

Mātai Matū Rongoā Undergraduate Medicinal Chemistry



Medicinal Chemistry is the study of the design, biochemical effects, regulatory and ethical aspects of drugs for the treatment of disease. It's one of the most rapidly developing areas within the discipline of chemistry, both globally and locally.

What you will learn

Graduates in Medicinal Chemistry will possess contemporary knowledge of the multiple scientific disciplines associated with drug discovery and development.

You will have a core strength in drug synthesis. In addition, you will bring specific knowledge in data analysis, biochemical processes, biological assays, drug formulation and metabolism, as well as biologics and diagnostics. You will also understand associated regulatory practices, including intellectual property, clinical trials, and good manufacturing practice (GMP).

Graduates will have both a domestic and international perspective on ethical issues associated with medicinal chemistry, including legal and ethical obligations. Beyond discipline knowledge, graduates will have had the opportunity to develop oral and written communication skills and the ability to work effectively in a team.

If you're interested in studying Medicinal Chemistry with us, it's a good idea to have taken chemistry at high school. High school biology is also beneficial because of the biological/medicinal focus of this specialisation, but it's not essential. Mathematics, statistics or physics also provide helpful numerical knowledge.

Interested in pursuing entry to a clinical programme?

Medicinal Chemistry is one of six Bachelor of Science (BSc) health majors that provide clear pathways into the following year two clinical health programmes:

- › Bachelor of Medical Imaging (Honours)
- › Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
- › Bachelor of Optometry
- › Bachelor of Pharmacy

Students intending to apply for these programmes must take specific courses to be eligible for clinical selection. GPA requirements also apply. Please consult the relevant year two clinical programmes on the University of Auckland website for detailed information.



To find out more, visit

auckland.ac.nz/sciencehealthmajors



Waipapa
Taumata Rau
**University
of Auckland**



Career opportunities

A foundation of multi-disciplinary skills

Medicinal Chemistry is one of the most rapidly developing areas within the discipline of chemistry, both globally and locally.

Studying Medicinal Chemistry is designed to equip you with the multi-disciplinary knowledge and skills relevant to a rapidly expanding pharmaceutical industry.

You will have a unique combination of skills: you will be trained in the synthesis, reactivity and analysis of organic compounds and gain valuable insight into the pharmacological, regulatory and ethical aspects of these bioactive compounds.

As a graduate you will be well placed for further study in the chemistry of drug design and development. You will also have the skill sets to make valuable contributions in biomedical and pharmaceutical companies both locally and globally.

What you can study

- › How drugs are discovered
- › The chemistry of drug synthesis
- › The challenges associated with drug design and development
- › How drugs work at the molecular level
- › The biological and pharmacological basis of drug action



Find out more about how your degree will be structured and what courses you need to take at

auckland.ac.nz/medicinal-chemistry

Applications close on 8 December.



Kuhua ki tō mātou hāpori, ā, Kimihia tōu Pūtaiao.
Join our community and find your Science.



Disclaimer: The information in this document is a general guide only for students and subject to alteration. All students enrolling at the University of Auckland must consult its official Calendar, to ensure that they are aware of and comply with all regulations, requirements and policies. [2026]

Have any questions?
Contact the Student Hub

auckland.ac.nz/student-hubs