Medicine
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The Liverpool Curriculum

In the last few years the School of Medicine introduced Curriculum 2014; a new curriculum developed around a core set of values and educational principles.

The curriculum has the student and patient as the main focus and is underpinned by rigorous educational principles and evidence-based practice. The curriculum must be fit for purpose in a modern healthcare context and is being delivered in an environment of guided learning, using outcomes to determine content and delivery.

**Leadership and management**

As part of Curriculum 2014 our first year medical students take part in a unique Army training programme, designed to develop their leadership and management skills.

300 students spend two days at the Altcar Training Facility (Formby) where they undertake a number of command exercises involving the management of equipment, as well as planning exercises where they are asked to find solutions to complex scenarios. They also take part in physical challenges including an assault course and gun run. Professor John Earis from the University’s School of Medicine who developed the programme with Colonel Debbie Telford at 208 Field Hospital (Medical Reservists) in Liverpool, said: “Over many years, failure of clinical leadership has been identified as one of the major underlying causes of poor patient care in the NHS. As part of the new undergraduate curriculum, we are in the vanguard of developing leadership and management capabilities in our students to equip them for their future career in medicine.”
**Why choose Medicine at Liverpool?**

At Liverpool we’ve been training doctors for almost 200 years. Over that time we have developed a student focused community, committed to widening access to the medical profession, and informed by the latest in innovative teaching, and interdisciplinary research of unparalleled breadth and depth. As well as being proud of our past we’re focused on your future. Alongside clinical knowledge, our extensive professional networks will help you develop the leadership, management and communication skills required in today’s NHS.

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**Enjoy an innovative and blended approach to learning**

Through our blend of tutorials, lectures, case-based and technology-enhanced learning we are committed to providing students with the most appropriate teaching methods designed to both enhance the student experience and create a dynamic and innovative educational environment.

Students have access to a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), housing a huge range of programme materials each year, including externally purchased content such as a prescribing safety package SCRIPT and the NHS e-learning for healthcare resource. Our teaching staff use personal response software (Poll Everywhere) to gain instant student feedback through mobile devices and all on-campus lectures are recorded and made available via a streaming server, which students have found extremely useful for revision and deepening their learning experience. Simulation training sessions within clinical settings also use the latest technology to recreate real time scenarios testing students in a safe environment.

Previous students, clinical teachers, patients, professionals and University staff are all regularly consulted to keep our curriculum at the leading edge.

**Learn and develop in a supportive, open environment**

Each student in the School has an academic member of staff personally supporting them and these academic advisers monitor and manage progress using an e-portfolio system. We also have implemented a mobile texting system to send students personal notifications and reminders effectively and instantly. Our teaching and support staff continually drive this innovation forward, ensuring that we make the most efficient use of technology to complement and enhance existing traditional teaching methods and provide first class support, when students need it.

We also actively support the promotion and development of our students’ wellbeing. We recognise the individuality of each student, and appreciate how needs differ amongst our learners, and our team are available throughout your training to discuss any issues that may be affecting you or your studies.

Our team work closely with central support services, outside agencies, as well as online support, to offer our students a range of skills and strategies to promote and encourage your personal development and welfare.
Start your professional career from day one
We’re focused on developing your professionalism at an individual, team and organisational level. You’ll study leadership, management and communication skills and understand the expected attitudes and behaviour of doctors, how to deal appropriately with patients and how to develop your reflective practice and self-regulation skills.

Learn to lead teams
As a doctor you will need the ability to manage and lead within a team structure and with the uncertainties, ambiguities and complexities of diagnosis and treatment. It’s challenging. We can help you meet this challenge by developing your effective leadership skills, including judgement, professionalism, compassion, honesty, courage, risk-assessment and self-awareness. Above all we’ll help you develop your understanding of the shared behaviours and beliefs within the healthcare team. Our students’ communications skills are recognised as excellent by our NHS partners. As part of Curriculum 2014 our first year medical students take part in a unique Army training programme, designed to develop their leadership and management skills. The success of this initiative has resulted in its expansion and delivery to a wider group of students.

