Undergraduate courses in Chemistry
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Choosing your degree is one of the most important decisions you will make. If you are considering studying Chemistry at the University of Leicester, we hope this brochure will provide you with all the information you need to help make that choice.

Included are details of all the courses we offer, our teaching methods and facilities, along with some of the main career opportunities open to you on completion of your studies.

We are proud of our teaching and research in the Chemistry Department and invite you to visit us on an Open Day or for a UCAS Visit Day to talk to staff and students and have a hands-on experience of our facilities. Details of the University Open Days can be found online at [www.le.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.le.ac.uk/opendays).

We have a reputation as a friendly and supportive department and our aim is to produce highly trained graduates with skills that are valued by employers.

Welcome to the Department of Chemistry

The department is very friendly and accessible with the teaching staff going above and beyond to ensure the students have the best chance of succeeding in whatever career path they choose.

Edward, MChem Chemistry
We continue to focus on high-quality, technically innovative and interactive small group teaching activities.

We have invested in up-to-date facilities for teaching and research. We train our students as high-level users on all of our state of the art equipment throughout the whole degree.

You will benefit from dedicated academic and pastoral support structure and an excellent staff to student ratio.

All of our degrees (BSc & MChem) involve an independent research project in their final year. Some of these academically-led research projects have resulted in previous students having their work published in leading scientific journals.

Our BSc and MChem degree programmes are accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry and have achieved outstanding overall student satisfaction in the National Student Satisfaction survey.

Key Statistics

3rd FOR UK FEEDBACK SATISFACTION IN THE 2018 UNIVERSITY GUIDE

3rd FOR UK TEACHING QUALITY IN THE 2017 TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION AWARDS

4th FOR UK STUDENT EXPERIENCE IN THE 2017 TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION AWARDS

98% AGREE STAFF TO STUDENT CONTACT WAS GOOD IN THE 2016 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY

99% AGREE STAFF ARE GOOD AT EXPLAINING THINGS IN THE 2016 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY

98% AGREE COURSE IS INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATING IN THE 2016 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY
Chemistry Degree Courses

We offer a range of modern and flexible Chemistry degree programmes that are available at MChem (4-year course) and BSc (3-year course) levels. These are tailored to suit individual interests and specialist career aspirations but also ensure that graduates leave with the necessary knowledge and skills to be successful in a diverse range of scientific roles. Many of the transferable skills acquired during the course will make our graduates highly desirable and able to seek employment in all kinds of non-laboratory roles such as marketing, commerce and law.

Course Codes

The course codes and typical A level entry requirements are given below.

**Chemistry BSc**
UCAS code F100 – offer range BBB-ABB

**Chemistry MChem**
UCAS code F105 – offer range ABB-AAB

**Chemistry with a Year in Industry MChem**
UCAS code F106 – offer range ABB-AAB

**Chemistry with a Year Abroad MChem**
UCAS code F107 – offer range ABB-AAB

**Chemistry with Forensic Science BSc**
UCAS code F1F4 – offer range BBB-ABB

**Chemistry with Forensic Science MChem**
UCAS code F1FL – offer range ABB-AAB

**Chemistry with Forensic Science with a Year in Industry MChem**
UCAS code F1F5 – offer range ABB-AAB

**Chemistry with Forensic Science with a Year Abroad MChem**
UCAS code F1FK – offer range ABB-AAB

**Pharmaceutical Chemistry BSc**
UCAS code F154 – offer range BBB-ABB

**Pharmaceutical Chemistry MChem**
UCAS code F150 – offer range ABB-AAB

**Pharmaceutical Chemistry with a Year in Industry MChem**
UCAS code F152 – offer range ABB-AAB

**Pharmaceutical Chemistry with a Year Abroad MChem**
UCAS code F153 – offer range ABB-AAB

Please Note: For A-levels a Pass in Chemistry Practical is required. We recommend a GCSE of A in Maths, but make offers based on a candidate’s full academic profile. The number of science subjects being studied are taken in to account when making offers as is the completion of an EPQ.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Can I change between degree courses?

Changing between the MChem and BSc courses is easy and staff will help you to make your decision within the first two years.

Why study Chemistry with Forensic Science and not just Forensic Science?

