

# Programme Specification

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## BSc (Hons) Pharmacology: 2020-19

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in Years	3 years, following standard progression for a full-time student
Accreditation details	Not applicable
Final award	Bachelor of Science – Honours
Name of award	Pharmacology
Interim Exit awards	Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) Diploma of Higher Education Certificate of Higher Education
FHEQ level of final award	6
UCAS code	B210
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	QAA Subject Benchmark Statements for Biomedical Science (2007) QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
Programme Lead	Dr John Chad
Date specification was written	January 2017
Date specification was validated	May 2017
Date specification was last updated	March 2019

## Programme Overview

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### Brief outline of the programme

Pharmacology is the study of how drugs interact with receptors, cells, tissues and whole animals and based on a good understanding of basic physiology and biochemistry. Graduates in pharmacology are in considerable demand in a variety of areas of employment. In Southampton you will undertake a balanced programme where you will gain the relevant skills and knowledge required for a career in this subject area.

You will be taught through a combination of lectures, tutorials, practical classes, coursework and projects. In Part 3 you have the possibility to undertake an independent laboratory project, literature project or select from a range of modules studying the biosciences in business, education and communication.

Throughout the programme you will undertake independent reading both to supplement and consolidate the taught material and to broaden your knowledge and understanding of pharmacology.

### Special Features of the programme

The Pharmacology Bachelor's degree provides a flexible programme with which to pursue your interest in Pharmacology to the frontiers of our knowledge in this discipline. Parts 1 and 2 provide you with a solid foundation in pharmacology and experience of key laboratory skills. In part 3 year you will have the opportunity to develop your own interests in particular fields of research supported by a range of advanced Part 3 modules. These modules are taught by researchers at the forefront of their disciplines from within Biological Sciences, including the opportunity to conduct an original research project. The analytical and practical skills acquired during this programme provide a strong foundation for a broad range of careers extending beyond those required by researchers in pharmacology.

Alongside core pharmacology modules, we offer a broad range of modules in the wider area of biomolecular sciences, which will give you the flexibility to follow your particular interests as you progress through your degree. Furthermore, there are also modules available in other faculties including modern languages and broader interdisciplinary modules, which will give you the choice to maintain a broader portfolio of skills and experience, should you so wish.

In the second semester of the part 2, our highest achieving students are invited to consider going overseas on a "study abroad" module, giving them the opportunity to study at partner universities in Australia. While abroad,

you must undertake modules which give you an equivalent learning experience in pharmacology and related disciplines to those you would have studied at Southampton. Therefore the university selected by the student will be considered on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the programme lead.

After completing Part 2 of the Programme you have the possibility to suspend your student registration for a year to undertake a placement in industry or other organisation and develop your interests in pharmacology outside the academic environment. You are encouraged to apply for this year in industry as those that gain this industrial experience gives you a large boost in terms of employability as you return to complete your degree. A dedicated academic will assist you in identifying a suitable placement, and together with the University provide you with support for the duration of your placement.

Our part 3 laboratory and in silico research projects enable you to participate in cutting-edge research, giving you the ability to perform independent experiments or data analysis as part of a wider research programme. We also offer alternative project modules for those whose career interests are developing in different directions, with research topics in Bioscience Business, Bioscience Education, Science Communication and Bioscience Ethics.

## Learning and teaching

Eight modules are taken each academic year, four in semester one and four in semester two. A module normally consists of two lectures a week plus a three-hour practical on alternate weeks. Practicals and other components of in-course assessment contribute up to 25% of your final mark in Parts 1 to 3. We also provide workshops and pastoral tutorials in which you can get specific help on the content of your lectures. Each week you therefore attend eight 45-minute lectures, an average of two 2 to 3 hour practical classes and may also attend a small group tutorial, which should take up to two hours to prepare.

## Assessment

You will be assessed by a combination of continuous assessment and written examinations at the end of each semester to test your knowledge and understanding of the lecture and tutorial material. Continuous assessment is based on performance in tutorials, workshops and practicals.

