

Programme Regulations: 2024/25

Programme Title: BSc (Honours) Pharmaceutical Studies

Code: 1314U

Notes

- (i) *These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's Taught Programme Regulations. The BSc (Honours) Pharmaceutical Studies is a non-modular programme. The degree is equivalent to Level 6 on the University Qualifications and Credit Framework.*
- (ii) *The BSc is an internal award and is only available to transferring Newcastle University Master of Pharmacy students who have successfully passed Year 1 and have achieved a Stage 2 average of 40 - 49. Transfers to this programme will normally be considered for Stage 3 entrance only.*
- (iii) *The BSc (Honours) Pharmaceutical Studies is an attendance-based programme and is principally delivered face to face at the Newcastle City campus and associated clinical locations. Although some teaching and structured guided learning may be delivered online, due to the clinical and integrated structure of the programme, sessions planned for face to face delivery cannot be substituted by other forms of delivery, including blended, online, and remote.*

1. Programme Structure

- (a) The programme is available for study in full-time mode.
- (b) The period of study for full-time mode shall be three years starting in September. Stages 1, 2 and 3 individually consist of one Unit of Study.
- (c) During the programme of study, all candidates for the degree of BSc (Hons) Pharmaceutical Studies are required to attend all practical experiences organised as part of the programme.
- (d) All candidates shall follow the course of study prescribed below:

Stage 1 – completed via the MPharm award

All candidates shall take the following compulsory and core unit of study:

Fundamentals of Pharmacy and Professionalism– the Integration of Science and Practice (equivalent to FHEQ Level 4 credits)

Stage 2 completed via the MPharm award

All candidates shall take the following compulsory and core unit of study:

Pharmaceutical Care: Pathology, Patients and Professionalism (equivalent to FHEQ Level 5 credits)

Stage 3

All candidates shall take the following compulsory and core unit of study:

Applied Pharmaceutical Interventions: Design, Delivery and Decisions (equivalent to FHEQ Level 6 credits)

2. Assessment Methods

Details of the assessment pattern for each unit of study are explained in the programme handbook.

3. Assessment and Progression

- (a) Candidates will be expected to demonstrate competence in the knowledge and skills element of the programme and be in good standing professionally in order to progress from one stage to another.
- (b) All assessments detailed in each Unit of Study must be passed and there will be no cross-compensation between the various elements of assessment.
- (c) The pass mark for Stage 1, 2 and 3 assessments is 40. For Pharmaceutical Numeracy assessments, the pass mark is 70. For Objective Structured Clinical assessments, threshold marks will not initially be determined by the University common scales but will be determined by rigorous standard setting methods appropriate to the nature of the assessment. Following the standard setting process marks will be scaled to align with the University common scales.
- (d) Progression from one stage to another and the award of the degree is determined by candidates achieving a stage average. Stage averages will be calculated using the weighted average of each assessment.
- (e) In order to progress to each stage of the programme and be considered for the award candidates must pass all elements of assessment and achieve a minimum stage average of 40.
- (f) Re-sit assessments will be capped at 40 for calculation purposes for all stages. Candidates who fail an assessment at the first attempt will automatically be permitted a second attempt (re-sit).
- (g) Candidates failing both attempts will not be allowed to proceed or be considered for the award.
- (h) Further guidance for candidates is available in the Programme Handbook.

4. Degree Classification

Candidates will be assessed for degree classification on the basis of all units of study taken at Stages 2 and 3 with the weighting of the stages being 1:2 for Stage 2 and Stage 3 respectively.

5. Exit Awards

- (a) Candidates not meeting the required stage average at the end of a stage or who wish to withdraw from study may be considered for one of the following exit awards:

Higher Education Certificate in Pharmaceutical Studies

Requires successful completion of Stage 1.

Higher Education Diploma in Pharmaceutical Studies

Requires successful completion of Stages 1 and 2.

- (b) This award and the exit awards listed in 5(a) are not registrable qualifications for Pharmacy.

6. Exemptions to the University's Taught Programme Regulations

- (a) Due to the integrated nature of the award, the following variations to the University regulations have been approved:

Non-modular structure

The programme does not operate a modular credit-based system, and instead uses an integrated approach to teaching, learning and assessment. Programme regulations therefore appear different in

style and substance from other programmes of study. Regulatory requirements in relation to module and credit are not applicable.

Taught Programme Regulations (Undergraduate) Section C – Return of Marks

Standard setting, used to determine the required passing threshold needed to ensure a student can be certified as competent in a particular area of knowledge or skill, is used for Objective Structured Clinical assessments.

In relation to the Pharmaceutical Numeracy assessments, the pass mark for these assessments is set at 70 to be in line with the professional standards.

Taught Programme Regulations (Undergraduate) Section C - Principles of Compensation

Taught Programme Regulations Section I – Principles of Discretion

Taught Programme Regulations (Undergraduate) C - The Award and Classification of Degrees - Use of Discretion

In order ensure competence in all learning outcomes students must pass all elements of assessment. To meet these requirements compensation is not used by the Board of Examiners. Discretion will also not be used by the Board of Examiners other than when considering borderline classifications of 68 or 69, 58 or 59 and 48 or 49.

Taught Programme Regulations (Undergraduate) Section C - Progression from One Stage to Another and Section C The Award and Classification of Degrees

The programme is not modular and all assessments at each stage must be passed therefore allowing 20 credits of failure is not possible. To be considered for the award the final stage programme average should be no less than 40, however all assessments must also be passed.

Taught Programme Regulations (Undergraduate) Section C - Failing Performance by Honours Degree Students

When calculating the classification of resit candidates, the best mark achieved will be used. Classifications will not be capped at a 3rd for those students whose programme average at first attempt is below 40.

- (b) In the event of any inconsistency between the programme and University regulations in relation to the above section, the programme regulations take precedence over the University regulations. Further guidance is available in programme/stage handbooks on the programme's VLE.