School of Pharmacy
Postgraduate Taught Courses

Ranked 6th in the world for pharmacy and pharmacology
Research-engaged teaching
Excellent links with industry
Placement year option

nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/pharmacy
Find your future at Nottingham

Overview
Join a school that is recognised as a world leader for research in the design and use of drugs and medicines. You’ll work alongside academic staff who are undertaking internationally leading research, ensuring our programmes are at the cutting-edge of the latest learning.

We provide technology-rich courses, using online learning to supplement face-to-face teaching and innovative assessment methods.

Teaching and research excellence
In the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF2014), the school was ranked joint 1st in the UK on quality of research for pharmacy schools, and we are the only school of pharmacy to have 100% of research at 4* in the ‘Impact on Society’ category. This is an indicator of how relevant and impactful our research is on society.

We deliver high quality teaching and learning for our students, as recognised with the Gold Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework award in 2017. We were ranked 6th in outcomes framework award in 2017. We were ranked 6th in Outcomes Framework award in 2017. We were ranked 6th in.

Drug Discovery and Pharmaceutical Sciences MSc
This 12-month course will equip you with an in-depth knowledge of all aspects of drug discovery. It integrates teaching in chemistry and biology to enable you to develop exceptional scientific understanding and a host of transferable skills.

The overall drug discovery process from ‘concept to clinic’ is the reference point for the education and training delivered. Our aim is to help you become a translational scientist; with knowledge of basic and clinical science that can be applied to drug discovery and development. You’ll develop an understanding of disease/disorder biology and how it impacts upon human health.

You’ll be provided with knowledge in chosen areas of normal and abnormal pharmacology and bodily function, so you understand how and why drugs are either rejected or taken forward for future development. You will also benefit from the opportunity to practise background theory within a research-engaged environment.

The course is accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and satisfies the academic requirements for Chartered Chemist (CChem). RSC accreditation requires rigorous evaluation and denotes a high quality degree programme that is recognised by future employers in both the academic and industrial sectors.

The modules covered on the course are: Fundamentals of Drug Discovery, Drug Targets and Pharmacodynamics, Drug Discovery and Development 1 (Hit Identification to Lead Optimisation), Drug Discovery and Development 2 (Drug metabolism and Pharmacokinetics), plus an independent Research Project.

We utilise a broad range of assessments throughout the course, including written and online exams, practical laboratory-based skill assessments, written practical and research reports, group and individual coursework, oral and poster presentations, and viva voce examination.

Drug Discovery and Pharmaceutical Sciences with Industrial Training MSc (two-year)
Our pioneering two-year MSc programme is unique in the UK, and builds on the comprehensive content of the one-year programme. It will equip you with an in-depth knowledge of all aspects of drug discovery, and industry standard training.

The course is designed to develop graduates who have exceptional scientific understanding and a host of transferable skills, including leadership skills. It is therefore particularly suitable for high-achieving and ambitious students seeking an opportunity to gain extensive hands-on training in an industrial environment, working as part of a multidisciplinary team.

You’ll cover the fundamental disciplines underpinning drug discovery as well as enjoy learning directly from staff at the forefront of the field.

The second year of the course has been developed in conjunction with the pharmaceutical industry to ensure relevance, and to increase your future employability. Our aim is to train future leaders in the pharmaceutical sector.

The placement year with one of our industrial partners is arranged and guaranteed upon completion of a successful application and interview process. You will pay reduced tuition fees for the second year of the course, as you focus on your industrial training.

Due to limited places available, if you are unable to join the two-year programme, you will automatically be considered for the one year course.

The modules covered on the course are: Fundamentals of Drug Discovery, Drug Targets and Pharmacodynamics, Drug Discovery and Development 1 (Hit Identification to Lead Optimisation), Industrial Placement incorporating a Research Project, and either Drug Discovery and Development 2 (Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics) or Drug Discovery with Physical and Organic Chemistry.

Alumni stories
“I worked as a pharmacist for two years after qualifying, but I was more interested in the science of drug discovery rather than hospital practice. I decided to apply to the MSc course because it would give me the chance to pursue the field of drug discovery and I could use it as a foundation for a PhD. I’m now studying my PhD at the National University of Singapore. The fundamentals of drug discovery provided by the course has contributed to my PhD project.”

Samuel Agyei Nyantakyi,
MSc Drug Discovery and Pharmaceutical Sciences

“The MSc programme gave me the confidence and knowledge to look for a job without being scared of the competition. After the course I worked at the University of Nottingham for six months. I then decided I wanted to move into clinical trials. I was invited to three interviews and got three offers!”

Anna Sipitanou,
MSc Drug Discovery and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Advance your career

Graduates from these courses can expect to move into a range of scientific careers, particularly with global pharmaceutical companies and pharmaceutical SMEs. Strong industrial links to the course will further enhance your employability, particularly the industrial training included in the two-year programme.

These courses also provide a strong grounding for students wishing to study for a PhD in a related subject area.

In 2016, 100% of postgraduates from the school who were available for employment had secured work or further study within six months of graduation. The average starting salary was £31,562 with the highest being £39,000.*

* Known destinations of full-time home postgraduates 2015/16. Salaries are calculated based on the median of those in full-time paid employment within the UK.

Find out more: nottingham.ac.uk/careers

Our research

Our portfolio of multidisciplinary research is focussed on understanding and developing treatments for some of the most complex and challenging diseases of our time. We have five major and integrated research divisions:

- Advanced Materials and Healthcare Technologies
- Biomolecular Science and Medicinal Chemistry
- Molecular Therapeutics and Formulation
- Pharmacy Practice and Policy
- Regenerative Medicine and Cellular Therapies

Find out more: nottingham.ac.uk/pharmacy/research

Fund it

When looking at how to fund your postgraduate studies, it's worth taking the time to research your options, as funding is available from a variety of sources.

Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/funding

Discover more

nottingham.ac.uk/contact
nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/apply