**Please note:** As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's [programme validation process](#) which is described in the University's [Quality handbook](#).

## Educational Aims of the Programme

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The aims of the programme are to provide:

1. a stimulating, informed environment through a wide range of interesting and contemporary courses with flexibility and choice, but allowing you to focus increasingly as you progress from part to part;
2. a sound scientific knowledge base in pharmacology to FHEQ level 6, (which is more focussed in Parts 2 and 3 of the programme) and in biochemistry and physiology to at least FHEQ Level 5 (i.e. Parts 1 and 2 of the programme) enabling you to describe and comment on specific aspects of current research in pharmacology;
3. an appreciation of the limits of knowledge of pharmacological processes;
4. training in pharmacological laboratory skills;
5. an opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills (information and communication technology, team working, written and oral communication, time management, planning, data collection and presentation);
6. opportunities to develop your skills of critical thinking and to show that you can pursue independent study;
7. an opportunity to undertake an independent project on a pharmacologically-related topic;
8. an education and training suitable for a wide variety of careers and that will prepare you for higher degrees and careers in pharmacological and biochemical research – or graduate entry to medicine;
9. the capability of life-long learning, study and enquiry.

This programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

## Programme Learning Outcomes

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By the end of this programme you will be able to:

- Show knowledge and understanding of a range of topics relevant to Pharmacology, as detailed in the LOs for the core and compulsory modules for this programme
- Use a range of practical skills and techniques relevant to pharmacology, as detailed in the LOs for the core and compulsory modules for this programme
- Collect and analyse experimental data
- Interpret and write up the results of experiments
- Create and deliver a presentation on a topic relevant to pharmacology
- Conduct research into an area of science relevant to pharmacology
- Produce a dissertation, based on scientific research
- Have an appreciation of the ethical and societal aspects of research in the biosciences

As well as these programme level learning outcomes, which must be read in conjunction with those of the core and compulsory modules in the programme, you will have been assessed in other learning outcomes. These allow you to demonstrate Knowledge and Understanding, Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills, and Transferable and Generic Skills.

### Knowledge and Understanding

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate critical awareness of current issues in pharmacology, and comprehensive knowledge and systematic understanding of:

- A1. the structure and function of biologically important molecules, and how these interact;
- A2. how genetic information is stored, accessed and used in a cellular context;
- A3. the role of metabolic pathways in the production of energy and other components essential for cell life and growth;
- A4. the techniques used to study biological macromolecules;
- A5. how biotechnology is used in research and medicine;
- A6. the composition and spatial organisation of the cell, including cell division;
- A7. how cells communicate with each other;
- A8. the basis of homeostasis and other key physiological processes;
- A9. how cells become specialised, form tissues and functions within the major organs;
- A10. the basic mechanisms of drug action and their effects on: the nervous system, the neuromuscular junction, the heart and kidneys; including the treatment of pain;
- A11. pharmacokinetics and drug toxicity, including selective toxicity and the biochemical basis of antibiotic action;
- A12. molecular studies on receptor structure and function and quantitative analysis of drug-receptor interactions
- A13. neurotransmitter systems in the brain and their functional roles;
- A14. the biochemical basis of major CNS disorders and the use of drugs in treating them

### Teaching and Learning Methods

You will be taught using a combination of lectures, tutorials, practical classes, course work and projects. These activities will enable you to develop a critical understanding of pharmacology and become familiar with the techniques that are employed in modern pharmacological research. These skills will be consolidated in Part 3, where they will be employed as part of extended research or literature projects or applied in modules looking at the biosciences in business, education or communication. Embedded within these modules are opportunities to develop your transferable and generic skills.

### Assessment Methods

You will be assessed by a combination of continuous assessment and written/computer based exams at the end of each semester. Continuous assessment will be assessed by tutorials, practical and project work, providing an opportunity for you to demonstrate your practical competencies.

### Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- B1. formulate and test hypotheses by planning, conducting and reporting a programme of pharmacological research in the form of a project, either directly (from your own lab work or data mining), or indirectly through analysis of the work of others;
- B2. use a range of pharmacological laboratory equipment to generate data;
- B3. use computer software to record and analyse experimental data and determine their importance and validity;
- B4. analyse and solve complex pharmacological problems;
- B5. integrate your pharmacological knowledge base with other selected disciplines such as biochemistry and physiology
- B6. integrate and evaluate pharmacological data from a variety of sources, including primary source material in pharmacologically-related journals;
- B7. understand how the boundaries of pharmacological knowledge are advanced through research;
- B8. assess how your work can have consequences for yourself, others around you, and the general public. For laboratory work, this would mean conducting risk assessments concerning the use of chemicals, animal material and laboratory procedures; for in silico work, understanding and executing data analysis responsibly, using university guidelines on working with public or private datasets, and the secure storage and sharing of data; for work communicating to the public, appreciating the complexities of giving clear and accurate information when discussing scientific subjects.

### ***Teaching and Learning Methods***

In addition to the methods described above you will be supervised in practical classes and during your final year project(s). As part of your final year project you will be guided in critically reviewing the relevant literature.

### ***Assessment methods***

Your subject specific skills will be assessed as described above. Experimental and research skills are assessed through an appropriate combination of laboratory reports, project reports and presentations.

## **Transferable and Generic Skills**

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- C1. communicate/present effectively both verbally and in writing on a range of topics in pharmacology to both specialised and non-specialised audiences;
- C2. work as a member of a team;
- C3. use information technology and other resources to find, extract and synthesise information.
- C4. solve problems relating to qualitative and quantitative information;
- C5. learn independently in a spirit of critical enquiry;
- C6. demonstrate you have the ability to undertake appropriate further training;
- C7. manage resources and time.
- C8. demonstrate competency in using laboratory skills in a safe a responsible manner

### ***Teaching and Learning Methods***

You will be helped to acquire these skills through aspects of the formal teaching programme. In the early part of the programme this will mainly be through tutorials and coursework, whilst in Part three your project work will give you ample opportunity to further develop and practice many of the individual skills in one major activity.

### ***Assessment methods***

Your skills will be assessed as described above, primarily through continuous assessment and through your Part 3 project. Experimental and research skills are assessed through an appropriate combination of laboratory reports, project reports and presentations.

## Programme Structure

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### Typical course content

Pharmacology is the science of how drugs work. Evaluating new generation antibiotics, solving the problems of drug toxicity, finding out how drugs can best be used in the treatment of disease in humans and animals – these are all challenges faced by pharmacologists in an age of higher demands for an improved quality of life.

Our pharmacology degree programme has a strong emphasis on the molecular aspects of how pharmacological agents work, with particular interests in neuroscience and neuropharmacology. Through core topics, you will be introduced to the major concepts and principles of pharmacology in Parts one and two, and in Part three you will complete a research project in your area of choice.

BSc Pharmacology students who want to gain more experience also have the opportunity to take a year working in the pharmaceutical industry.

As a leading pharmacology university our teaching staff are actively involved in pharmacological research into brain damage and recovery, developmental biology, oncology, the development of new antibiotics and the mechanisms underlying alcoholism.

In common with all students studying for degrees in biochemistry, neuroscience, pharmacology and biomedical sciences you will take a common Part 1. This gives you the flexibility to change your programme of study at any time before the start of Part 2. More specialised training and options that enable diversification commence in Part 2. There is also an opportunity in Part 2 to take modules from the University's Curriculum Innovation Programme (CIP).

In Part 3 the students are exposed to the forefronts of the discipline's knowledge, with the opportunity to conduct supervised original research.

### Programme details

The BSc in Pharmacology programme is offered as a full-time course and normally lasts for three years.

Study is divided into three parts, each part corresponding to one year of full-time study. The programme is delivered in a semester pattern, each semester having 12 weeks for teaching and learning and 2-3 weeks for examinations.