Our course offers a firm grounding in analytical chemistry and the scientific and legal principles of forensic science and as such offers a wider range of career prospects on graduation.

What is the difference between Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Chemistry?

Pharmacy is a professional qualification designed to be taken by those wishing to become dispensing pharmacists, whereas Pharmaceutical Chemistry is for those who are interested in developing pharmaceutical products and wish to work in the pharmaceutical industry.

Other Qualifications

We welcome applications from students with qualifications other than A levels. These might include Scottish Highers, the Irish leaving certificate, International, Welsh and European Baccalaureates, BTECS, Cambridge Pre-U, Higher Education Access and Foundation Courses. Please contact the admissions for more information if you have any of these qualifications and you wish to come to Leicester. Various other qualifications from international institutions are also accepted.

www2.le.ac.uk/departments/chemistry/undergraduate-courses
Which Chemistry Degree is the right choice for me?

Chemistry BSc/MChem
Chemistry is the fundamental cornerstone for many economically important industries today, creating a demand for high quality chemistry graduates. The constant desire for innovation, new products and new solutions continually drives forward research and development. By studying the interaction of molecules, their structure and properties, we learn vital information about the world we live in and this offers opportunities to find answers to many of the problems we, as a society, face today.

If you choose to study a Chemistry degree, you will find it is an incredibly exciting science, with substantial hands-on practical work. You will graduate with the skills and expertise that may lead you to make new discoveries. These discoveries can result in advances in many important fields such as health and medicine, energy and the environment, materials and technology or food and agriculture. As a chemistry graduate you will have a diverse range of careers open to you in both laboratory and non-laboratory roles.

Pharmaceutical Chemistry BSc/MChem
The pharmaceutical industry needs scientists with a firm understanding of chemistry together with a knowledge of biochemistry, disease action and drug behaviour. The Pharmaceutical Chemistry degree programme provides you with an excellent grounding in all these areas. It has been designed to cover all aspects of pharmaceutical drug development, from target selection, through to drug discovery and optimisation, to clinical trials and marketing.

If you choose to study a Pharmaceutical Chemistry degree you will, on graduation, be equipped with the skills to work in the pharmaceutical industry or in the health and biomedical sectors. Pharmaceutical Chemists are at the forefront of drug development, design, synthesis, trials and marketing and as one of the largest employer sectors in the UK, a diverse range of careers will be open to you.

Chemistry with Forensic Science BSc/MChem
Improvements in analytical techniques have led to advances in forensic science. Resonance Raman Spectroscopy can be used to detect painting forgeries; DNA fingerprinting, discovered at the University of Leicester, can be used to place a suspect at a scene of crime; modern chromatographic techniques combined with mass spectrometry can be used to detect steroids or their metabolites in urine. These are just some of the many examples of how improvements in chemical analysis have been applied to forensic investigations.

If you choose to study Chemistry with Forensic Science you will gain a good understanding of the applications of chemistry in forensic science. You will have the opportunity to learn about scientific investigations and the legal system alongside the fundamentally important aspects of chemistry. Importantly, this will ensure that on graduation you will have the skills necessary for career prospects in both the forensic science and chemistry sectors.
Chemistry with a Year Abroad or with a Year in Industry

**Year Abroad**

On the MChem Chemistry, Chemistry with Forensic Science and Pharmaceutical Chemistry courses you have the option of spending your third year studying and learning research techniques at a European or American University. Studying abroad is a wonderful and life-changing opportunity, allowing you to experience a different academic climate and immerse yourself in new cultures and lifestyles. As well as enjoying a vibrant social life, your confidence, language skills and global outlook from your year abroad will enhance your career prospects considerably.

Recently for the Year Abroad (Europe) programme students have studied at the University of Liège (Belgium), the Universität Stuttgart (Germany), and the Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (Spain).

For a Year Abroad (USA) students have enjoyed exchange programmes with Colorado State University (Fort Collins), University of Buffalo (New York State), Kent State University (Ohio), University of Florida (Gainesville), University of Kansas (Lawrence) and Oklahoma State University (Stillwater).

Whilst students routinely study abroad in the USA and Europe, it may also be possible to arrange a study year abroad in Canada or China. We recommend you discuss this with your tutor upon registration, but the department cannot guarantee their availability at this time.

During the second year of your course, staff will help you prepare for your year out. For those students attending a university in Europe, language courses will be available to help you prepare for your year abroad.

