



MONASH
University

PHARMACY AND
PHARMACEUTICAL
SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (HONOURS)

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE
WORLD AND YOUR CAREER**



**GROUP
OF EIGHT
AUSTRALIA**

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OUR FACULTY

As Australia's leading pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences faculty, and one of the world's best, the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences offers innovative education and delivers high impact research. It is Australia's oldest pharmacy school and the most innovative.

The Faculty offers research programs in areas involved with the design, development, and evaluation and testing of new drugs and drug formulations, as well as the study of the safety and use of medicines in large populations and the education of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences. Our themes of research are:

- Drug Discovery Biology
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Drug Candidate Optimisation
- Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics
- Medicine Use and Safety
- Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Education

Research students are supervised by leading international experts in the field, and the research conducted by research graduates is highly regarded within Australia and internationally. The Faculty has established a strong reputation with industry, both nationally and internationally, and acts as a resource for industry and research institutes involved in the pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences.

The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is located at 381 Royal Parade, Monash University (Parkville Campus) and is home to the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS).

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HONOURS FACULTY CONTACT DETAILS

Location:

Monash University

Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, (Parkville Campus)

Research Office

Room G39, Ground floor, Building 404, 399 Royal Parade, Parkville

Email: pharmsci-honours@monash.edu

Academic Contact Details

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Academic Honours Representatives

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Dr Justin Turner	Centre for Medicine Use and Safety	justin.turner@monash.edu	03 9903 9234
Professor Elizabeth Yuriev	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Education	elizabeth.yuriev@monash.edu	03 9903 9611

Faculty Research Office Contact Details

Contact Name	Position	Email	Telephone
Ms Karen Drakatos	Honours & Graduate Research Programs Coordinator	karen.drakatos@monash.edu	03 9903 9203
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Professor Peter Scammells	Associate Dean (Research)	peter.scammells@monash.edu	03 9903 9542

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RESEARCH AREAS

We have expertise and infrastructure to support research in the following areas:

Drug Discovery Biology (DDB)

The DDB research teams within MIPS comprise a critical mass of scientists with broad expertise in receptor-molecular and cellular biology, whole-animal studies and translational discovery research.

www.monash.edu/mips/themes/drug-discovery-biology

Medicinal Chemistry

The Medicinal Chemistry research teams within MIPS focus on drug discovery—applying chemical principle and techniques to discover and develop compounds to prevent, treat or cure disease.

www.monash.edu/mips/themes/medicinal-chemistry

Centre for Drug Candidate Optimisation

The Centre for Drug Candidate Optimisation specialises in identifying the optimal physiochemical and biopharmaceutical properties of drugs and translating drug candidates from discovery into clinical development.

www.monash.edu/mips/themes/optimisation

Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics (D4)

The D4 research teams within MIPS are designing and developing the next generation of drug delivery systems and anti-infective agents to enhance medicine effectiveness and patient treatment.

www.monash.edu/mips/themes/drug-delivery-disposition-dynamics

Centre for Medicine Use and Safety

The Centre for Medicine Use and Safety conducts multidisciplinary research into preventive, acute and chronic care, optimising medication management and patient safety.

www.monash.edu/mips/themes/medicine-safety

Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Education (PPSEd)

The PPSEd research teams within the Faculty aim to optimise educational processes to be transformative to the next generation of health care and pharmaceutical science experts.

<https://www.monash.edu/pharm/research/educational-research>

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COURSE INFORMATION

Course titles and course codes:

Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science (Honours) P3701

Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science Advanced (Honours) P3002

Structure

Both courses consist of a combination of coursework and research. In the Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science Advanced (Honours) this structure applies to the fourth year of the course. In the coursework component you will develop advanced theoretical and/or technical knowledge of the area of research focus within Pharmacy or Pharmaceutical Science, that is, medicinal chemistry, drug discovery biology, formulation science, or medicine use and safety. In the research component you will develop research methodologies appropriate to your focus and plan and execute a research project under the guidance of at least one academic supervisor.