The programme is divided into individual study modules. Each study module is accredited as being worth a certain number of credit points to you on successful completion. Modules are normally worth 7.5 ECTS which is equivalent to 150 hours of study. Modules are generally assessed at the end of each semester, but some are assessed entirely by coursework throughout the duration of the module.

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note in some instances modules have limited spaces available.

The following modules are **core** and must be taken:

#### Part 1 (FHEQ Level 4)

Module	ECTS
BIOL1007 Macromolecules of Life	7.5
BIOL1008 Metabolism & Metabolic Disorders	7.5
BIOL1011 Systems Physiology	7.5
BIOL1013 Integrative Mammalian Physiology	7.5

The following modules are *compulsory* and must be taken:

Module	ECTS
BIOL1006 Cell Biology & Genetics	7.5
BIOL1020 Core Skills in the Life Sciences	7.5
CHEM1039 Chemistry for Biological Scientists	7.5
BIOL1021 Behaviour of Biomolecules	7.5
NB: CHEM1039/BIOL1021 can be replaced with other modules from the Chemistry department: EITHER CHEM1041 and CHEM1042 (Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry I and II) AND CHEM1043 and CHEM1044 (Fundamentals of Physical Chemistry I and II) OR CHEM1041 and CHEM1042 AND CHEM1045 and CHEM1046 (Fundamentals of Inorganic Chemistry I and II)	total of 15

## Part 2 (FHEQ Level 5)

**You will take the following TWO core modules (15 ECTS):**

BIOL2016 Pharmacology A

BIOL2017 Pharmacology B\*

*\*Students undertaking the semester study abroad must identify an equivalent module at their host university, and this has to be approved by the programme lead. The equivalent module then must be passed.*

**In addition you will take the following FOUR compulsory modules (37.5 ECTS):**

BIOL2010 Flow of Genetic Information

BIOL2011 Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry\*\*

BIOL2014 Neuroscience

BIOL2022 Immunology, Infection and Inflammation\*\*

**In addition you must take at least ONE of these module (7.5 ECTS):**

BIOL2046 Quantitative Methods in Biomedical Sciences\*\*

BIOL2012 Exploring Proteins: Structure and Function

*\*\*Students on the Study Abroad scheme must select modules with comparable topics to the BIOL modules, and approval of these choices must come from the programme lead*

**In addition you may take ONE optional module (7.5 ECTS) normally taken from the following list:**

BIOL2013 Bioinformatics & DNA Technology

BIOL2018 Adaptive Physiology

*Or any other yr2 BIOL modules*

**If you have only selected seven modules, then you can select ONE elective module from a range of suitable courses from other Academic Units other than CfBS, and includes UOSM modules. eg.**

PSYC2007 Developmental Psychology

PSYC2018 Perception

UOSM2001 Business Skills for employability

UOSM2026 Ethics in Science, Engineering and Technology

UOSM2031 Engineering Replacement Body Parts

We strongly encourage you to discuss electives with your tutor before pursuing such options.

*It is also possible to "audit" a single second year module. This means that students attend the lectures to learn the content and have access to the module Blackboard site, but they do not have to take any of the assessments. One example would be if a student chose to audit the first semester module BIOL2012 Exploring Proteins: Structure and Function. Having this as an audited module then means that further options are open to that student during the third year, and this audited module will also appear on your final degree transcript.*

At the end of Part 2, it is possible to spend a year in industry. Students normally apply for this during semester one of Part 2. This provides an opportunity for you to experience working in a professional environment that provides you with numerous transferable skills and may develop your practical skills. If you follow this option you will enrol in the Universities Year in Employment programme and your degree title will include 'with a Year in Employment'. You will find that this experience will assist your understanding of the more academic parts of your degree programme, will significantly enhance your professional skills, and will increase your employability

## Part 3 (FHEQ Level 6)

You will take the following **THREE compulsory modules (22.5 ECTS)**:

BIOL3018 Molecular Pharmacology  
BIOL3025 Neuropharmacology of CNS disorders  
BIOL3027 Selective Toxicity

