COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Pharmacology

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Please refer to the Course Specification Guidance Notes for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	***BSc (Honours) Pharmacology***
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE, BSc
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	C0251F, C0251FTC /C0251S, C0251PTC (B210)
Mode of study	Full time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	3/4 years
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	From September 2021 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Science & Health
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	http://www2.port.ac.uk/school-of-pharmacy-and-biomedical-sciences/
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-pharmacology
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	Royal Society of Biology
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	Levels 4,5,6

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.
This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

The Pharmacology Course aims:

- To provide students with the opportunity to develop a breadth of understanding of essential facts, concepts, principles and theories relating to the development, testing, action and use of drugs.
- To develop students' critical, analytical, practical, numerate, research and communication skills.
- To prepare students for employment, postgraduate study and career development.
- To develop the skills necessary for life-long independent learning and acquisition of knowledge and to engender an awareness of the needs for these skills.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
A1	Biomedical terminology, cellular biochemistry, anatomy and physiology of the human body in health and disease, human evolution and biodiversity and principles of molecular biology, immunology and microbiology underlying human disease and therapeutics	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	Reports, MCQs, essays,
A2	Methodologies, research strategies, bioinformatics, and statistical techniques applicable to pharmacology and presentation of scientific findings using a range of media and drug sources, discovery, design, development and testing including ethical issues relating to pre-clinical and clinical studies and the importance of maintaining professional integrity	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	Reports, MCQs, essays, portfolios, presentations, statistical tests
A3	Uptake, distribution, metabolism and excretion of drugs (including toxic effects of drugs) by the body	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	Reports, MCQs, essays
A4	Clinical Pharmacology. The therapeutic use of drugs including the importance of appropriate formulation and route of administration and the mechanisms of drug action and pharmacogenomics	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	Reports, MCQs, essays
A5	Self-development needs and lifelong learning requirements including awareness of career opportunities	Lectures, seminars, workshops, group work	Portfolios

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
B1	Formulate and test hypotheses and marshal information in the support of a scientific argument	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	*Reports, dissertations, presentations*
B2	Select and use principles and procedures in a variety of situations	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work	*Laboratories, reports, dissertations*
B3	Research and synthesise information from a variety of sources	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	*Reports, dissertations, presentations*
B4	Marshall their thoughts to demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of selected topics and conceptualise current issues and developments in pharmacology	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	*Reports, essays, dissertations, presentations*
B5	Plan, conduct, evaluate and report a programme of research and analyse, evaluate, interpret and integrate data from a variety of sources	Lectures, seminars, workshops, laboratory work, group work	*Reports, essays, dissertations, presentations*

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
C1	Use laboratory equipment and conduct practical and analytical procedures, demonstrating proficiencies in core technical skills appropriate to pharmacology, in a safe, accurate and precise manner	Laboratory work, seminars. workshops, lectures	Laboratories, reports, dissertations
C2	Comply with good laboratory practice according to local, national and international regulations	Laboratory work, seminars. workshops, lectures	Laboratories, reports, dissertations
C3	Select and carry out appropriate analytical techniques and measurements	Laboratory work, seminars. workshops, lectures	Laboratories, reports, dissertations
C4	Follow appropriate procedures if unexpected/abnormal results are obtained	Laboratory work, seminars. workshops, lectures	Laboratories, reports, dissertations
C5	Prepare critical, scientific referenced reports	Laboratory work, seminars. workshops, lectures	Reports, dissertations

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
D1	Take responsibility for the planning and execution of their own learning and manage their time and meet deadlines	Lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials	Reports, portfolios, registers
D2	Communicate effectively using a range of media	Lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials	Essays, presentations
D3	Be competent in the use of information technology (word processing, spreadsheets, statistical packages, graph plotting software, electronic mail and internet) and demonstrate numeric and statistical skills appropriate to a life scientist	Lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials	Numerical/statistical tests, reports, dissertations
D4	Work independently and as part of a team and identify and use the appropriate resources (human & physical) to enable successful completion of tasks	Lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials	Presentations, portfolios, reports
D5	Recognise, pursue and enhance employment opportunities	Lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials	Portfolios, presentations

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides a comprehensive tutorial programme at all stages and features personal development and career planning and the promotion of employment-enhancing activities along with an open door policy with respect to providing academic advice and guidance.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for ***Biomedical Sciences, Oct 2019 (SBSBiomed)***
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- The British Pharmacology Society core curriculum (BPSCC)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff

Changes to your course/modules

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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