Develop your patient focus
Through understanding how to manage clinical risk you will gain an overarching sense of patient safety in practice. You will gain a deep understanding of human factors, engineering, team behaviours and continuous quality improvement strategies to help you prepare for today’s patient focused health care setting.

Practice in our Clinical Skills Resource Centre (CSRC)
The CSRC provides evidence based teaching and aims to offer a safe professional environment in which students can learn and practice history taking, physical examination and practical skills prior to contact with patients. Our new and inspirational Learning Zone (opened in 2016) provides an interactive clinical skills facility which is open to students of all years to come to practise their clinical and examination skills.

Gain practical experience through longer clinical placements
We can help you become a competent and compassionate doctor through longer placements. Our ‘immersive’ approach helps you to get to know the clinical team you work with, and build meaningful working relationships. The School of Medicine is pleased to have links with a large number of local NHS hospital and community trusts, across a wide geographical area in the North West, including, among others, the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, Aintree University Hospital and Whiston Hospital. Many of the hospitals we work with provide emergency, general and specialist treatments and all work closely with the School to provide placements and quality educational experiences. The Quality Assurance of student placement is an area upon which we place great importance. We are fortunate to be able to send our students to excellent specialist centres such as the Walton Centre (neurology); Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital, Liverpool Women’s NHS Foundation Trust and Alder Hey Children’s Hospital.
Year in China

The Year in China is the University of Liverpool’s exciting flagship programme enabling undergraduate students from a huge range of departments, including Medicine, the opportunity to spend one year at our sister university Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU), following XJTLU’s BA China Studies degree classes. See www.liverpool.ac.uk/yearinchina for more information.

How you learn

The School uses a mix of interactive and didactic lecturing, case based learning, small group teaching, clinical skills and simulation workshops, Human Anatomy Resource Centre (HARC) sessions, clinical placements and technology enhanced learning. You have the opportunity to take a year out from the medical programme to study for an additional, intercalated degree, at BSc or master’s level. A wide variety of subjects are available, examples range from basic sciences, humanitarian aid, to translational, bench to bedside research. Lastly, the research and scholarship component of the course allows you the opportunity to develop an area of scholarly interest to pursue during your MBChB.

How you are assessed

Both formative and summative assessment takes place within the programme. There is an increased emphasis on assessment for learning through the use of subject specific tests such as quizzes, anatomy spotters and formative Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs).

We have introduced new assessment technology throughout the School allowing online marking and annotated feedback of written assignments, formative online tests for students at the end of each teaching block. This technology means progress and learning levels can be evaluated and students receive more effective feedback during OSCEs using customised iPad marking software.

Year One overview

Each module theme runs for three weeks and teaching is split between the following sessions: Human Anatomy Resource Centre; Communication for Community Placement; Psychology and Sociology of Medicine; Peer Assisted Learning; Case Based Learning; Professional Studies/Team Based Learning. In addition, review sessions are used to summarise the sessions and answer any outstanding student questions, and a mixture of teaching methods are utilised in each module.

Modules for MBChB Year One:
- Endocrinology (Endo)
- Musculoskeletal (MSK)
- Cardiovascular (CVS)
- Respiratory (Resp)
- GastroIntestine (GI)
- Urinary-Gynaecology (UG)
- Neurophysiology (Neuro)
- Research module.

I chose Liverpool because I wanted to be part of an institution that doesn’t just keep you cooped up in lectures and classrooms, but takes the learning into the ‘real world’. The School were very quick to get us learning the clinical examinations in Year One, so that we could practise on patients in hospital from Year Two. That early exposure to clinical settings is a real benefit to being at the School of Medicine.

Mohammad Mansoor
Medicine and Surgery MBChB
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Welcome week</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Intro week</td>
<td>Research module 1 (literature review)</td>
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<td>Foundation block</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>1.03</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Christmas break</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>Formative/Learning and Teaching</td>
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<td>1.05</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Revision week</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Assessment week</td>
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Please note this may be subject to change.
Invest in your future

Our programmes are for individuals who wish to become qualified medical practitioners. A diverse range of careers are open to you as a medical graduate, varying from medical science, perhaps laboratory-based research, through public health and the development of health care strategies to clinical practice in the hospital and community.

