UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences		
Course Code(s):	PY023H01UM PY023H31UM	Full-time Part-time	3 Years 6 Years
UCAS Code:	B230		
Course Title:	BSc (Hons) Pharmaceutical Science		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Science with Honours Pharmaceutical Science Bachelor of Science Pharmaceutical Science Diploma of Higher Education Pharmaceutical Science Certificate of Higher Education Pharmaceutical Science		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of first cohort:	14/Sep/2026		
Specification valid from:	2025/6		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Benjamin Butler
Head of Department:	

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

- 96 UCAS points.
- A Levels - grades CCC / BCD to include Chemistry at grade C.
- BTEC L3 Extended Diploma or OCR Cambridge L3 Technical Extended Diploma in Applied Science or Biomedical Science - grades MMM .
- Access to HE Diploma (60 credits) of which a minimum of 45 must be at Level 3 (96 UCAS point equivalence, minimum 45 credits at merit to include Maths, Chemistry and Biology).

Distinctive Features of the Course:

A Pharmaceutical Science degree is designed for students who want to understand how medicines are discovered, developed, and delivered. What makes this degree unique is its strong focus on the science behind drug design and formulation, combining chemistry, biology, and pharmacology in a practical and career-focused way.

You'll explore how drugs interact with the body, how they're made into safe and effective medicines, and how they're tested and regulated. From learning about molecular structure and synthesis to understanding microbiology and drug delivery systems, the course gives you a well-rounded scientific foundation.

A key feature is the emphasis on hands-on lab work, where you'll gain experience with real-world techniques used in pharmaceutical research and manufacturing. You will also develop skills in data analysis, problem-solving, and scientific communication - essential for working in industry or research.

By the end of the degree, you will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to work in pharmaceutical development, regulatory affairs, quality control, or further study. It's a degree that opens doors to a wide range of science-based careers focused on improving health, in addition to other areas where these skills can be applied such as cosmetics, food and beverage production.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2025/6	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9535.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£17000.00
2025/6	H	Part Time	£4768.00
2026/7	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9790.00
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£18700.00
2026/7	H	Part Time	£4895.00

PSRB:

PY023H01UM (Full-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:
Royal Society of Biology

Accrediting Body:
Royal Society of Biology

Accreditation Statement:
"Accredited by the Royal Society of Biology for the purpose of meeting, in part, the academic and experience requirement of membership and Chartered Biologist (CBiol)."

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
19/May/2026	19/May/2026	31/Jul/2031	31/Jul/2031

PY023H31UM (Part-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:
Royal Society of Biology

Accrediting Body:
Royal Society of Biology

Accreditation Statement:
"Accredited by the Royal Society of Biology for the purpose of meeting, in part, the academic and experience requirement of membership and Chartered Biologist (CBiol)."

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
19/May/2026	19/May/2026	31/Jul/2031	31/Jul/2031

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4PY021	Fundamental Science	30	SEM1	Core
4PY024	Succeeding at University	30	SEM1	Core
4PY023	Introduction to Human Physiology, Pharmacology & Toxicology	30	SEM2	Core
4PY022	Introduction to Medicines	30	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5PY026	Analytical Chemistry	30	SEM1	Core
5PY027	Introduction to Pharmaceutics	30	SEM1	Core
5PY028	Medicinal Chemistry	30	SEM2	Core
5PY029	Professional Development	30	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6PY025	Advanced Pharmaceutics	30	SEM1	Core
6PY024	Preparing for employment	60	YEAR	Core
6PY023	From Bench to Bedside	30	SEM2	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

Section 4.2.1 - Exemption in accordance with Professional Body (RSB) requirements. All pieces of summative assessment should be components, and must achieve a passing grade, for practical modules and the final year project.

Section 4.6.2 - Exemption in accordance with Professional Body (RSB) requirements. Compensation will not be permitted for practical modules and the final year project.

