

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	MPharm Pharmacy
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	General Pharmaceutical Council (subject to provisional accreditation)
Credit Structure ²	480 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits Level 7: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	4 years full-time
Intended Award	Master of Pharmacy
Named Exit Awards	MSci Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences BSc (Hons) Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences DipHE Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences CertHE Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 128 UCAS tariff points or equivalent. ABB (A Level including Chemistry), DDD (BTEC), or Access to Higher Education Diploma – a minimum of 30 Level 3 credits at distinction grade or above and 15 Level 3 credits at merit grade or above. Applicants must have a qualification in Chemistry, for example A-level Chemistry at grade B or above, or an equivalent qualification. 3 GCSEs or equivalent at grade C/4 including: GCSE Mathematics at grade C/4 or above GCSE English Language at grade C/4 or above Additional Requirements: Offers are subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check Occupational health clearance must be obtained prior to commencing placement

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Integrated Master's Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

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	• Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is not accepted; entry is to Year 1 only International Applicants: If English is not the applicant's first language, evidence of English language proficiency is required. Accepted qualifications include: IELTS (or equivalent) with an overall score of 7.0 in the current format of the test.
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the MPharm Pharmacy course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2027-28 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

The MPharm programme aims to develop future-ready pharmacists who are clinically competent, scientifically grounded, digitally confident, and professionally resilient. Through an integrated, spiral curriculum underpinned by patient-centred learning, the programme will cultivate pharmacists who are safe prescribers, critical thinkers, collaborative healthcare professionals, and adaptable leaders equipped to improve health outcomes across diverse settings.

The MPharm Pharmacy programme is a full-time, four-year integrated Master's degree leading to eligibility for registration as a pharmacist in Great Britain. The programme consists of 480 credits, with 120 credits per year, aligned to FHEQ levels 4–7. All modules are mandatory and therefore achieving the learning outcomes must be achieved for progression. The course is delivered over two semesters per year, each typically comprising 12 weeks of taught content, followed by revision and assessment.

The curriculum is structured around integrated, systems-based modules known as Science, Systems and the Patient (SSP), which combine pharmaceutical science, clinical pharmacy, and person-centred care. Learning is spiral in nature, with increasing complexity and contextual application across the four years. Students undertake placements and simulation-based learning in community, hospital, and general practice settings.

The course is provisionally accredited by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) and has been designed to meet the GPhC's 2021 Initial Education and Training Standards for Pharmacists, allowing students to enter foundation training in order to be eligible for registration as a pharmacist with the GPhC.

Course Aims

The MPharm programme aims to develop future-ready pharmacists who are clinically competent, scientifically grounded, digitally confident, and professionally resilient. Through an integrated, spiral curriculum underpinned by patient-centred learning, the programme will cultivate pharmacists who are safe prescribers, critical thinkers, collaborative healthcare professionals, and adaptable leaders equipped to improve health outcomes across diverse settings.

- Provide students with the scientific, clinical, and professional knowledge required for registration and practice as a pharmacist in the UK.
- Foster a patient-centred, evidence-informed approach to medicines use and pharmaceutical care.

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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- Support the development of professionalism, ethical integrity, and reflective practice, in alignment with GPhC standards.
- Enable students to engage with research, innovation, and digital health, contributing to the advancement of pharmacy practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the MPharm Pharmacy course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

By the end of the MPharm programme, the course learning outcomes means students should be able to:

1. Engage in lifelong learning and continuous professional development, using reflective practice to improve care and advance their careers.
2. Apply integrated pharmaceutical sciences and clinical knowledge to optimise medicines use and deliver patient-centred care across diverse populations and practice settings.
3. Practise with professionalism, integrity and ethical awareness, underpinned by the values and behaviours of a healthcare professional and a strong, reflective professional identity.
4. Collaborate effectively within multidisciplinary teams across diverse care settings, and act as advocates and thought leaders for the pharmacy profession.
5. Understand safe and effective prescribing competence, progressing to independent prescribing at the point of registration, supported by robust clinical reasoning and decision-making.
6. Recognise and address health inequalities, tailoring pharmaceutical care to diverse populations and contributing to equitable healthcare delivery through personalised and population-focused approaches.
7. Critically evaluate healthcare innovations and research, translating evidence into practice to improve patient outcomes and service delivery.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks / Professional Standards / General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) Competency Frameworks:

