

Programme Specification

BSc Pharmaceutical Science

For students entering Part 1 in September 2023

UFPHARMB

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	
Accreditation	Not applicable

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with a modern, innovative and integrated Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree-level education in Pharmaceutical Science. The BSc Pharmaceutical Science will teach you about the safe manufacture, distribution and use of medicinal products, and will encompass detailed studies of all aspects of drug action, design, formulation and use. Thus you will be trained in aspects of chemistry, biology, therapeutics, statistics, psychology and law, that impact on pharmaceutical science. The programme supports your development as an independent learner with strong knowledge of medicinal product design, manufacture, delivery, distribution and clinical use. Reading graduates will be well placed to pursue careers in a range of sectors, including the pharmaceutical industry.

Part 1:	Introduces you to key concepts and is taught in broad discipline themes, where concepts are described, developed and explicitly linked and integrated to the development and use of medicines. During Part 1, we focus on developing your learning skills; our assessment is largely diagnostic and formative as we encourage you to reflect and take responsibility for your own learning. The year is made up of interlinked modules that will provide you with the core biological, chemical and professional knowledge and skills that form the foundation of the degree programme. The year includes a number of laboratory, workshop and tutorial classes that allow you to develop your pharmaceutical science and associated skills, each providing you with appropriate feedback and opportunities for reflection. During Part 1, you will have the opportunity to undertake placements and interprofessional learning activities, through which you will start to learn about working as part of a multidisciplinary team.
Part 2:	In Part 2, you will develop your knowledge and skills about how pharmaceutical sciences integrate to support healthcare and the treatment of diseases. You will learn a combination of scientific disciplines related to healthcare along with an understand of how medicines can impact the human body. You will also start to

	develop your critical analysis and research skills in preparation for undertaking a research project in part 3
Part 3:	In Part 3 you will perform an extended laboratory-based or data analysis project which will develop practical skills sought by pharmaceutical, and life sciences-related, industries. You will also have access to optional modules on cutting edge areas built around areas of staff research expertise. You will learn about societal aspects of pharmacology and develop core attributes and attitudes that will support a research-focused career.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PM1PY1	Professional Practice 1	40	4
PM1PY2	Fundamentals of Cell Biology	20	4
PM1PY3	Fundamentals of Pharmaceutical Science	20	4
PM1PY4	Introduction to Medicines Design	20	4
PM1PY5	Introduction to Microbiology, Immunology and Physiology	20	4

All Part 1 modules are compulsory.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PM2DDD	Drug Design and Delivery	20	5
PM2IAP	Integrated Anatomy and Physiology	20	5
PM2MDT	Molecular Drug Targets	20	5
PM2MHC	Medicines in Healthcare	20	5
PM2SPA	Selected Pathologies	20	5

The remaining credits will be taken from a list of optional modules from the School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy, or from an approved list of modules.

Students transferring to this programme at the end of Part 2 must have taken the following:

Module	Name	Credit	Level
PM2PY1	Professional Practice 2	40	5
PM2PY2	Clinical Therapeutics 1	40	5
PM2PY3	Clinical Therapeutics 2	40	5

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PM3CSIP	Clinical and Societal Impact of Pharmacology	40	6
PM3RP	Research Project	60	6

The remaining credits will be taken from a list of optional modules from the School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy, or from an approved list of modules.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Additional costs of the programme

1. Required text books: A wide variety of text books is available from the library, many as e-books. Students are advised to purchase own copies of some core texts at varying costs.
2. Specialist equipment or materials: A lab coat will cost approximately £10.
3. Printing facilities are available on campus at approximately £0.05 per page
4. Travel, accommodation and subsistence: Students may need to travel if they visit venues geographically further away from University (when significantly further away, the programme currently supports travel costs by reimbursements).

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2024.

Placement opportunities

Placements:

There are no placement requirements within this programme, but you will have the opportunity to undertake placement learning in Part 1.

Study Abroad:

There are no study abroad opportunities within this programme.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught through lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and practical classes. You will also undertake directed and self-directed study, and digitally-enabled learning activities to supplement and enhance your learning from the taught sessions. There will be an expectation that you will attend all taught sessions, and attendance will be monitored.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination.

Total study hours for each Part of your programme will be 1200 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is Part 1 – 600 hours, Part 2 - 400 hours, Part 3 - 650. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

The programme is not accredited.

Assessment

Assessment methods used will be according to those stated in the module descriptors to align to the learning outcomes. This means the programme is assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework, oral examinations, and practical examinations.

Progression*Part 1*

To achieve a threshold performance at Part 1, a student will normally be required to:

- (i) Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1;
- (ii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in modules amounting to 120 credits.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Transferring from a Joint Honours to a Single Honours programme

Students are able to transfer from a Joint Honours to a Single Honours programme in one of their joint subject areas at the end of Part 1, subject to fulfilling the Part 1 University Threshold Standard, achieving marks of at least 40% in at least 40 credits of modules in the subject to which they wish to transfer, and fulfilling any programme-specific progression rules for the Part 1 Single Honours Programme to which they wish to transfer.

Students who transfer from a Joint Honours to a Single Honours programme may not have taken all of the Part 1 modules listed in the Single Honours Programme Specification. The modules which they have taken will be shown on their Diploma Supplement.

Transfer from the MPharm programme or MPharm with Preparatory Year

Students who have failed to meet the requirements for progression from Part 1 to Part 2 of the MPharm or MPharm with Preparatory Year programmes, but who have met University Threshold Standard, may transfer to Part 2 of this programme.

Part 2

To achieve a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
- (ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2; and
- (iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Transfer from the MPharm programme or MPharm with Preparatory Year

Students who have failed to meet the requirements for progression from Part 2 to Part 3 of the MPharm or MPharm with Preparatory Year programmes, but who have met University Threshold Standard, may transfer to Part 3 of this programme.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class

60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three year Clinical science exit degree:

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

The classification method is given in detail in Section 17 of the Assessment Handbook.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BSc Pharmaceutical Science for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24

18 September 2024

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