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act 2010: guidance - GOV.UK

Apprenticeship Standard

UK Accreditation

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts, theories and principles associated with your area(s) of study (Knowing).	
CERTHE02 Evaluate, interpret and apply data, to develop ideas and discussion in your subject(s) of study (Knowing).	
CERTHE03 Evaluate, interpret and apply data, to develop ideas and discussion in your subject(s) of study (Knowing).	
CERTHE04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments (Doing).	
CERTHE05 Identify and undertake further training and develop new skills to support your learning (Being).	
CERTHE06 Identify personal qualities and transferable skills necessary for further study and/or employment (Being).	
DIPHE01 Demonstrate knowledge and application of the concepts and principles of your area(s) of study (Knowing).	
DIPHE02 Demonstrate the application of those principles in an employability and/or professional practice context (Knowing).	
DIPHE03 Identify and use methods of enquiry in the subject(s) and evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in study (Doing).	
DIPHE04 Use a range of new and established techniques to explore and critique data and sources of information, to solve problems within your subject (Doing).	
DIPHE05 Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences (Being).	
DIPHE06 Show personal responsibility and decision-making to developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to reach your employability goals (Being).	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
BHONSN01 (K1) Demonstrate a critical knowledge of drug development processes, including drug discovery, formulation, pharmacokinetics, and regulatory requirements, and apply this understanding to real-world pharmaceutical challenges.	
BHONSN02 (K2) Understand and apply principles of medicinal chemistry and pharmacology to explain drug action at the molecular, cellular, and systemic levels, and predict therapeutic and adverse effects.	
BHONSN03 (D1) Communicate pharmaceutical science scientific information clearly and accurately to diverse audiences through appropriate formats demonstrating critical understanding of the scientific literature and experimental data.	
BHONSN04 (D2) Design, conduct, and report laboratory experiments in pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacology, and pharmaceutics, adhering to ethical standards and good laboratory practice (GLP). using suitable analytical techniques and statistical tools to draw evidence-based conclusions.	
BHONSN05 (B1) Reflect on personal and professional development, demonstrating autonomy, responsibility, and the ability to work collaboratively in multidisciplinary teams within pharmaceutical and healthcare contexts. and successful application of these competencies to advance career opportunities and adapt to evolving roles within the life sciences sector.	
BHONSN06 (B2) Work safely through demonstration of competent application of laboratory safety principles by identifying potential hazards across a range of practical activities, correctly using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), adhering to relevant safety protocols, and responding effectively to emergencies in accordance with industry and legal standards.	
BHONS01 (K1) Demonstrate a critical knowledge of drug development processes, including drug discovery, formulation, pharmacokinetics, and regulatory requirements, and apply this understanding to real-world pharmaceutical challenges.	
BHONS02 (K2) Understand and apply principles of medicinal chemistry and pharmacology to explain drug action at the molecular, cellular, and systemic levels, and predict therapeutic and adverse effects.	
BHONS03 (D1) Communicate pharmaceutical science scientific information clearly and accurately to diverse audiences through appropriate formats demonstrating critical understanding of the scientific literature and experimental data.	
BHONS04 (D2) Design, conduct, and report laboratory experiments in pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacology, and pharmaceutics, adhering to ethical standards and good laboratory practice (GLP). using suitable analytical techniques and statistical tools to draw evidence-based conclusions.	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
BHONS05 (B1) Reflect on personal and professional development, demonstrating autonomy, responsibility, and the ability to work collaboratively in multidisciplinary teams within pharmaceutical and healthcare contexts. and successful application of these competencies to advance career opportunities and adapt to evolving roles within the life sciences sector.	
BHONS06 (B2) Work safely through demonstration of competent application of laboratory safety principles by identifying potential hazards across a range of practical activities, correctly using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), adhering to relevant safety protocols, and responding effectively to emergencies in accordance with industry and legal standards.	

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

Your course is structured to help you build a strong foundation before moving on to more advanced topics. It starts with essential knowledge and gradually introduces specialised content, following a spiral curriculum that revisits and deepens key concepts over time. In your first year, regular low-stakes quizzes through Team-Based Learning (TBL) will help you build confidence and quickly correct misconceptions, while also developing communication, negotiation, and reflection skills. Any online activities are directly linked to in-person sessions and feed into class work or final assessments, ensuring everything feels connected and relevant. Formative opportunities are built into lectures and workshops, with clear examples to support your understanding. You will also have access to library services for help with referencing, academic writing, and maths. Practical learning is reinforced through lab sessions and TBL exercises, which will also strengthen time management and teamwork. Digital tools that you will us such as Canvas and Intedashboard will provide resources and interactive learning experiences. You will explore important topics such as the pitfalls of AI in academic writing to maintain integrity. This integrated approach ensures you gain knowledge, develop critical skills, and stay actively engaged throughout your learning journey.

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

Your course uses a variety of assessments designed to support your learning and build confidence over time. You will complete a mix of exams, presentations, reflective tasks, portfolios, and project work, with staggered due dates to help manage your workload. Formative opportunities are built in throughout the course, including low-stakes quizzes through Team-Based Learning (TBL), practice exam questions, and mock assessments, all providing timely feedback to prepare you for summative tasks. TBL activities also help you develop key skills such as communication, negotiation, and teamwork, with diverse groups offering peer support and shared perspectives. Assessment unpacking sessions will guide you in understanding expectations and strategies for success. Laboratory work includes report writing to show understanding and scientific writing. At level 6 your research project allows you to explore a topic in greater depth. Where appropriate, assessments may be adapted to meet known learner needs within reason, ensuring inclusivity. Portfolios and TBL include reflective components to encourage continuous improvement. Digital tools such Canvas will provide guidance and resources, and you'll have opportunities to meet academic staff for additional support. Your feedback on assessment design and timing is regularly sought through course committees and module evaluations, ensuring assessments remain fair, relevant, and aligned to professional skills.