**Plus 15ECTS of project work, either:**

BIOL3034 In-depth Research Project (15 ECTS)

**or**

BIOL3058 Bioscience Business (15 ECTS)

**or**

BIOL3059 Bioscience Education (15 ECTS)

**or**

BIOL3069 In silico research project (15 ECTS)

**or**

two of (each 7.5 ECTS):

BIOL3031 Literature-based Research Project (sem1)

BIOL3032 Literature-based Research Project (sem2)

BIOL3060 Science Communication (sem1)

BIOL3066 Extended Science Communication (sem2)

BIOL3073 Bioscience Ethics (sem2)

NB only one project can be undertaken in each semester, and BIOL3066 has to be preceded by BIOL3060, and BIOL3031 and BIOL3032 cannot be taken together.

**In addition you will take at least TWO of the following 7.5 ECTS modules:**

BIOL3014 Molecular Cell Biology  
BIOL3015 Regulation of Gene Expression  
BIOL3017 Molecular and Structural Basis of Disease  
BIOL3021 Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience  
BIOL3022 Cell Signalling in Health and Disease  
BIOL3048 Neurodegenerative Disease  
BIOL3052 Biomedical Technology

**Finally, you can take a single elective module (7.5 ECTS), from the list above or from a range of suitable modules provided by CfBS (BIOL), other Academic Units or a UOSM. A complete list of BIOL modules can be found at <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/biosci/undergraduate/modules.page>. We strongly encourage you to discuss your module choice with your tutor before pursuing such options.**

## Progression Requirements

The University regulations governing progression, determination and classification of results in general can be found in the University Calendar (Section IV – General Regulations)

<http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html>

## Intermediate exit points

You will be eligible for an interim exit award if you complete part of the programme but not all of it, as follows:

Qualification	FHEQ level	Minimum overall credit in ECTS credits	Minimum ECTS credits required at level of award
Ordinary degree	6	at least 150	30
Diploma of Higher Education	5	at least 120	45
Certificate of Higher Education	4	at least 60	45

Learning outcomes specific to each intermediate exit point correspond to a sub-set of those for the programme as a whole and may be determined by consulting the module map at the end of this document.

## Support for student learning

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There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- Library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- High speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- Computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- Standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- Access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia);
- The Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career Destinations, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls (18.00-08.00); a Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- An academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- Opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- An Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- An induction programme at the start of the course, which will provide orientation, information on modules, courses, library and computer facilities.
- Handbooks, module handbooks and material on the web.
- Library and academic skill packages.
- Well-equipped laboratories.
- Academic and pastoral support from members of staff, including your personal tutor which will include scheduled meetings at appropriate occasions during the academic year.
- Access to all administrative and academic material on the CBS, Programme and individual module web sites and/or Blackboard (<http://www.blackboard.soton.ac.uk>).
- Access to all academic staff through an appointment system and e-mail.
- Access to administrative staff in the Faculty Student Offices during the normal working day.
- Feedback on assessment.

## Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

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You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Education Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the School
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External examiners, who produce an annual report
- A national Research Excellence Framework (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
- Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency

The Academic Unit of Biological Sciences has an Education Executive that monitors and evaluates all aspects of learning and teaching at undergraduate level. It considers the results of student feedback and takes appropriate action to remedy any shortcomings. The Director of Programmes acts on the results of peer observation of teaching and reports from our External Examiners who are selected from comparator universities.

## Criteria for admission

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The University's Admissions Policy (see [www.southampton.ac.uk/admissions-policy](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/admissions-policy)) applies equally to all programmes of study. The following are the typical entry criteria we use for selecting candidates for admission to our programmes.

### Entry Requirements

These requirements are reviewed annually by our Admissions team. Those stated below were correct as of July 2016.

#### GCSEs:

We require Grades A-C in English, Mathematics and Science. If you lack these formal qualifications, your aptitude for the course will be assessed at interview. International students, whose first language is not English, must have already attained the necessary standard in English – see English Language Proficiency section below.

