

FAQ

1. What is Pharmacology?

Pharmacology is the multidisciplinary science that deals with all aspects of drugs and their interactions with living organisms. Thus, it involves the physical and chemical properties of drugs, their biochemical and physiological effects, mechanisms of action, absorption, distribution and elimination from the body, and therapeutic and illicit uses. Pharmacology has developed its own set of principles and methods to study the mode of action of drugs, in addition to utilizing many techniques and approaches from several disciplines, including: biochemistry, physiology, anatomy, and cell and molecular biology.

2. What can you do with a Pharmacology degree?

As is the case in all undergraduate biomedical disciplines, a B.Sc. in Pharmacology is a useful stepping stone to further education. This may take the form of graduate studies (M.Sc./Ph.D.), not only in Pharmacology but also in any of the biomedical fields which might lead to research opportunities in Universities, Hospitals, Research Institutes and Industry. A B.Sc. in Pharmacology also provides excellent preparation for Medicine, Dentistry and other health related professions.

* **N.B.:** A degree in Pharmacology will not lead to a license to practice Pharmacy. The Pharmacology Program (what we offer here at McGill) and a Pharmacy Program (not offered at McGill) are two very distinct programs that lead to very different careers. To become a licensed pharmacist in Canada, please access this link for the Canadian Faculties and Schools in Pharmacy: <https://www.pharmacists.ca/pharmacy-in-canada/directory-of-pharmacy-organizations/canadian-faculties-and-schools-of-pharmacy/>

3. What programs are available in Pharmacology?

We offer an Honours program (76 credits), a Major Program (67 credits) and a Minor Program (24 credits). See our Programs page: <https://www.mcgill.ca/pharma/undergraduate-program/programs>

4. Why do I need to see the Program Advisor?

Students must consult the Student Affairs Coordinator (undergradstudies.pharmacology@mcgill.ca) upon entering the program and every year thereafter to verify courses and progress.

5. Is there an Undergraduate Student Society?

The Pharmacology Integrative League of Students (PILS):
<https://www.mcgill.ca/pharma/undergraduate-program/undergraduate-student-association-pils>

6. I am exempted from CHEM 212 and/or CHEM 222:

Students who have taken the equivalent of CHEM 212 and/or CHEM 222 in CEGEP, (as defined at: <https://www.mcgill.ca/transferecredit/prospective/cegep>), are exempt and may not take these courses at McGill. Students must replace these credits with appropriate complementary course credits to satisfy the total credit requirements for their degree.

Therefore, students who are exempted from Organic Chemistry, may choose any Science course as replacements. See eCalendar, Science Courses (i.e: filtered at 200 level): https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2020-2021/faculties/science/search?f%5B0%5D=search_tab%3ACourses&f%5B1%5D=course_level%3A200