Further Information for Student:

We know starting university is a big step, so your course includes a range of strategies to help you settle in and succeed. Formative assessments are built into each module, giving you constructive feedback to build confidence and prepare for later summative tasks. Team-Based Learning (TBL) at the beginning of the course is another key feature, offering collaborative group work, live feedback during sessions, and regular low-stakes quizzes. Frequent TBL activities, including peer correction will foster teamwork and your confidence will help you engage actively and correct misconceptions early. You'll find guidance and

resources on Canvas, and additional support from Student Success Coaches as well as your personal tutor. You can also book meetings with academic staff for extra help. The course follows a spiral curriculum, introducing essential concepts early and revisiting them in more depth later. Each module includes formative opportunities linked to work-based learning and skill development. Your feedback matters, and through course committees, module evaluations, and student representatives, we make sure timetabling and assessments respond to your needs. These approaches create a supportive environment that helps you transition smoothly and achieve academic success. The University provides a wide range of academic and pastoral support to help students succeed in their studies and personal development. This includes access to the Library and Skills for Learning service, student success coaching for students in their early stages, and tailored advice from the Careers and Enterprise teams. Students also benefit from 24/7 wellbeing support through WLV Student Life Connect, pastoral care via the Multi-faith Chaplaincy, and assistance from the Mental Health and Wellbeing team. Those living in university accommodation have additional access to Residential Life support, and all students can engage with the Students' Union for advocacy, societies, and further peer-led services.

Currency:

Your course is designed to stay up-to-date and connected to real-world practice. Teaching is research-informed, meaning the content reflects the latest developments in the field. We work closely with employers to bring live challenges into modules, giving you the chance to tackle authentic problems and develop practical solutions. Course content is regularly reviewed and can be adapted to reflect emerging trends and industry needs, ensuring what you learn is aligned with professional expectations. You will have opportunities to personalise your learning, such as choosing presentation topics and delivery methods that explore contemporary issues in medicine and healthcare. Hands-on experience is central to your learning, with projects, pharmaceutics mini-projects, and laboratory investigations reinforcing theoretical knowledge. Employer-led activities and case studies are integrated into lectures and workshops, creating a strong link between academic learning and workplace realities. This approach ensures you graduate with current knowledge, practical skills, and the ability to respond to evolving challenges in the sector. By combining research-driven content, employer engagement, and flexible learning opportunities, your course remains innovative, relevant, and strongly connected to professional practice.

Personalisation Opportunities:

Your course is designed to stay up-to-date and connected to real-world practice. Teaching is research-informed, meaning the content reflects the latest developments in the field. We work closely with employers to bring live challenges into modules, giving you the chance to tackle authentic problems and develop practical solutions. Course content is regularly reviewed and can be adapted to reflect emerging trends and industry needs, ensuring what you learn is aligned with professional expectations. You will have opportunities to personalise your learning, such as choosing presentation topics and delivery methods that explore contemporary issues in medicine and healthcare. Hands-on experience is central to your learning, with projects, pharmaceutics mini-projects, and laboratory investigations reinforcing theoretical knowledge. Employer-led activities and case studies are integrated into lectures and workshops, creating a strong link between academic learning and workplace realities. This approach ensures you graduate with current knowledge, practical skills, and the ability to respond to evolving challenges in the sector. By combining research-driven content, employer engagement, and flexible learning opportunities, your course remains innovative, relevant, and strongly connected to professional practice.

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

Your course is designed to help you build the skills and confidence needed for your future career. Throughout your studies, you will develop a professional portfolio that includes reflections, peer reviews, and evidence of your achievements, making it easier to showcase your progress to employers. You will take part in career-focused presentations and activities that give you insight into industry expectations and help you practice professional communication. Strong links with employers are built into the course through real-world tasks, projects, and mini-projects, ensuring you gain practical experience. Laboratory sessions and hands-on work will strengthen your technical skills, including health and safety awareness, while projects will develop your problem-solving and research abilities. You will also receive guidance from academic staff and the university careers team to support CV writing, interview preparation, and

career planning. Reflective activities within your portfolio and Team-Based Learning sessions encourage continuous improvement and self-awareness, key qualities for professional growth. By combining academic learning with practical experience and tailored career support, this course prepares you for success in a wide range of professional roles.