Over half of qualified doctors are general practitioners but there are opportunities for higher speciality training posts with in excess of 100 medical specialities available. Salary details can be found at www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/working-in-the-nhs/pay-and-benefits

Doctors can be found working in areas related to medicine such as ships doctors, international aid, medical journalism, research and medical education and there are other opportunities outside medicine such as law, management and the pharmaceutical industry.

Make yourself employable

Our programmes offer considerable opportunities for you to learn, to practise and to be assessed in the following key transferable skills:
- Adopt the principles of lifelong learning
- Retrieve, manage and manipulate information by all means, including electronically
- Present information clearly in written, electronic and oral forms, and communicate ideas and arguments effectively
- Effectively manage time and resources and set priorities
- Apply the principles of scientific research and audit
- Study topics in depth
- Deal with uncertainty and work within a changing environment
- Teach effectively and act as a mentor to others
- Work effectively within a team.

Student exchange programme

Currently, opportunities also exist for you to spend time at another European medical school. The University of Liverpool has strong links with universities in Sweden, France, Germany and the Netherlands. We aim to provide learning opportunities in clinical specialist subjects that would not otherwise be studied in Liverpool.

Clinical elective

You also undergo a five-week clinical elective in which you explore a branch of medicine in greater depth. Most students choose to undertake their electives outside the UK, to observe how medicine is practised in another country and to experience a different social, cultural and physical environment. These electives encourage you to develop personal interests and provide you with valuable insight into specialities.

A passion for learning: postgraduate studies

The School is at the forefront of development in healthcare education, offering postgraduate taught programmes and a progressive research environment. Some of the programmes are designed to be studied part-time by individuals who are in relevant employment. In addition, the School has an innovative modular Medical Science programme aimed at doctors in training, allowing students to take one or two modules as short courses or to study to the level of Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma or MSc. It also offers a range of opportunities for doctoral studies leading to MD and PhD.
A strong aspect of the programme is that there are so many opportunities for further development, whether that is learning to suture with the surgical society, learning emergency medicine in the wilderness or volunteering with the street doctors. Students are encouraged to participate in research and complete several student selected study modules. Early exposure to research has proved to be invaluable, not only has it allowed me to become more competent in research techniques and data interpretation but it has allowed me to begin building on my CV from the early stages of the course. Liverpool has given me the opportunity to experience the diversity of medicine whilst allowing me to pursue my specific interests.

Laura Horne
Year Five medical student
Degrees

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>UCAS Code</th>
<th>Programme length</th>
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<tr>
<td>Medicine and Surgery MBChB A100 5 years</td>
<td>A100</td>
<td>5 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicine and Surgery MBChB (Graduate Entry) A101 4 years</td>
<td>A101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation to Health and Veterinary Studies (Year 0) (Medicine Pathway)</td>
<td>789S</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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Foundation programmes have flexible entry requirements.
Contact E: s.hollywood@liverpool.ac.uk for details.

See www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses for current entry requirements.

Medicine and Surgery MBChB
UCAS code: A100
Programme length: 5 years

The MBChB course at Liverpool:
- Encourages you to become an active learner and reflective practitioner
- Encourages you to become a holistic, patient-focused medical practitioner
- Integrates scientific principles of medicine with workplace learning in clinical settings
- Ensures a spiral curriculum in which themes are revisited throughout the length of the course, encouraging you to build on prior knowledge and skills
- Helps you develop the lifelong learning skills required in professional practice
- Promotes academic and leadership aspirations among our students to become more than competent practitioners.

The curriculum framework is based on the three main outcomes of Tomorrow’s Doctors (GMC 2009): the Doctor as Scholar and Scientist, the Doctor as Practitioner and the Doctor as Professional. Each of these outcomes has a series of vertical themes to create a truly spiral curriculum. Four horizontal themes cut across the vertical themes to provide stage appropriate coverage of these important themes within each vertical theme.