Requirements

The courses comprise 48 credit points:

BPS4001 – Advanced Pharmaceutical Science (Coursework) (12 credit points)

BPS4002 – Research in Pharmaceutical Science (36 credit points)

Course outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course it is expected that you will be able to:

- work independently to undertake a scientific literature review and work collaboratively to design, develop and implement a research project;
- collect, organise, manipulate, analyse and interpret data meaningfully using experimental and computational approaches;
- develop, apply, integrate and generate knowledge in professional contexts to analyse challenges and to develop effective solutions;
- demonstrate technical competence to use analytical instrumentation, conduct experimental procedures and methodologies in laboratory-based disciplines; and
- communicate ideas and results effectively to diverse audiences and in a variety of formats.

Progression to further studies

Successful completion of this course may provide credit toward a Monash master's by coursework degree and will provide a pathway to a graduate research degree (MPhil or PhD).

Degree awarded

Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science (Honours) or Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science Advanced (Honours)

Australian Higher Education Graduation Statement (AHEGS)

The Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science (Honours) and the Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science Advanced (Honours) are undergraduate qualifications. The course is taught in English. Students who have completed the course have demonstrated advanced theoretical knowledge and techniques in an area of Pharmacy or Pharmaceutical Science and relevant research skills including the capacity to undertake an independent research project and to communicate their findings to a high standard. The course takes one year of full-time study and comprises a fourth year of study following the completion of the normal requirements of the Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science pass degree or equivalent. The Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science (Honours) is a level 8 Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) qualification.

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HEAR FROM ONE OF OUR HONOURS GRADUATES

Meet Jiawen (Yannee) Liu

Research Theme: Centre for Medicine Use & Safety



Yannee Liu is a second year PhD candidate at the Centre for Medicine Use and Safety, Monash University. Yannee's research investigates the clinical, economic, and environmental impacts of potentially inappropriate medication use in older Australians. Using national health datasets, Yannee aims to identify opportunities to improve medication safety, reduce healthcare costs, and support more sustainable healthcare systems. Yannee is passionate about translating research into policy and practice to help older Australians receive safer, higher-value care.

What do you see as the benefits of doing Honours here?

One of the greatest benefits of undertaking Honours within the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is the opportunity to develop high-quality research skills under the guidance of internationally recognised researchers and scientists. Honours provides far more than a traditional coursework experience, the program allows you to contribute to real-world research while learning how to critically evaluate evidence, conduct literature reviews, develop research questions, analyse data, and communicate findings through academic writing and presentations.

A particular strength of the Faculty is the depth of expertise among supervisors. In many cases, your research topic aligns closely with your supervisor's area of specialisation, providing access to invaluable mentorship, resources, and professional networks. Beyond the technical skills gained, the Honours program also offers opportunities to build meaningful connections with world-class academics and researchers at the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences. These networks may lead to future collaborations, employment opportunities, and pathways into higher degree research, including PhD programs.

Honours also develops a broader perspective on how research can address complex global challenges in health, pharmacy, and pharmaceutical sciences. Through collaborative projects and internationally connected research teams, students gain insight into how scientific discoveries can create meaningful impact both locally and globally.

Have there been any highlights? What were the challenges?

One of the highlights of my Honours year was completing the program at the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy in the United States through Monash University. This unique opportunity allowed me to work alongside leading academics and researchers in a different healthcare and educational system, broadening both my academic and professional perspectives.

I particularly enjoyed learning from international peers, exchanging ideas with students from diverse backgrounds, and experiencing how research is conducted in a global context. Outside of the research environment, travelling and sharing experiences with other motivated Honours students created lasting friendships and memories.

Like any research project, there were challenges. Research rarely follows a linear path, and learning how to navigate uncertainty, refine research questions, and adapt to unexpected findings required resilience and problem-solving. However, these challenges ultimately became some of the most valuable learning experiences, helping me grow both as a researcher and as an independent thinker.

What was the subject of your Honours research or what is your project?

My Honours project investigated research skills and research training within pharmacy education in the United States. Specifically, I conducted a scoping review to map the existing literature and identify how research competencies are taught, developed, and assessed among pharmacy students.

The project explored how future pharmacists are prepared to engage with evidence-based practice and contribute to research throughout their careers. Through this work, I gained valuable experience in evidence synthesis, literature searching, data extraction, critical appraisal, and scientific writing.

What does a typical working day involve?

A typical day during Honours is highly varied and depends on the stage of your project. Many days involved working alongside fellow Honours students in the office or library, creating a collaborative and supportive environment. Moreover, I spent time meeting with supervisors, refining research questions, developing search strategies, reading and critically evaluating research papers, analysing data, writing project reports or manuscripts.

