MSc in Medicinal Natural Products and Phytochemistry

(Formerly MSc in Pharmacognosy)

This programme is designed primarily for biology, chemistry or healthcare graduates who wish to acquire the multidisciplinary expertise needed to research, develop and advise on Medicinal Natural Products as well as to understand their complex chemistry.

An innovative, contemporary and comprehensive approach to Medicinal Natural Products. Its blended design combines lectures, workshops, case tutorials, student-lead seminars, multimedia coursework and more importantly extensive laboratory activities.

95% employability
Students from all continents have already graduated from this unique course. They are equipped with the necessary skills to further their careers in government ministries, universities and the private sector. Many of them successfully pursued a PhD in our laboratories, the UK or overseas.

The programme, led by Dr Jose M. Prieto together with Prof Michael Heinrich, Prof Simon Gibbons and Dr Paul Stapleton is offered by UCL School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical and Biological Chemistry. World-class speakers contribute to the teaching, including Prof M. Simmonds (Kew Gardens), Prof P. Houghton (King's College), and many others.

Programme outline
Full-time, 12 month course (starting in September each year)
Taught modules (4 x 60 credits)
Full time Experimental Project (60 credits)

Core modules include:

- Structural Elucidation
- Bioguided Isolation
- Natural Products Libraries
- Ethnobiology
- Ethnopharmacology
- Traditional Medicinal Systems
- Food and Medicine
- Extraction
- Chromatography
- Spectroscopy
- Spectrometry
- Electrophoresis
- Descriptive Phytochemistry
- Concept and Regulation
- Traditional Herbal Medicinal Products
- Food Supplements
- Their role in Healthcare
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- Food Supplements
- Their role in Healthcare

Entry criteria and suitability
We usually select a small number of students to ensure they receive the best personalised attention throughout their studies. To join us you need a good degree in life or medical sciences from a recognised university (overseas equivalent of a second class UK Bachelor's degree or higher). All applicants whose first language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the IELST.