

The science of drug discovery.

Want a career with real impact? Study medicinal chemistry and learn how to design and develop medicines that could improve and save lives all over the world.

Study medicinal chemistry at UC and you will:

- learn about pharmaceutical drug design, from discovery to development
- gain knowledge and skills to create life-saving medicines
- hone your research and lab skills

“Chemists are in high demand due to their versatile range of skills, and the training from UC gives you a good foot-in-the-door.”

— Sandra, chemistry graduate and software developer at Smudge Apps.



Why medicinal chemistry?

Medicinal chemistry is the link between lab-based synthetic chemistry and the real world of health care, prescription medicines, and pharmaceuticals.

As a medicinal chemistry student, you'll learn about the entire process of drug discovery – from lead generation and molecular optimisation through to production, clinical approval and treatment. You will gain the knowledge and skills to work at the front line of the pharmaceutical industry.

Where can it take me?

Medicinal chemistry prepares you for a career in the rapidly developing field of pharmaceutical science. You could help fight infectious diseases, solve antibiotic resistance, or even design and make the next breakthrough anti-cancer drug. If you're looking for a rewarding career where you can make a difference to lots of peoples' lives – medicinal chemistry could be for you.



Why UC Science?

At UC Science you decide where you're going – our job is to help you get there.

We offer heaps of options and flexibility, state-of-the-art facilities, amazing research opportunities (in the lab and the field), and passionate, world-recognised lecturers. Our campus is friendly, compact and based just on the edge of Christchurch city.

BSc Medicinal Chemistry – what you need to know

Entry requirements

University Entrance or equivalent

Level of study

Undergraduate

Useful Year 13 subjects

Chemistry

Start date

February 2020

Length of study

3 years

Degree content includes: Antimicrobial and anti-cancer compounds, bioactive natural compounds, cardiovascular and neurologically active drugs, clinical and regulatory processes, computer-aided drug design, indigenous medicine, intellectual property protection and development, molecular optimisation, organic and synthetic chemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry.

Career options: Biotechnology, drug discovery and design, experimental research, industrial research and development, medicine, patenting and intellectual property, pharmaceuticals and sales, pharmacology.

Find out more: www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/subjects/chemistry/