

## ***MPhil/PhD PHARMACOLOGY***

### **Introduction**

Pharmacology is the study of the effects of drugs on the function of living systems. It investigates these effects from the drug induced molecular and subsequent cellular effects to the clinical evaluation of the drug's efficacy. The discipline focuses on the evaluation of clinically relevant drugs for the improvement of disease management for further exploration of body functions.

MPhil / PhD training in Pharmacology will provide prospective postgraduates with the requisite expertise in the discipline and the core concepts and techniques required for basic and clinical research. Most notably, it facilitates the development of independent investigators.

The programme provides students with a solid foundation through coursework, research, and opportunities to develop communication and presentation skills.

### **Objectives**

On completion of the programme(s) students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of pharmacology
2. Apply basic pharmacology in appreciating how drugs are used therapeutically
3. Be able to complete project proposal writing and execution.
4. Apply pharmacological procedures in examination of the research question
5. Demonstrate integration of knowledge and skills through a variety of experiences and tools such as comprehensive examinations, executing a research project and thesis development
6. Apply knowledge to impact changes that can positively impact clinical research

### **Entry Requirements**

Prospective students should have the following undergraduate qualifications to register for the respective programme:

- A. For the MPhil, a MB BS or a Bachelor of Science (BSc) or a Bachelor of Basic Medical Sciences (BBMedSc) with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (Upper Second Class Honours) from a recognized post-secondary institution in:
  - Pharmacology
  - Biochemistry
  - Biomedical sciences
  - Molecular and cell biology
  - Toxicology
  - Chemistry
  - Pharmacy

- B. For the PhD, a MPhil or Master of Science (MSc) in
- Pharmacology (Applied or Basic)
  - Pharmacy or Pharmaceutical Sciences
  - Toxicology
- i. These candidates should also verify that they have completed two semesters of Level I – III biology and chemistry.
- ii. Two letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to the candidate's character, scientific ability and work experience will also be required.
- iii. Please note that candidates holding a BSc or a Master's degree in Pharmacology or Pharmacy or a MB BS may be exempted from the Basic and Systems Based Pharmacology course.

### **Course of study**

MPhil Students are required to take:

- Basic and System Based Pharmacology (6 credits)
- Basic Research Skills for Pharmacology (3 credits)

PhD Students are required to take:

- Basic and System Based Pharmacology (6 credits)
- Basic Research Skills for Pharmacology (3 credits)
- Writing a Scientific Paper (3 credits)

Candidates holding a BSc or a Master's degree in Pharmacology or Pharmacy or a MB BS may be exempted from the Basic and Systems Based Pharmacology course.

In total students in the MPhil and PhD degree programme are required to successfully:

1. Complete a minimum of nine (9) credits of coursework for MPhil twelve (12) credits of coursework for PhD,
2. Present seminars (2 for MPhil/3 for PhD), and
3. Submit a thesis.

### **Compulsory Seminar Presentations**

Candidates are required to write and present one departmental seminar each academic year on a topic arising out of their research, as well as to field questions put to them afterwards.

### **Thesis**

Candidates are required to present and defend a Thesis of acceptable scope and quality for the degree. The Thesis must follow the guidelines set out in the University's Thesis guide.

**Cost (Self-financed programme)**

Programme fee	BDS \$ 35,000 per annum
Plus ID Card Fee	BDS \$ 30.00
Plus UWI Registration fees – currently	BDS \$490.00 per semester <b>SUBJECT TO CHANGE</b>

**Award of the Degree**

The successful completion of the required coursework, the compulsory Seminar presentations and the Thesis will lead to the award of the Degree.

The final grade in the MPhil / PhD programmes is Pass / Fail

**LIST OF COURSES****As determined necessary**

- PHAL 6012 Basic and System Based Pharmacology (6 credits)
- PHAL 6013 Basic Research Skills for Pharmacology (3 credits)
- FPAS 6020 Writing a Scientific Paper (3 credits)