

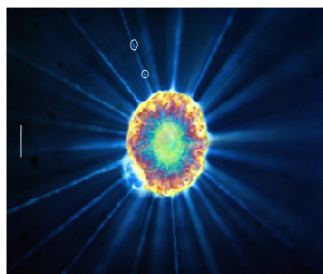
Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences Degree Schemes



Pre-medical Studies A900



One-year Certificate in Higher Education leading to opportunities in Medicine & Biomedicine



Our Pre-medical Studies course provides an opportunity for entry into medical education for individuals with non-standard qualifications. Students gain a Certificate in Higher Education. There is potential for students from this course to enter year 1 of the Liverpool University MBChB medical degree studying at Lancaster or Liverpool. This course also gives students first year degree-level education enabling direct second year entry to Bioscience degrees at Lancaster such as Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, and Natural Sciences. Students are expected to attend a non-assessed educational programme run by Morecambe Bay NHS Trust to enable them to gain knowledge and experience of careers within the NHS.

Entry requirements. Admissions criteria in terms of qualifications are flexible and evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The Pre-medical Studies course should not be considered a substitute for prior low academic achievement and, as such, our typical offer would be the equivalent of ABB at A-level (although extenuating circumstances may be taken into account to a limited extent). Importantly, students are selected on the basis of their potential and suitability for medical training, as well as their academic performance. This course gives an entry route to medicine for intellectually-able candidates who would not normally get an offer of a place. For

example they may:

- be doing the wrong mix of A-level subjects for traditional entry to medicine
- have circumstances that affected their A-level performance in these subjects
- come from a disadvantaged background or low achieving school / college
- display a long term commitment to a career in medicine, e.g. mature students in the NHS

All suitable applicants will be interviewed prior to any offer of a place on the course being made. Applicants should be aware that we may seek further support for their application in the form of a dedicated reference from their school / college / employer etc. Subsequent admission to the medical degree is dependent on academic performance on this course as well as a successful medical school admissions interview in March.

Learning environment. This course is taught by staff from the Lancaster School of Health and Medicine. Interests within the School include, familial predisposition to breast cancer, UV response and skin cancer, cellular response to DNA damage, leukaemia, joint destruction in arthritis, Alzheimer's disease, food poisoning bacteria, metastatic spread of cancer and the biochemistry of corneal disease. We also have extensive teaching and research links with healthcare professionals in the Morecambe Bay Hospitals NHS Trust. Lectures, practicals and workshops will take place in our state-of-the-art teaching facilities.

Sophie Dodd:

'The Pre-medical Studies course at Lancaster represents an excellent route into medicine for those students who otherwise might not have the option of direct medical school entry. I progressed to study medicine at the University of Liverpool and just want to say to Lancaster thank you so much for accepting me on to the course; I've had the best year of my life.'



Further information see our FAQ link from the A900 course web page or contact:

Telephone: 01524 593265

E-mail: admitbiol@lancaster.ac.uk

Web: <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/shm/bls/>

Pre-medical Studies

A900



Students take a total of 15 modules as shown below. For each module there are 3 lectures per week plus one practical or workshop. Assessment is through coursework, end-of-module tests and summer examinations. There is also a supplementary non-assessed tutorial programme to support student learning. The interviews for admission to Medical School will be held in the Lent term.

- Introduction to Biomedical Science
- Anatomy & Tissue Structure
- Infection & Immunity
- Hormones & Development
- Human Physiology

- Molecules of Life
- Cell Structure & Function
- Genetics
- Biotechnology
- Protein Biochemistry
- Impact of Microbes

- Experimental Design & Data Analysis
- Organic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry for Life Sciences
- Spectroscopy

Aims of the Pre-medical Studies Course

The general aims are to:

- Provide educational opportunities to students with non-standard qualifications and / or backgrounds.
- Equip students with the intellectual and practical skills necessary for progression to further study.
- Prepare students for direct second year entry to life science degree schemes at Lancaster.

The specific aims are to:

- Provide a structured and broad understanding of medical and biochemical processes, including a molecular and genetic knowledge of living organisms in health and disease.
- Provide knowledge and experience of careers within the NHS.
- Provide students with the opportunity to collect, analyse and present observations and experimental data.
- Enable students to apply quantitative techniques in scientific analysis.
- Equip students with the ability to synthesise and critically evaluate information from a variety of sources.
- Train students to formulate and test concepts and hypotheses.
- Develop students' numerical skills.
- Develop critical and analytical problem-solving skills.
- Encourage academic curiosity which will prepare students for lifelong learning.
- Develop general / transferable skills so as to prepare students for undergraduate study and graduate employment. This includes the ability to work independently or as part of a team, use relevant information technology, demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills, be self-reliant and time manage in order to work to deadlines.