- Standards for the initial education and training of pharmacists (January 2021) are available on the GPhC website [Standards for the initial education and training of pharmacists January 2021 final v1.4.pdf](#)
- QAA The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2024)
- QAA Master's Characteristics Statement available from <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/the-quality-code/characteristics-statements/characteristics-statement-masters-degrees>

Course Structure

The MPharm Pharmacy course comprises modules at levels 4-7. Each academic year is delivered over two consecutive 60-credit modules, across two semesters, along with a year-long, non-credit bearing module that facilitates the practice of the pharmacy professional annual revalidation cycle and submission of a practice portfolio from placements, in line with

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

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PSRB requirements. All modules are mandatory and follow progression rules as defined in the Integrated Master's framework.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Portfolio of Practice I	0	M
	Pharmacy Foundations	60	M
	Science, Systems and the Patient I	60	M
Level 5			
	Portfolio of Practice II	0	M
	Science, Systems and the Patient II	60	M
	Science, Systems and the Patient III	60	M
Level 6			
	Portfolio of Practice III	0	M
	Science, Systems and the Patient IV	60	M
	Research and Inquiry in Pharmacy	60	M
Level 7			
	Portfolio of Practice IV	0	M
	Pharmacy Futures and Complex Patients	60	M
	Practice Leadership and Prescribing Readiness	60	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a Master of Pharmacy. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a MSci Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences on successful completion of 480 credits but do not successfully complete a practice module, a BSc (Hons) Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences on successful completion of 360 credits including all credit-bearing mandatory modules at levels 4-6, a DipHE Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences on successful completion of 240 credits including all credit-bearing mandatory modules at levels 4-5 or a CertHE Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences on successful completion of 120 credits including all credit-bearing mandatory modules at level 4. Students who leave the course early will not be eligible for professional registration with the GPhC.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk, Ipswich campus. Students studying full-time on MPharm Pharmacy are likely to have approximately 380 contact hours for level 4, 350 contact hours for level 5, 225 contact hours for level 6 and 200 contact hours for level 7. The contact hours will be a mix of learning activities designed and structured by tutors according to the subject area and intended learning outcomes. This will include traditional lectures, online

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Integrated Master's Awards](#)

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learning activities, laboratory classes, simulations, extended research projects and clinical workshops. In addition, students will be required to participate in 72 days of work placement across diverse settings over the 4 years of the programme. Placements will be arranged by the University. Finally, students will be expected to undertake 600 hours of independent study at level 4, 650 hours at level 5, 800 hours at level 6 and level 7. This independent study includes preparation, reflection, portfolio work, assignment completion. and asynchronous activities including formative quizzes, guided-reading and multimedia resources.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be mainly coursework (including essays, podcasts, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects), with some examinations (including OSCEs) and practical assessments.

Special Features

On successful completion of the MPharm Pharmacy, graduates may undertake the required foundation training. Successful completion of this training makes them eligible to register with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) as pharmacists in the UK. NOTE: The MPharm programme is provisionally accredited until Step 7 of the accreditation process.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute and include a mix of staff registered with pharmacy regulators both in the UK (GPhC) and abroad.

Course Costs

Students undertaking MPharm will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£ 10,050
Part-time UK/EU	N/A
Full-time International	£19,000
Part-time International	N/A

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students will be required to pay for their DBS check with a small ID check and processing fee, a full breakdown of fees can be found on our [website](#).

Additional expenses may include learning materials such as printing, books, and stationery. Students are also expected to purchase their own lab coat, with recommended suppliers provided upon enrolment.

Where eligible, students can claim reimbursement for travel, accommodation, and car parking costs incurred during placement in line with the NHS Learning Support Fund: Travel and Dual Accommodation Expenses (TDAE) [policy](#); however, reimbursements are made retrospectively.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Integrated Master's Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).