

Pharmacology at Bristol

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Hear what it's like to study
Pharmacology at Bristol – [watch](#) our
video:



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Why study Pharmacology at Bristol?

- We're ranked third in the UK for Pharmacology (*The Guardian*, 2020)
- We offer a choice of Pharmacology degrees: B210 BSc Pharmacology (3 year), B212 MSci Pharmacology (4 year) and B211 MSci Pharmacology with Study in Industry (4 year).
- We specialise in the study of: Learning and memory, Cardiovascular physiology, Sensory physiology/neuroscience, Pain, Cell motility and movement, and Neuropsychiatric disorders.
- You'll have access to a range of excellent facilities, including the Virtual microscope, [eBioLabs](#) and our Human patient stimulator, 'Stan'.
- We limit our intake to between 30 to 80 students per year on each course, ensuring an excellent student to staff ratio.
- We offer a range of opportunities to socialise with other neuroscientists across Bristol: through our active student societies; student parenting scheme; BBQs, bar crawls and the Neuroscience Ball.
- We want you to succeed beyond university; we provide Programme Enhancement Activities designed to enhance your employability skills.

Course structure

*please note that course units vary between degrees and may change

First year units

- In your first year you will study two mandatory units: Pharmacology 1A and 1B and Understanding Body Function A
- You will also pick three units from the following options:
 - Understanding Body Function B
 - Introduction to Neuroscience
 - Functional Neuroanatomy
 - Biochemistry
 - Psychology
 - Cellular and Molecular Medicine

An example of a first-year timetable

	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6
Monday		Lecture: Physiology		Lecture: Pharmacology					Lecture: Neuroanatomy
Tuesday				Lecture: Pharmacology		Practical: Pharmacology			Lecture: Physiology
Wednesday	Lecture: Pharmacology	Lecture: Physiology	Lecture: Neuroscience						
Thursday			Lecture: Neuroscience	Tutorial: Neuroscience		Workshop: Neuroscience			
Friday		Practical: Physiology			Practical: Neuroscience				

Second year units

- Your second year is worth 120 credit points (6 units)
- Pharmacology of the Nervous System and Pharmacology of Body Systems are mandatory units.
- You will also pick three units from the following options:
 - Integrative Physiology
 - Molecular Genetics
 - Neurophysiology
 - Cellular Physiology
 - Techniques in Neuroscience
 - An 'open unit' that includes: a language, 'Big ideas in Science', or a first-year unit e.g. Psychology
- Additionally, you'll have the opportunity to gain important transferable skills through our BREES programme (Biomedical Research, Employability and Enterprise skills).

Third year

Following second year, the route you'll take will vary depending on which course you have chosen.

- **BSc degrees** – your third year is your final year and will consist of seminar teaching and a research project.
- **MSci degrees** – your third year will consist of seminar teaching and a research project followed by an additional fourth year of study.
- **MSci with Study in Industry** – your third year is spent completing an industry placement, after which you will return for a final year of study.

Research project

Your final-year research project is a great opportunity for you to undertake real research in an area of your choice.

Previous research projects have included:

- 'Designing reagents for Drugs of Abuse testing'
- 'Intracellular calcium handling by atrioventricular nodal and atrial cells'
- 'Glutamate receptors and cardiac function'
- 'Characterising Drosophila models of Alzheimer's disease'
- 'Anti-platelet therapy in stroke: is the P2Y12 receptor a good target?'
- 'Can we learn anything about the mechanisms which underlie rapid onset antidepressants by better understanding their pharmacology?'

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Study in Industry

- During your degree you may also have the option to spend a year gaining real-world experience by working in a company or research institute.
- Students apply for placements during Year 2 and complete the placement in Year 3. On your return in Year 4, you will write a report on the work you have completed and present it as a poster.
- You'll experience how the biomedical industry operates.
- Previous placements have included GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer, Bayer, Novartis, MSD and AstraZeneca
- Available for MSci Pharmacology with Study in Industry students only.

Thank you

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