The vertical themes which will run throughout the duration of the curriculum are the science of medicine, research and scholarship, the chronically ill patient, the acutely ill patient, patient safety, leadership and management and professionalism. The four horizontal themes that will be integrated into each vertical theme are psychology and sociology as applied to medicine, population perspective (public health, epidemiology and evidence), communication for clinical practice and therapeutics.

Programme in detail
In Years One and Two the emphasis of the course is on the basic and clinical sciences. These are taught using a systems approach. Each system will include physiology, biochemistry and anatomy lectures and practical sessions, clinical skills sessions where you will learn how to examine the systems studied as well as take part in simulation exercises, small group teaching and case based learning. Communication skills training prepares you for the clinical placements which start towards the end of Year One, increasing in length during Year Two. Years Three and Four have an increasing focus on clinical placement. This prepares you to learn to recognise health problems, develop the skills needed to diagnose illness and disease and manage patients. You rotate through a variety of hospital and community-based placements. These provide plenty of opportunities to interact with real patients in a variety of healthcare settings.

For up-to-date entry requirements and full module details see www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses
These placements are complemented with consolidation weeks spent at the University to ensure you gain the most from your placement experiences through reflection on the key curriculum themes, as well as providing the opportunity to analyse the cases you have witnessed with clinicians. You complete your final written and OSCE (clinical examinations) assessments at the end of Year Four. The final year, Year Five, is spent gaining intensive clinical experience in hospitals and the community to prepare you for your career as a doctor.

**Assessments**
Formal examinations occur at the end of Years One-Four of the programme. In Years One and Two these initially focus on the science of medicine, in the later years these shift their focus to clinical medicine. The consultation skills OSCEs is introduced in Year Two to assess skills relevant to clinical practice. Year Five has no formal assessments but instead is based on assessment of a portfolio of evidence. There are two national assessments that are completed in Year Five that relate to students practice in the Foundation Programme. These assessments are the situational judgement test and the prescribing safety assessment. The School provides specific support to help our students prepare for the national assessments.

**Feedback (assessment for learning)**
In the first two years you will complete online tests at the end of each system block (two-four week interval). On completion of these you will receive immediate feedback on your performance followed by a review session where an expert will provide further feedback and answer any queries you may have. In each of the first four years you will sit formative assessments, these combined with the end of system assessments, and anatomy spotter tests provide you with guidance on your progress through the academic year.

**Technology enhanced learning**
The School of Medicine employs a wide range of technology to enhance the student experience creating a dynamic and innovative educational environment.

**Learning resources**
Students have access to a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), housing a huge range of course materials each year. External content, such as a prescribing safety package SCRIPT and the NHS e-learning for healthcare resource, have been purchased for undergraduate students at Liverpool. Significant investment has also been undertaken to ensure that the medical specific electronic resources, available anytime through the library, are second to none. Since the Curriculum 2014 went live hundreds of lectures and educational sessions have been captured to expand the ‘on demand’ learning materials available to students. A School blog has also been created which regularly updates students with useful information and news.

**Interactive teaching**
Lecturers use personal response software (Poll Everywhere) to gain instant student feedback through mobile devices. All on-campus lectures are recorded and made available via a streaming server, which students have found extremely useful for revision and deepening their learning experience. Simulation training sessions within clinical settings also use the latest technology to recreate real time scenarios testing students in a safe environment.

**Assessment**
We have introduced new technology into areas of assessment throughout the School allowing online marking and annotated feedback of written assignments, formative online tests for students at the end of each teaching block so progress and learning levels can be evaluated and greater feedback and efficient activity within the clinical examinations (OSCEs) using customised iPad marking software. We have also implemented a bespoke electronic portfolio solution which has been integrated throughout the entire curriculum and allows students to collect evidence and develop their skills through online reflective activities and offline clinical environments, using mobile devices in all locations. These developments have significantly enhanced the quality and quantity of student feedback and improved the reliability and analysis of assessment processes in medicine.