#### A Levels:

AAB (excluding general studies). **Chemistry must be offered at A-level (minimum Grade B) along with at least one other A-level science subject**

#### A-level Science subjects considered include:

Other science A-levels	Biology Human Biology Physics Mathematics Environmental Science Geology Geography Psychology
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**Applicants only offering A-level Chemistry will be considered on a case-by-case basis.**

#### Alternative qualifications

Our admissions requirement is normally defined on the basis of A/AS levels, but equivalent qualifications are accepted.

We do offer entry through a one year Science Foundation programme designed to enable you to qualify for entry to Honours degree programmes in Biological Sciences if you have not studied the appropriate Science subjects at GCE A level or equivalent standard. It is particularly appropriate if you are a mature student or if you have obtained good grades in non-science A levels.

We will also accept applications from candidates offering other equivalent qualifications including Scottish and Irish Highers, European and International Baccalaureate, Access and Foundation courses and overseas qualifications.

More information on the entry requirements for Biology can be found on the Biology webpage here - <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/biology.shtml>

### English Language Proficiency

All programmes at the University of Southampton are taught and assessed in the medium of English (other than those in modern foreign languages). Therefore, all applicants must demonstrate they possess at least a minimum standard of English language proficiency. Our minimum standard entry requirements are an IELTS Band C, i.e.

Overall	Reading	Writing	Speaking	Listening
6.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5

Information on all acceptable English Language Tests can be found on the University website: [www.southampton.ac.uk/admissions-language](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/admissions-language)

### Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

The University has a Recognition of Prior Learning Policy. It may be possible to recognise formal credit for learning you have acquired in the past through formal study and/or through work and other life experiences. Your application will be considered on individual merit and you may be asked to attend an interview.

### Mature applicants:

Studying for a degree later in life can be extremely rewarding and mature students are often among our most successful.

If you are over 21 and feel you would benefit from degree-level studies, we can be more flexible about our entry requirements. For full-time courses, selectors will expect you to demonstrate your commitment by means of some recent serious study, for example, one or two A-level passes, successful completion of an Open University foundation course or an appropriate Access course. Your application will be considered on individual merit and you may be asked to attend an interview.

Another popular option is to follow a certificate or diploma programme. These are available on a part time basis and most can be taken in the evenings, enabling you to continue to earn an income while you are studying.

## Career Opportunities

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**With a BSc Pharmacology degree you could be expected to find work in the following areas:**

- Biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry
- Post-graduate research training
- Scientific officer in medical laboratories
- Teaching
- Forensic science
- Legal profession
- Business Management

## External Examiners(s) for the programme

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**Name** Dr Pauline Phelan  
**Institution** University of Kent

