The course
This degree involves the study of the causes, diagnosis and treatment of diseases that affect humans. You will investigate the processes involved in major diseases including cancer, cardiovascular disease, blood disorders, respiratory diseases, biochemical and endocrine disorders and infectious diseases. Our links with various NHS trusts provide experience of pathology laboratory work, opportunities for placement and teaching from hospital professional staff.

When you graduate you will have knowledge of the pathogenesis of disease and how disease disrupts the normal function of the human body. The programme develops more specialised areas of biomedical science in second and third year with an emphasis on pathophysiology, molecular biology, haematology, clinical microbiology, immunology, biochemistry, histopathology and transfusion science. Final year requires you to complete an individual research project in a related biomedical area. You will also experience how the clinical laboratory specialisms work together to contribute to diagnosis of disease.

Work placement/Year abroad
This optional year is a great opportunity to get practical experience in environments such as the National Health Service (NHS), the Health Protection Agency (HPA), or the pharmaceutical industry.

If you want to obtain registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) on graduation you can use your placement to work towards the Certificate of Competence (awarded by the Institute of Biomedical Science). This certificate is required for registration as a Biomedical Scientist and allows you to work as a Biomedical Scientist in NHS pathology services.

You can also choose to study your degree ‘with a year in Europe’ or ‘with a year in North America,’ and spend your placement year at one of our partner institutions. This can help develop your language skills as well as giving you the chance to learn new approaches and techniques, which may differ from the UK.

Career opportunities
On graduation, you may be eligible for employment as a Biomedical Scientist in the National Health Service and Public Health Service laboratories. In addition, job opportunities exist in the Blood Transfusion Service Laboratories; pharmaceutical and healthcare industries; forensic laboratories; sales and marketing in the healthcare field; education and research environments.

“I liked how the Biomedical Science course contained a variety of subjects and specialist areas so that we graduate with skills and knowledge of multiple disciplines in pathology. The variety of practical sessions within the course has increased my confidence within the laboratory too.”

Amy Metcalf, BSc Biomedical Science

Find out more about the School of Life and Medical Sciences on go.herts.ac.uk/IMS

UCAS Code:
B990 BSc/BSci Biomedical Science
B900 BSc/BiSc Biomedical Science (with a Year Abroad)

Entry Requirements:
280 UCAS points to include 2 science GCE A Levels one of which must be a grade C in either biology or chemistry (Acceptable science A levels are Biology, Human Biology, Psychology, Geography, Maths and Physics) or BTEC Extended Diploma in Applied Science with a minimum DMM profile. Plus GCSE English language, mathematics and double science (or 2 single sciences) at grade C or above.

Course Length:
Full time 3 years
Work placement/study abroad 4 years
Part-time normally 5 years

Course Fees:
Please visit our website go.herts.ac.uk/fees

Professional Accreditation:
The degree is accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS). During your study you will be eligible for student membership with the IBMS. On graduation, you will be eligible for graduate membership with the Society of Biology.

Web Address:
go.herts.ac.uk/B900

How to Apply:
Applications are through UCAS – go.herts.ac.uk/apply