Frequently Asked Questions: MPharm

What subjects do I need to do pharmacy? What grades/points do I need?
Standard offer from A-levels is 320 points if using the tariff (mixture of A levels and AS) or if only doing 3 A levels ABB. These must include a grade B in A2 Chemistry, and B in A2 Science (maths, physics, biology, psychology); General studies doesn't count.

I had to resit 1 (or more) subject(s), can I still apply for pharmacy?
Yes, we will consider your final overall mark.

I'm predicted a C in Chemistry, can I still apply?
Providing you have achieved a CCC in you AS levels (including AS chemistry) and you meet the other entry requirements with your predicted grades then you can apply. We will invite you to an interview, and we will then wait to see your final exam grades.

I did my A-levels 5 years ago, can I still apply?
It depends on the experience you have had. If you have been working in the pharmaceutical industry then this is fine. If your experience is non-science then we might recommend to you that a foundation year should be completed first, that way you can get back into studying and ensures your knowledge is current.

I have a BTEC National Diploma, can I apply for pharmacy?
We consider students with an extended diploma in Applied Science or Pharmacy, providing they have a DDM score (320 points) and an A2 chemistry grade B.

If I don't get the grades can I transfer from Pharmaceutical Sciences/Pharmacology?
We always recommend to students who don’t quite make their grades that they should go back and retake so as to try again the following year, or complete a Foundation course. However, some students are very keen to get to university, and then hope to transfer onto the Pharmacy programme. We do consider transfers from level 4 (year 1) pharmaceutical sciences or pharmacology/biomedical science, but this is not an automatic right. Students will need to perform well in an interview and achieve a 65% overall average for Level 4 (Year 1), with a minimum of 65% in chemistry modules to be considered. If you have completed a year1 at another university, then we would require you to have achieved 70% average, with 70% in chemistry modules. The normal DBS and health checks are also carried out.

If you decide to attempt this route, then make sure of the following:

1. That you would be happy to study Pharmaceutical Sciences or Pharmacology/Biomedical sciences for 3-4 years should you not transfer onto Pharmacy course.
2. Should a transfer occur, then the students will then enter into level 4 (year 1) of the MPharm degree whose costs may not be supported by the loan and grant bodies.
3. We do not consider transfers after level 5 of these degrees.
4. You cannot go back and do the foundation course for Pharmacy.
I have already done a degree, can I apply?
We do consider graduates with a 2:1 in a related science subject (particularly looking for ability in chemistry). Students must have passed all chemistry modules at first attempt and will enter into level 4 (year 1) of the course. For students graduating from a non-science degree they will have to complete a foundation year (Year 0)

I think my previous studies will have already covered some of the same syllabus can I apply for level 2 entry?
No, we only consider level 1 entry regardless of previous experience and/or qualifications

Do you have any scholarships or bursaries?
The university normally has scholarships for outstanding students – more details can be found on the website under Chancellor's Scholarships. MPharm students are not eligible for the Science and Engineering scholarship

Are we taught with any other students?
The Inter-professional modules in levels 4 and 6 are (by nature of the module) taught jointly with paramedics, nurses, midwives, dietetics, physios, physician assistants, and radiographers

Do you help students get summer jobs/ their pre-reg places?
We have excellent links with all sectors of pharmacy and a support network of career’s advice to help people with CVs. Companies come in to talk to students and we hold a pre-reg careers fair where potential employers come in to talk to students

I'm dyslexic, what help is available?
We are committed to making sure all students get the most out of university life and have well established disability services. There is a central team of disabled students coordinators who can ensure you are able to tap into a whole range of disability services and agree with you any support and adjustments you will receive for your studies

Which campus if the course taught on?
We do the majority of our teaching on College Lane

How full is the timetable?
It is a full time course and therefore you can expect to be taught from 9-6 Monday to Friday. Some weeks are busier than others but you will need to be here every day. Once you register, you will be provided with your electronic timetable that covers the majority of your sessions for the academic year

How much work is there to do outside of lectures?
For every hour in a lecture we would expect a student to spend one hour on directed learning (e.g. coursework) and one hour on revision. Students spend approx 20 hours a week in taught classes

How many people apply each year?
We get approximately 600 applications for 100 places – ratio of 6:1

I haven’t got any work experience, does that matter?
No, this is not a pre-requisite although students with experience do find it helps them so we would encourage you to find some. You may need to ensure you have done plenty of background reading on the roles of pharmacists for your interview
Can I do the course part-time?
Unfortunately not, this is a 4 year full time degree