Students also have access to excellent support services, including consultations with library staff who can assist with literature searching and systematic review methodologies. Beyond project work, there are also opportunities to attend research seminars, guest lectures, symposiums, and networking events across the Faculty. These experiences provide valuable exposure to a wide range of research areas and allow students to engage with the broader research community while developing their own academic interests.

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PROJECTS AVAILABLE IN 2027

A list of student projects for 2027 is available online from August 2026. To view the types of projects currently offer, please go to:

<https://www.monash.edu/pharm/future/courses/pharmaceutical-science-honours/honours-projects>

Prospective students must contact supervisors to discuss research projects.

The Honours projects currently available within the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences are listed by theme:

- Drug Discovery Biology
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics
- Medicine Use and Safety
- Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Education

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHY STUDY HONOURS?

This is your opportunity to study and work with Australia's largest group of pharmacy and pharmaceutical science researchers. Our researchers have made ground breaking contributions to the development of treatments and superbugs, flu, malaria, postpartum haemorrhage and other conditions.

We offer a prestigious program of coursework and research in pharmaceutical science for high achieving students who have completed a relevant undergraduate degree. You will undertake research methodology training and carry out an independent research project on your selected topic, working closely with a supervisor who will provide you with individual guidance and academic counselling. The course offers a pathway to higher level research in pharmacy or pharmaceutical science.

You'll have access to the latest equipment and facilities at our recently redeveloped campus in the inner-Melbourne suburb of Parkville.

Studies can be undertaken within the general research themes of:

- Drug discovery biology
- Medicinal chemistry
- Drug delivery, disposition and dynamics
- Medicine use and safety
- Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences education

You'll develop skills in research planning, experimental techniques, data analysis and scientific writing, and gain the confidence to continue your higher degree studies and help develop breakthrough medicines or improve medicine use and safety.

With approval from the Faculty Education Committee, you may be able to complete part of your research at an external institution, such as a hospital or an industry laboratory. If a significant portion of your project is conducted externally, you will be assigned an internal main supervisor from the faculty as well as an associate supervisor from the host institution.

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WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

The prerequisite for entry to the Honours year is a bachelor's degree in pharmacy, science, pharmaceutical science, medicinal chemistry, formulation science or a related field. You need to acquire an average overall distinction grade (70 per cent) or higher in the final year of the course, or equivalent qualifications and experience deemed by the Course Coordinator to be suitable preparation for the student's proposed field of study.

For acceptance as an Honours student, the applicant must:

- have a suitable academic background;
- be accepted as a prospective student by a supervisor; and
- have a suitable research project as a basis for the degree studies.

English Language Requirements

All international applicants must meet the minimum English language proficiency requirements set by Monash University. English proficiency standards must be met and results (if applicable) included with the application preferably by the application closing date.

<https://www.monash.edu/admissions/entry-requirements/english-language>

WHAT ARE THE COURSE FEES?

*Fees listed below are correct at the time of printing. Fees are subject to change annually.

Fees for 2026	
Domestic students	Commonwealth supported place (CSP) The average annual student contribution is A\$9537 (2026 rate)
International students	Fees for 2026 are A\$43,500
Other fees	Student services and amenities fees have not been set for 2027. The current fees are A\$373

2027 fees will be released later this year.

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WHAT SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE?

There are no available scholarship opportunities at the Faculty for this course. However, there may be scholarships available Monash-wide. More information can be found at the following website:

[Find a Scholarship – study at Monash University](#)

HOW MANY HONOURS PLACES ARE AVAILABLE?

We do not have a set number of Honours places available. Applicants should find a research project they're interested in and contact the relevant supervisor to discuss their suitability. A supervisor can only take on a maximum of two Honours students per year.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE?

Honours students are to provide their own computer. Honours students must save their data/work onto the University data storage to keep it secure. There will be software packages and IT support available for free, as well as remote access to the University systems.

Students are also provided with laboratory space, equipment and consumables as required for their project. In addition, students will have access to supervisors and other research staff for support and guidance.

HOW MANY HOURS A WEEK ARE INVOLVED?

Honours research is not a standard day. Depending on your experiments, you may find yourself working during the day as well as some evenings and weekends. Experiments may not always run between 9am-5pm. You should discuss and plan your project schedule with your prospective supervisor.