Continued over...
**Student support**
At Liverpool’s School of Medicine, support is available for your wellbeing, be it academic or pastoral.

The Student Wellbeing and Development Service can be accessed Monday-Friday, 8.30am – 4.30pm. They will provide you with guidance and help with issues such as:
- Homesickness
- Health
- Caring for others
- Course difficulties
- Finances.

Each year group has its own support lead, and contacting them is easy. They will arrange to meet with you at a time that is mutually suitable. Each student will have an academic adviser, who will meet with you throughout the year, to discuss your academic performance, and offer guidance to further your development.

We run a Peer Mentoring system and each new student will be contacted by a second year to welcome you to the University. Each mentor will have 3-4 students, and they will offer you advice on settling in to Liverpool and the course, as well as being there for you throughout the year, should you have any questions.

**Research**
One of the advantages of studying Medicine in Liverpool is that we are internationally respected for our medical research. We have research strengths in many disciplines but all are aimed at translating the most advanced research into tangible outcomes that benefit patients. Research is a significant part of the undergraduate programme for all medical students, but as part of our drive to strengthen our research community, and develop it for the future, we have devised our Scholars’ Programme. Students with a strong academic background can work in a research area of their choice throughout their medical programme and become part of the active research teams. It is competitive, but for those who see research as part of their future it is an ideal opportunity to shine.

**Post-graduation**
Currently at the end of the undergraduate programme students receive their MBChB degree, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council (GMC).

Provisional registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year One posts, the law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to undertake any other type of work. To obtain a Foundation Year One post students currently need to apply during the final year of their undergraduate course through the UK Foundation Programme Office selection scheme, which allocates these posts to graduates on a competitive basis. So far, all suitably qualified UK graduates have found a place on the Foundation Year One programme, but this cannot be guaranteed, for instance if there were to be an excessive number of competitive applications from non-UK graduates. Successful completion of the Foundation Year One programme is normally achieved within 12 months and is marked by the award of a Certificate of Experience. You will then be eligible to apply for full registration with the General Medical Council. You need full registration with a licence to practise for unsupervised medical practice in the NHS or private practice in the UK. Please be aware that regulations in this area may change from time to time.

There is some discussion about whether to remove provisional registration for newly qualified doctors. If this happens then UK graduates will receive full registration as soon as they have successfully completed an MBChB (or equivalent) degree. It should be noted that it is very likely that UK graduates will still need to apply for a training programme similar to the current Foundation Programme and that places on this programme may not be guaranteed for every UK graduate.

In addition the GMC is currently considering whether to introduce a formal assessment that all doctors would need to pass in order to be granted full registration.

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For up-to-date entry requirements and full module details see www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses
Although no firm decision has been taken as to whether or when such an exam will be introduced, applicants should be aware that the GMC envisages that future cohorts of medical students will need to pass parts of a new UK Medical Licensing Assessment before the GMC will grant them Registration with a Licence to Practise.

In the interests of public safety, in accordance with Tomorrow’s Doctors, and in your own best interests, information pertinent to your educational achievements and to your fitness to practise may be shared by the School with training providers, employers, regulatory organisations and other medical schools. The MSC Excluded Students Database has been created to record students who have been excluded from a medical school on the grounds of fitness to practise. Thus in the interests of patient and public safety, the School of Medicine may share some of the information provided in your application form with the MSC in order to verify your fitness to practise. Any offer for the medical programme will be conditional on applicants having disclosed any previous fitness to practise findings against them and their consent being given to this use of information.

Please note: Graduates applying to the A100 programme are subject to different entry criteria and there is currently the requirement for you to have taken GAMSAT. For further details please see www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/medicine-and-surgery-mbchb/overview/.

There are usually 29 places available annually for the A101 programme; two of these are for OMFS students.

The University of Liverpool requires a GAMSAT result as part of the entry requirements for graduates applying to medical programmes. Further details of GAMSAT can be found here www.gamsat.acer.edu.au/gamsat-uk. The only exception to this is for dentists applying to the oral-maxillofacial route. The latter route has an independent selection process. For full details of subject requirements, the selection process and details of both the guaranteed interview scheme and oral-maxillofacial route please see www.liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/undergraduate/admissions.

