



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

MPharm (Hons) Pharmacy

Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration

September 2021

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the [Course Specification Guidance Notes](#) for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	<i>MPharm (Hons) Pharmacy</i>
Final Award	<i>MPharm (Hons) Pharmacy</i>
Exit Awards	<i>CertHE, DipHE, BSc Pharmaceutical Studies (or with Hons)</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C2410F (B230)</i>
Mode of study	<i>Full time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus</i>
Normal length of course	<i>4 years</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>2021-2022</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Science & Health</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<i>School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences</i>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<i>Pharmacy MPharm (Hons)</i>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>General Pharmaceutical Council</i>
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	<i>Level 7</i>

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 Master of Pharmacy course aims to prepare students to successfully enter and complete foundation training and to practice as pharmacists thereafter by providing them with the skills, knowledge, competencies and other attributes expected of this profession. In addition, and more generally, the Master of Pharmacy course aims:

- To produce graduates who have an understanding of the practice of pharmacy and the science that underpins it;
- To develop students' attributes, including awareness of professional responsibility and integrity, and key transferable skills such as communication, critical reflective decisions, problem solving, team working, and employability and flexibility in the context of changing labour markets;
- To integrate knowledge with clinical decision making;
- To prepare students for their future careers in pharmacy so that they can play their full role in the care of patients;
- To engage students in continuous professional development and promote an awareness of the need to update their knowledge and expertise through life-long learning;
- To maintain strong links between the research and professional skills of staff and their teaching, providing opportunities for students to study in the areas of the research expertise of the staff;
- To enable students to meet the educational requirements for entry to the foundation training course within a General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) approved premises;
- To allow students to gain experience and skills relevant to employment within pharmacy related disciplines from simulated practice and placement based events within the degree programme;
- To enable students to understand the role of other health professionals and function as an effective inter-professional team member.

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	Determinants of health and the pharmacist's role in health provision and healthcare promotion.	Core knowledge mainly via lectures, practical classes, simulations, live demonstration, tutorials and directed study supported by formative assessment and feedback on all assessment (A1-10).	Core knowledge are assessed through unseen examinations, in-class tests and multiple choice questions (MCQs), single best answer (SBAs) and extended matching questions (EMQs) (A1-10),
A2	Physiological, chemical, biochemical and medical terminology; normal and abnormal functions of human body systems		
A3	Molecular biological principles underlying human disease.		

A4	The mechanisms of drug action and factors that influence the behaviour of drugs in man.	Formative diagnostic tests (A2-3). Expert speakers are also invited (A6). Web-based resources (A1-10), case studies and group work (A1-10) are also used. Student centred activities focus on group work for assignments and pharmacy placements (A1, 5, 6, 8, 9). Students also undertake an independent research project within an area of personal interest, many topics overlapping with their supervisor's research interests (A10).	practical reports (A2-5, 7-8), poster / oral presentations (A1-6, 8, 10), case studies (A1-9), Practical Skills Assessments (PSAs), Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) (A1-2, 4-6, 9), project presentation (A10) and reflective reports (A1, 6).
A5	Causes, signs and symptoms, diagnosis, prophylaxis and monitoring of disease with particular reference to selection of appropriate drug therapy.		
A6	Professional, clinical, legal, political, ethical and sociological principles underpinning the practice of pharmacy		
A7	Principles and application of analytical techniques in pharmacy.		
A8	Sources, isolation / synthesis, characterisation, formulation, development, quality control, clinical testing and distribution of substances in medicines.		
A9	The use of, design, manufacture and application of non-medicines such as dressings, diagnostics and appliances; complementary therapies.		
A10	Research design and statistical techniques in pharmacy practice and related sciences.		

Add additional rows as required.

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.	Intellectual skills are developed through lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and practical classes that encourage the analysis and integration of knowledge (B1-7). Student centred activities such as review, case study and project encourage research, analysis and synthesis (B1-7). The final year research project develops skills in formulating and testing hypotheses and conducting a programme of research (B1-7). These are supported by formative assessment and feedback on all assessments.	Intellectual skills are assessed through unseen examinations, including data interpretation (B2-3, 5,7), practical reports, oral presentations (B1-7), written assignments, review, case study, (B1-7), project reports (B1-7).
B2	Demonstrate understanding of, and explain scientific concepts and observed scientific phenomena.		
B3	Demonstrate understanding of, and explain sociological, ethical and professional aspects of the practice of pharmacy.		
B4	Plan, conduct, evaluate and report on a programme of research.		
B5	Select and use principles and procedures in a variety of situations.		
B6	Research, synthesise and critically discuss information from a variety of sources.		
B7	Analyse, evaluate, interpret and integrate data from a variety of sources.		

Add additional rows as required.

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Use laboratory equipment and conduct analytical procedures (appropriate to the subject) in a safe, accurate & precise manner while carrying out good laboratory practice according to local, national and international regulations.	Practical skills are developed through practical classes, assignments and projects including clinical simulation (C1-10), pharmacy practice and case review workshops; hospital, community pharmacy, General Practice (GP) and mental health placements (C7-10). These are supported by formative assessment and feedback on all assessments.	Practical skills are assessed through laboratory reports, case studies, assignments and project report (C1-10). Practical workshops, placement portfolios (C7-10) and examinations; PSAs and OSCEs (C7-10).
C2	Formulate, compound and dispense medicines to a rigorous, professional standard.		
C3	Select and carry out appropriate analytical techniques.		
C4	Prepare critical, scientific, referenced reports		
C5	Follow appropriate procedures if unexpected / abnormal results are obtained.		
C6	Identify acceptable texts for professional and patient use.		
C7	Demonstrate understanding of and apply the principles of diagnosis and response to symptoms.		
C8	Demonstrate understanding of and apply the principles of medicines management and management of risk.		
C9	Use underlying principles of evidence-based medicine to optimise clinical effectiveness.		
C10	Apply the principles of health promotion.		

Add additional rows as required.

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Identify key learning techniques.	Transferable skills are developed through lectures, practical / IT classes, worked examples, directed private study, library workbooks, subject specific and generic tutorials, group oral presentations, written material and posters, assignments (including project), inter-professional	Transferable skills are assessed through PDP and CPD exercises and more generally via coursework exercises, practical reports - individual and group (which include word processing, spread sheets, graphics),
D2	Take responsibility for the planning and execution of own learning, including personal development planning (PDP) and demonstrate an awareness of the importance of life-long learning and continuing professional development (CPD) to a professional.		
D3	Communicate effectively using a range of media.		

D4	Demonstrate numerical and statistical skills appropriate to a scientist.	activities (D1-10), hospital-, community pharmacy, GP and mental health placements (D2, 8-9), formative diagnostic tests (D2).	assignments, oral presentations (D1-10).
D5	Be competent in the use of Information Technology (word processing, databases, spreadsheets, statistical packages, electronic mail and Internet).		
D6	Work independently and as part of a team.		
D7	Identify and use the appropriate resources (human and physical) to enable the successful completion of a task.		
D8	Manage own time and meet deadlines.		
D9	Critically reflect on learning and demonstrate how it can be transferred to other situations.		
D10	Solve problems based on complete or incomplete qualitative and quantitative data,		

Add additional rows as required.

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Examination and 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.

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:

Insert additional reference points or delete as required

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020](#)
- [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 Pharmacy (2002)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: General Pharmaceutical Council

Course specification for **MPharm (Hons) Master of Pharmacy**

- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Disclaimer

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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