

Careers in Biotechnology

Graduates will have a sound knowledge of fundamental cell and molecular biology and its application to biotechnology, ensuring you are prepared for careers in industry, academic research or teaching, or related commerce:

- Researchers in industrial and government research institutes
- Teachers
- Advisors, managers, sales executives in pharmaceutical and other science industries
- Accountants and business consultants

Graduate profiles

Some of our recent graduates:

Khary Edwards

"I chose to study Biotechnology because I liked the fact that it was a cutting edge, practical field combining all of the most exciting aspects of Biology.

A friend who came to an open day recommended Nottingham to me. She sold it to me based on its strong academic ranking, and on the beauty of the campuses! Another major factor was the flexibility of the Biotechnology programme allowing for specialization in plant, microbial or animal aspects of Biotechnology. The degree possessed a large number of appealing courses covering a wide range of topics within the field. I liked that I had the choice of directing my course of study.



I chose to pursue mostly microbial courses. The courses were extremely hands-on, with a lot of time spent in the lab and a strong emphasis on putting theory into practice, and the industrial uses of micro-organisms. One of the best and most challenging aspects of the course was the final year research project. It was great to choose from a wide range of projects and carry out what amounted to a mini-PhD over the course of my final year. Overall, the course was excellent.

I now work in the General Microbiology Laboratory of the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) in Trinidad and Tobago. I test food and water for a variety of pathogenic micro-organisms using both standard and rapid microbiology methods. My

job also includes writing up reports, dealing with clients, going out on the field to collect samples and research into various projects we may have going within the Institute.

If it wasn't for my degree, I probably would not have the job I currently hold. At my interview, the panel was impressed by the amount of practical work done during the courses - particularly with the research project undertaken. I definitely felt prepared for this sort of job-I was already familiar with several of the tests I conduct within my job because of the large amount of practical work done during the course of my degree.

As an international student, coming to university meant not only coming to Nottingham, but also coming to a whole new country. Overall, the experience of England and Nottingham was second to none. I loved my time at Nottingham. Academically, it was challenging and fulfilling. Socially, everyone was extremely friendly and up for having a good time, even with Sutton Bonington being smaller than the other campuses of the University.

I was President of the International Students at Sutton Bonington Campus (ISSB) Committee and a member of the SB student guild. This was a great experience; I was able to meet a lot of the international students on campus and plan various events. There were the usual undergrad parties, clubbing in Nottingham and Loughborough and general hanging out with friends. Travel was also another interest - I went to various parts of the UK and Europe during my time in England."

Linh Tran

"I am currently working for GHK Consulting Ltd., London as a public policy consultant. I graduated from Nottingham with a first class degree in Biotechnology and subsequently gained my PhD in Molecular Biology at Cambridge University. I am currently undertaking a mid-term evaluation of the LIFE+ Regulation - the European Commission's main environmental fund and evaluating the EU legislative framework in the field of cultivation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

In March 2008 I led a research project between Cambridge University and the Atomic Energy Commission (France) which resulted in ground-breaking findings in cell biology. My previous research experience involved leading a project on assessing the energy content in plants, and analysing the impact of genomics on the innovation of the pharmaceutical industry. My work involved analysing the operational structure, product trends and development under different regulations of more than 1,000 firms in the US and the EU and UK."

Liz Adams

" After graduating in 2007, I completed a two month internship with the Food Ethics Council in Brighton in order to gain more experience in bioethics and policy analysis. I was involved in researching road pricing policy and its effect on the development of a sustainable food system. I then received a grant from the Tropical Agriculture Association to fund a five month internship at the Gobabeb Research Centre in Namibia. I developed a module on Sustainable Agriculture working with the local community,

commercial farmers, various committees and members of the Ministry of Agriculture. I am currently completing a Masters in Science, Technology and Sustainability at the Science Policy Research Unit at University of Sussex where I am researching biotechnology policy in South Africa and Kenya."

Ioannis Karafyllidis

Whilst studying for his BSc in Biotechnology, Ioannis developed a strong interest in plant physiology and plant molecular biology. For his final-year project he chose to specialise in molecular plant physiology and this has led him to study for a PhD in molecular aspects of plant pathology.