Programme in detail
You start Year One of the A101 programme with a two week summer school. You will then join Year Two of the A100 programme and will have access to all Year One resources. For this reason the A101 programme usually commences in mid-August in each year. At the end of Year One, students on the graduate entry programme will sit the same examinations as students at the end of their second year on the five-year programme. Thereafter, you follow exactly the same examination schedule as the five-year programme. The final year is spent gaining intensive clinical experience in hospitals and the community to prepare you for your career as a doctor.

Please note:
1. There are no places for overseas students on the Graduate A101 programme.
2. The start date for the A101 programme is in mid-August of each year and we cannot consider applicants who cannot start the programme at this time.

Medicine and Surgery
MBChB (Graduate Entry)
UCAS code: A101
Programme length: 4 years

The A101 medical programme has been developed specifically for students who are expecting to achieve at least a good 2:1 Honours degree in a Biological, Biomedical or Health Science subject. Other additional subject and grade requirements exist. There is also a guaranteed interview scheme for applicants on the Liverpool BSc Honours programmes and pathways in the School of Life Sciences and a shortened three-year route for dentists wishing to pursue a career in oral and maxillofacial surgery.
Foundation to Health and Veterinary Studies (Year 0)
UCAS code (Medicine Pathway): 789S
Programme length: 1 year

The University of Liverpool, in collaboration with local FE partners, has developed a Year Zero foundation programme for Home/EU students that leads to access onto a variety of vocational Health Studies programmes. Students seeking entry to Medicine study at Carmel College, St Helens.

Please note: students who have applied for undergraduate programmes in the School of Medicine would not normally be considered for this route, which is specifically targeted at Home/EU adult learners with appropriate workplace experience or young people with vocational rather than A level qualifications.

When applying, you must ensure that you apply for one programme that you wish to progress onto. Multiple applications will be rejected and result in disappointment. We will also not consider applications from applicants who have multiple UCAS applications for a variety of programmes, as this does not demonstrate a clear commitment.

Programme in detail
This is a modular programme and successful candidates have to complete 120 Level 0 credits.

In all modules at Year 0, the study skills needed for independent study at undergraduate degree level are developed. You are also introduced to a variety of learning methods, for example, formal taught sessions, workshops and practical laboratory session.

There is also a variety of assessment tasks, for example, written assignments, in class data handling, written and practical examinations to provide a good grounding for vocational programmes.

Modules for the Medicine pathway:
- Biology for health studies 1 and 2 (45 credits)
- Chemistry for medicine/dentistry 1 and 2 (45 credits)
- Foundations of professional studies (15 credits)
- Health and social care for medicine and dentistry (15 credits).

The biology modules (45 credits) provide the basic knowledge of the structure and function of the human body relating to cell structure and function: genetics; respiration; transport; regulation and control; action of drugs; immunity; the eye and the nervous system.

The two chemistry modules (45 credits) will provide basic knowledge of those aspects of Chemistry which are particularly relevant to Dentistry, Medicine and Veterinary Science.

The foundations of professional studies module (15 credits) provides you with the opportunity to develop your knowledge and understanding of the Health and Social Care context of practice for health care professionals.

The health and social care for medicine and dentistry (15 credits) introduces you to health and social policy.

For further information on how to apply to this programme please contact Sean Hollywood on T: +44 (0)151 794 9490 E: s.hollywood@liverpool.ac.uk or visit www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/foundation-to-health-studies-year-0/overview/
Find out more
www.liverpool.ac.uk/study

Accommodation: www.liverpool.ac.uk/accommodation
Fees and student finance: www.liverpool.ac.uk/money
Life in Liverpool: www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/welcome-to-liverpool
Student Welfare Advice and Guidance: www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport
Undergraduate enquiries and applications: T: +44 (0)151 794 5927
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Information provided is correct at time of going to press and is subject to change.