With the exception of public holidays taken by the University, Honours students are expected to work full-time until the end of the course.

You must notify your supervisor and the Faculty Research Office of any leave of absence (such as sick leave or personal leave).

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HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Theme coursework unit	25%
Comprising elements developed by the theme/Faculty	

Research unit	75%
Comprising:	
Written assessment score	50%
Final presentation score	10%
Oral Viva	15%

WHEN WOULD I START?

The Honours year is a one-year course. Honours students will begin on Friday 19 February 2027 and finish in November. The start date may be subject to change. There is no mid-year intake in the Honours program and this course cannot be offered part-time.

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

This course consists of a combination of coursework (25%) and research (75%). In the coursework component you will develop advanced theoretical and/or technical knowledge of the area of research focus within Pharmacy or Pharmaceutical Science, that is, medicinal chemistry, drug discovery biology, formulation science, medicine use and safety, or pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences education.

ARE THE RESEARCH SEMINARS MANDATORY?

MIPS provide seminars on various research topics delivered by research staff and high profile invited guests. These seminars are mandatory for all Honours and graduate research students to attend.

IF I RECEIVE AN OFFER, CAN I DEFER?

For students applying for the Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science (Honours) program, you will not be able to defer your place as your project or supervisor may not be available the following year. If you are not able to commence in the year offered, you are encouraged to maintain contact with your supervisor throughout the course of the year and then reapply.

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IS THERE A STUDENT ASSOCIATION?

Honours students are part of the Monash Parkville Student Union (MPSU).

The Parkville Postgraduate Association (PPA) is another student committee, elected by the students. The association provides advice, coordinates guest speakers, sporting activities and entertainment evenings for post graduate students. Although Honours students are technically undergraduates, the PPA will invite Honours students to some activities as many students continue into the PhD program.

WHAT ARE THE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES?

Our Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Sciences Honours programs aim to provide students with a higher level of experience in independent analysis and research in their selected area. The one-year Honours program also serves as excellent preparation for further study and research and is a pathway to gain entry into the Doctor or Master of Philosophy programs.

This degree will open up exciting opportunities in research and development centres, the pharmaceutical industry and food, agriculture, chemicals, biotechnology and cosmetics companies.

You could work as a medicine researcher and developer, drug analyst, formulation scientist, industry consultant, development chemist, medicinal chemist, patent attorney, academic or clinical-trial specialist.

WHAT HONOURS RESULT DO I NEED TO ACHIEVE TO GAIN ENTRY INTO THE PHD OR MASTER'S RESEARCH PROGRAM?

Doctorate/PhD

Duration: 3-4 years full-time or 6-8-years part-time.

Qualifications and experience equivalent to bachelor's degree in pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences, science or other related field at a level of Honours H1, H2A or a master's degree in pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences or other relevant field.

You need to have first-class Honours (H1), or qualifications considered equivalent, to be considered for all the scholarships listed on the [scholarship eligibility page](#). The H1 standard at Monash is equivalent to an overall grade of 80 per cent or higher.

Master of Philosophy

Duration: 2-years full-time course.

Qualifications and experience equivalent to bachelor's degree in pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences, science or other related field at a level of Honours H1, H2A or upper H2B (a mark of 65 or above from a recognised tertiary institution).

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HOW DO I APPLY?

For entry into the Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science (Honours) ([P3701](#)) in 2027, applicants must complete the following steps:

1. [Check your eligibility](#)
2. Find a [project](#) and supervisor.
3. Complete and submit the application form via [MyApp portal](#) and the [project application form](#).
If you're a non-Monash student, you must also enclose your academic transcripts and supporting documents.

For students enrolled in the Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science Advanced (Honours) ([P3002](#)) program, applicants must complete the following steps:

1. Find a [project](#) and supervisor.
2. Complete and submit the [project application form](#).

WHEN DO APPLICATIONS OPEN AND CLOSE?

Honours applications for 2027 open from August and will close on 4th December 2026.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?

For further information about our Honours programs, available projects and application information, please visit: <https://www.monash.edu/pharm/future/courses/pharmaceutical-science-honours>

For more information, please contact
Faculty Graduate Research Office
Email: pharmsci-honours@monash.edu

Location
Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Monash University [Parkville Campus]
399 Royal Parade, PARKVILLE VIC 3052
www.monash.edu/pharm

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