**Name** Dr Stuart Knight  
**Institution** King's College London

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

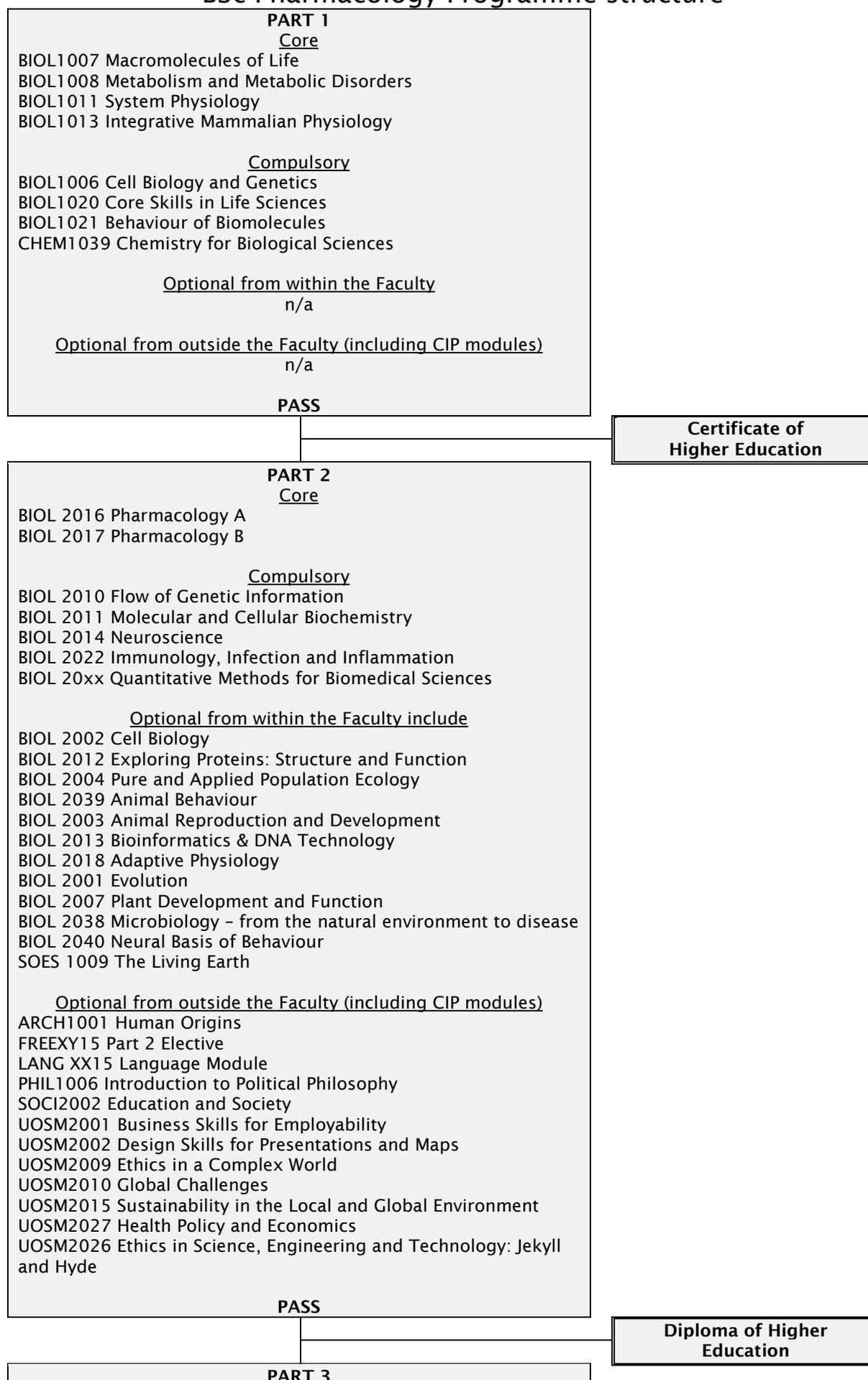
External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their personal tutor in the first instance.

**Please note:** This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.





## BSc Pharmacology Programme structure



Core  
n/a

Compulsory

BIOL3018 Molecular Pharmacology  
BIOL3025 Neuropharmacology of CNS disorders  
BIOL3027 Selective Toxicity

**Plus either:**

BIOL3034 In-depth Research Project (15 ECTS)

**or**

BIOL3058 Bioscience Business (15 ECTS)

**or**

BIOL3059 Bioscience Education (15 ECTS)

**Or**

two of (each 7.5 ECTS):

BIOL3031 Literature-based Research Project (sem1)

BIOL3032 Literature-based Research Project (sem2)

BIOL3050 Short Research Project (sem1 or sem2)

BIOL3060 Bioscience Communication

BIOL30xx Bioscience Ethics

Optional from within the Faculty include (this list is not exhaustive

BIOL3012 Cell Membranes

BIOL3014 Molecular Cell Biology

BIOL3015 Regulation of Gene Expression

BIOL3017 Molecular and Structural Basis of Disease

BIOL3021 Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience

BIOL3022 Cell Signalling in Health and Disease

BIOL3048 Neurodegenerative Disease

BIOL3052 Biomedical Technology

Optional from outside the Faculty (including CIP modules)

