Our Pharmacology BSc will give you a sound understanding of the biological action of drugs and chemicals, the way they work at the molecular, cellular and systems levels and their use in medicines to treat disease. This course is an ideal foundation for careers in the pharmaceutical industry, biomedical research or graduate entry into medicine. The course also features options to study abroad, undertake work placement or extend to a four-year MSci.

Key benefits

- King’s College London is ranked 7th in the world for Pharmacy & Pharmacology (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017).
- 89 per cent student satisfaction (National Student Survey 2016).
- Teaching by internationally renowned scientists and researchers.
- Close links with pharmaceutical companies.
- Europe’s largest centre for medical and professional healthcare education.
- One of the UK’s best graduate employment rates.
- Flexible options to tailor your degree through overseas study, work placement or to switch to a four-year MSci.

Course details

Pharmacology is the science of drugs and how they act, including the search for new drugs, investigations into how they can best be used to treat disease, and their effects on the body. Our wide-ranging Pharmacology BSc course has been designed to give you a sound understanding of the biological action of drugs and chemicals, the way they work at the molecular, cellular and systems level and their use in medicines for the treatment of disease.

It is an ideal grounding for a career in the pharmaceutical industry or general biomedical research and for graduate entry to Medicine. However, the course will also equip you with a range of transferrable skills, including data gathering, analysis and interpretation, presentation and team-work that are recognised and valued by employers in both the public and private sector across a variety of industries.

This course forms part of the suite of ‘Common Year 1’ course within the School of Bioscience Education. These comprise Anatomy, Developmental & Human Biology; Biochemistry; Biomedical Science; Medical Physiology; Molecular Genetics; Neuroscience; Pharmacology; Pharmacology & Molecular Genetics. Once you have successfully completed year one, you can choose to switch to any other course within this suite.

In Year 2, Pharmacology becomes the main focus of study. In your final year, as well as deepening your understanding of a specialist pharmacological areas, you can also work in one of our state-of-the art research laboratories, investigating a diverse range of exciting topics including regulation of intracellular messengers in single cells, the effects of novel drugs in animal models of disease or the effects of drugs on human subjects.
In Year 2 you may also choose to study abroad at one of our partner institutions, or to undertake an extra-mural or work placement, usually at a leading biomedicine employer.

Alternatively, after the ‘Common Year 1’ course, you can apply to transfer to one of our four-year MSci courses: Biochemistry MSci; Molecular Genetics MSci; Neuroscience MSci. In Year 3 you can apply to transfer to the four-year Integrated Pharmacology & Physiology for Research MSci.

Teaching
Teaching on this course takes place in lectures, seminars and tutorials and through practical laboratory work. The rest of your time will be spent on self-study, including reading, research and writing assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course stage</th>
<th>Percentage of time in scheduled learning and teaching activities</th>
<th>Percentage of time in guided independent study</th>
<th>Percentage of time on placements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Typically, one credit equates to 10 hours of work.

Assessment
You will be assessed through a combination of coursework, examinations and practical observation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course stage</th>
<th>Percentage of assessment by written exams</th>
<th>Percentage of assessment by practical exams</th>
<th>Percentage of assessment by coursework</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you choose an extra-mural placement this will be assessed through a written dissertation and a poster presentation which will be deemed equivalent to 60 credits at Level 6 the normal level of Year 3 study).

Course accreditation
In recognition of its focus on research and academic excellence, our Pharmacology with extra-mural year BSc has been given Degree Accreditation by the Royal Society of Biology. Graduates of an accredited course can apply for membership of the Royal Society of Biology at Member (MRSB) level after just one year of practice, rather than the usual three years. This will allow you to attain the qualifications of Chartered Biologist or Chartered Scientist two years earlier than graduates from other degree courses.

Regulating body
King’s College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

Course structure
Courses are divided into modules. You will normally take modules totalling 360 credits.

There are options to switch to any other course in the Bioscience suite or to a four-year MSci after year one. You can also choose to study abroad during year two or take an extra-mural year in industry or academia.

Year 1
Required modules
You are required to take:
• Biochemistry (15 credits)
• Chemistry for the Biosciences (15 credits)
• Genetics & Molecular Biology (15 credits)
• Cell Biology & Neuroscience (15 credits)
• Fundamentals of Physiology & Anatomy (30 credits)
• Fundamentals of Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Skills for the Biosciences (15 credits)

Year 2
Required modules
You are required to take:
• Drugs & Disease B (30 credits)
• Drug Discovery & Development (15 credits)
• Physiology & Pharmacology of the Central Nervous System (15 credits)
• Research Skills in Pharmacology (30 credits)

Optional modules
In addition, you are required to take 30 credits from a range of optional modules, which may typically include:
• Animal Models of Disease & Injury (15 credits)
• Endocrinology & Reproduction (15 credits)
• Tissue Pathology (15 credits)
• Psychology (15 credits)
• Gene Cloning & Expression A (15 credits)

You will also have the opportunity to study abroad for your second year at one of our partner universities, which currently include:
• The Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden
• The University of Melbourne, Australia
• National University of Singapore
• The University of California
• The University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

You may be required to fulfil additional entry requirements for this option.

