you may receive from the government. For more information please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/financialsupport

If you are an international applicant (outside of the EU), please see the ‘New international students’ section on www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees

What support is available for students with children?
There are a range of services provided to support students with children, including a University day nursery, a playscheme and playcentre day care. There is also a scheme to help students fund childcare. For more information, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/child-care

What support do you offer for students with a disability or dyslexia?
The school, like the University, is committed to promoting access for students who have a disability, dyslexia or a long-term medical condition. Services provided by the University aim to enable students to fulfil the inherent requirements of the course as independently as possible. The University’s Disability Statement, which lists services, facilities and opportunities available throughout the University can be viewed at www.nottingham.ac.uk/disability

Visit our website for more frequently asked questions: www.nottingham.ac.uk/faqs

To ask course-specific questions email foundation-science@nottingham.ac.uk
Visiting and contacting us

Open days
If you're considering applying to The University of Nottingham we recommend that you try to attend one of the University-wide open days, which are held in June and September each year and attract around 30,000 visitors. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/opendays

Mini open days
Mini open days are much smaller than the main open days but offer the same opportunities to attend various talks and tours as well as speak to current students and academics. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/miniopendays or call +44 (0)115 951 5559.

Virtual open day
If you can't attend one of our open days in person, or would like to explore our campuses before visiting, take a look at our virtual open day: www.nottingham.ac.uk/virtualnottingham

UCAS visit days
Once you've been offered a place at Nottingham, you will be invited to attend a UCAS visit day, which is an opportunity for you to visit the school and to find out more about your chosen course. You will also be given a short tour of the campus by current students.

Other visits
If you wish to make an informal visit to the University prior to applying here, you are welcome to do so, but you should contact us in advance if you wish to visit the school or speak to an admissions tutor, and we will do our best to oblige.

Contact us
Foundation Science Administrator
School of Life Sciences
The University of Nottingham
University Park
Nottingham
NG7 2RD

t: +44 (0)115 748 4035
t: +44 (0)115 951 5247
f: +44 (0)115 951 3251
f: +44 (0)115 951 5247
e: foundation-science@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/foundationscience

For international student enquiries, please contact:
The International Office

t: +44 (0)115 951 5247
f: +44 (0)115 951 5247

e: international-office@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/international

You can also connect with fellow applicants and current students on our applicants’ Facebook and Twitter pages:

UoNApplicants
@UoNApplicants

This publication is available in alternative formats.
t: +44 (0)115 951 5559

The University of Nottingham has made every effort to ensure that the information in this brochure was accurate when published. Please note, however, that the nature of the content means that it is subject to change from time to time, and you should therefore consider the information to be guiding rather than definitive. You should check the University’s website for any updates before you decide to accept a place on a course.

© The University of Nottingham 2015. All rights reserved.

Printed May 2015.