FREE XZ15 Part 3 Elective

FREE XZ15 Part 3 Elective

FREE XZ30 Part 3 Elective

LANG XX15 Language Module

LANG XX15 Language Module

LANG XX30 Language Module

SOCI 2002 Education and Society

UOSM 2001 Business Skills for Employability

UOSM 2002 Design Skills for Presentations and Maps

UOSM 2009 Ethics in a Complex World

UOSM 2010 Global Challenges

UOSM 2015 Sustainability in the Local and Global Environment

UOSM 2026 Ethics in Science, Engineering and Technology: Jekyll and Hyde

UOSM 2027 Health Policy and Economics

**PASS**

**Conferment of  
Award/Graduation**

**Bachelor of Science Ord  
Bachelor of Science (Hons)**

## Appendix 2: Additional Costs

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for the items listed in the table below

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at <http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/>.

Main Item	Sub-section	PROGRAMME SPECIFIC COSTS
Approved Calculators		Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers.
Stationery		You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationary items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc. Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks		Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source.  Some modules suggest reading texts as <b>optional</b> background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Equipment and Materials	Laboratory Equipment and Materials:	All materials required for laboratory work are provided. Where necessary, suitable specialist safety equipment will be provided.
IT	Computer Discs or USB drives	Students are expected to provide their own portable data storage device.
	Software Licenses	All software is provided
	Hardware	It is advisable that students provide their own laptop or personal computer, although shared facilities are available across the University campus.
Clothing	Lab Coats and safety spectacles	One laboratory coat and a pair of safety spectacles are provided at the start of the programme to each student. If these are lost the student must replace them at their own expense. The Students Union Shop stock these items.
	Field course clothing	You will need to wear suitable clothing when attending field courses, e.g. waterproofs, walking boots. You can purchase these from any source.
Printing and Photocopying Costs		Coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations may be submitted on line. In the majority of cases, though, students will be asked to provide a printed copy. The University printing costs are currently:  A4 - 5p per side (black and white) or 18p per side (colour) A3 - 8p per side (black and white) or 35p per side (colour)  Please Note: Paper sizes not recognised by the printing devices will prompt you to select the size and then

Main Item	Sub-section	PROGRAMME SPECIFIC COSTS
		<p>charge a minimum of 50p per black and white copy and a maximum of £1 per colour copy.</p> <p>You can pay for your printing by using the money loaders or by using print copy payment service by going to <a href="http://www.printcopypayments.soton.ac.uk">www.printcopypayments.soton.ac.uk</a> Please remember that we are unable to refund any credit that has not been used by the end of your course, so please consider this when topping up your printing/copy account</p> <p>The <a href="#">University Print Centre</a> also offers a printing and copying service as well as a dissertation/binding service. Current printing and copying costs can be found <a href="#">here</a>. They also provide a large format printing service, e.g. Academic posters. Details of current costs can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Placements (including Industrial Year out)</b>		<p>Students who choose to go on an industrial placement at the end of Part 2 can expect to cover costs for health and travel insurance, accommodation and living expenses; travel costs; visa costs.</p> <p>This will vary depending on which country you are travelling to.</p>
<b>Parking Costs</b>		<p>There may be a requirement to undertake work at Southampton General Hospital (SGH), for example during a final year research project. Students may need to cover costs for transport to travel to SGH or for car parking.</p>

#### Revision History

1. Minor revisions (including title) 10 July 2007 (SCK)
2. New Brand added July 2008
3. Updated to reflect University restructuring June 2011 AB.
4. Revisions approved by Senate 19 June 2013 as part of new programme validation process
5. Minor changes made to form guidance on completion of Intended Learning Outcomes, and Learning outcomes and Assessment Mapping document template, for clarity; and changes to wording of support for student learning section, altering to second person throughout - **agreed with the Chair and to be reported to UPC October 2013**
6. Version for Academic Year 2013/14 CQA
7. Updated to take account of new Programme Specification template, September 2015
8. Minor updates April 2019 (FEC approved)