Alternatively, you may apply for an extra-mural year, to be taken between the second and third years if selected. Students apply directly to placement providers through a process facilitated by the university. Placements, either in the UK or overseas, may be in a pharmaceutical company, a government research establishment or academic research institute. Courses incorporating the extra-mural year are accredited by the Royal Society of Biology.
Year 3
Required modules
You are required to take one of the following modules:
• Cell & Molecular Pharmacology (30 credits)
• Cellular Basis of Drug Dependence (30 credits)

You are also required to take one of the following modules:
• Pharmacology Research Project (30 credits)
• Pharmacology Library Project (15 credits)
• Project Design in Pharmacology (30 credits)
• Extended Pharmacology Research Project (45 credits)

Optional modules
Take sufficient credits to bring your total for the year to 120, from a range of optional modules, which may typically include:
• Cardiovascular Pharmacology (15 credits)
• Experimental Cardiovascular Pharmacology (30 credits)
• Pharmacology of Inflammation (15 credits)
• Experimental Pharmacology of Inflammation (30 credits)
• Pharmacology of Neurological & Psychiatric Disorders (15 credits)
• Drug Safety & Toxicology (30 credits)

During year three you can apply to transfer to the four-year MSci Integrated Pharmacology and Physiology for Research, on which you will be required to take a 90-credit research project usually at an external industrial provider within the UK during your fourth year.

A contribution by the university is given to cover additional living costs during the project up to a maximum of £2,000.

King’s College London reviews the modules offered on a regular basis in order to provide up-to-date, innovative and relevant programmes of study. We suggest that you keep an eye on the course finder on our website for updates.

Location
This course is primarily taught at our King’s College London Guy’s and Waterloo Campus, both on the South Bank of the Thames, putting you at the heart of everything London has to offer in terms of academic resources and also close to its social and entertainment attractions.

Career prospects
Graduates from the School of Bioscience Education are equipped with a variety of transferable skills including data gathering, analysis and interpretation, presentation skills and teamwork. Our graduates are well-qualified to undertake a wide range of careers or training for a higher degree such as an MSc or PhD.

Recent graduates have found employment as:
• research project co-ordinators
• food scientists
• company managers
• business analysts
• scientific copy editors.

Others have continued to study in medicine, dentistry and other related fields including pharmaceutical sciences, cardiovascular pharmacology and biomedical research.

Fees and funding
Full-time tuition fees – UK
The UK tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

Full-time tuition fees – EU
Current regulations allow some students to pay UK tuition fees on the basis of their EU citizenship or residency. Until these eligibility criteria are changed, the EU tuition fee will remain the same as the UK tuition fee.

The UK tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

Full-time tuition fees – International
The International tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

All International applicants to undergraduate courses are required to pay a deposit of £2,000 against their first year’s tuition fee. This deposit is payable when you firmly accept an unconditional offer to study with us and will be offset against your tuition fees when you join King’s.

For further information, please visit the fees and funding section of our website:
www.kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-and-funding/index.aspx
Additional costs
If you choose the study abroad option with one of King’s partner universities, you will not be charged tuition fees by the host university (although some partners do charge a small administration fee for applying). Please see the Study Abroad webpages for details of the relevant partner universities.

While students are on a study abroad or extramural year, King’s will continue to invoice students for a proportion of King’s tuition fees. At present these are as follows:

- Home students studying or working for a full academic year abroad will receive an invoice for £1,350 for King’s tuition fees for the year.
- Overseas students studying or working for a full academic year abroad will receive an invoice for one third of the King’s tuition fees for the year.

You should also budget to pay for the associated subsistence costs, such as travel, visas, accommodation and food as well as any vaccination/immunisations required by the country to which you are travelling.

In addition to the costs above, you can also expect to pay for:

- college approved calculator for exams (Casio fx83 or fx85)
- books if you choose to buy your own copies
- clothing for optional course related events and competitions
- library fees and fines
- personal photocopies
- printing course handouts
- society membership fees
- stationery
- graduation costs
- travel costs for travel around London and between campuses.

Disclaimer
This PDF was produced in July 2017. Although it was up-to-date at the time it was produced, please make sure you check our website www.kcl.ac.uk/study or contact us directly for the very latest information before you commit yourself to any of our courses.

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