Frequently Asked Questions:

**Do I get paid while I am in industry?**

All students get paid, although the rate does vary between companies, but the average is around £17,000 pa.

**Are there any grants to help with travel costs?**

For the Year Abroad (Europe) course, the EU pays all students a monthly grant of about €300*†.

*Dependent on the exchange rate
†Continued support via this EU grant will depend on Britain’s Brexit deal and therefore no University is able to guarantee this type of funding post 2018/19.

*www2.le.ac.uk/offices/international/overseas-exchange/outgoing*

**Year in Industry**

For the MChem Chemistry, Chemistry with Forensic Science or Pharmaceutical Chemistry course, you can choose to spend a year working in industry. We have placed students in a number of companies over the years but some of the most recent include: GlaxoSmithCline, Astra Zeneca, 3M, Lubrizol, Pfizer, Nisan, BASF, Mondelez and Sygnature Discovery.

Taking advantage of this opportunity can give you the edge – pick up specialist workplace skills, network with potential employers and get insights into your career path options.

*www.le.ac.uk/stem-placements*
Course Modules

Each degree course offered consists of core and supplementary modules. The core modules are common to all of our courses and these explain the essential fundamental principles of chemistry. The supplementary modules are specific to the degree programme you have chosen and provide training in course specific, specialist areas. These extra modules help to demonstrate the core principles in a range of relevant applications matched to your chosen interest. In years one and two, the degree structure is the same for both the BSc and MChem courses; however, from year three the degree courses advance to follow separate, distinct programmes.

Chemistry Degree Structure

First Year Core Modules
- General Chemistry
- Chemistry Key Skills
- Introduction to Organic Chemistry
- Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry
- Introduction to Physical Chemistry
- Introductory Practical Chemistry

Second Year Core Modules
- Organic Chemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Practical and Key Skills

Note: For Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Chemistry with Forensic Science, the ratio of supplementary modules will be slightly higher and practical modules slightly lower to allow for advanced study of your chosen specialism.
Supplementary Modules

Chemistry is vitally important in so many different aspects of society today so we have developed a range of modern degree programmes specialising in some of these areas. Focusing part of your degree on an allied subject could help your future career aspirations by developing an in-depth knowledge of that field.

The supplementary modules for your degree course will reflect your chosen specialism and allow you to study these additional topics to an advanced level. They also highlight the applications of chemistry in industry and society. In addition, you will have the opportunity to study specialist topics at the forefront of modern chemistry, such as Nanotechnology, Cancer Chemistry, Green Chemistry, Computational Chemistry, Bio-inorganic Chemistry or Earth System Science.

The Pharmaceutical Chemistry supplementary modules integrate the fundamental aspects of chemistry and biochemistry to illustrate the interaction of chemicals in the body. Important topics such as toxicology, molecular modelling and modern methods of drug discovery, including combinatorial chemistry will be studied. The pharmaceutical industry is probably the largest employer of chemistry graduates in the UK.

Chemistry with Forensic Science supplementary modules highlight the interaction of scientific investigation/measurements with the legal system, including the burden of proof and the significance of data. You will learn about forensic investigation procedures with the emphasis on the role of scientific evidence. Examples of other topics covered may include pathology, fire investigation, road traffic accidents, explosives detection, DNA fingerprinting and advanced analytical techniques.
Teaching Methods

All of the courses are modular, meaning your learning is subdivided into specific modules with separate learning outcomes. Throughout these modules you will encounter a variety of teaching and assessment styles and will receive continuous feedback on your work and progress. To support our students we provide all lecture notes and laboratory manuals, and make extensive use of our virtual learning environment. All of the courses are linked to this virtual environment, giving you on and off campus access to lecture notes, practice problems, self-test exercises, supplementary information and the recordings of your lectures.

Lectures

All courses contain a number of lectures but these can have different teaching styles depending on the course content. They are generally interactive and may contain web-based delivery and demonstrations. All of our lectures are captured, allowing you to watch them as many times as you like.

Tutorials

For tutorial work, small groups of up to six students meet with an academic to work through pre-prepared answers to questions that have been set on lecture material. These sessions provide opportunities for you to raise and work through any difficulties you may be experiencing with a particular topic.

Problem Classes

Like tutorials, these usually revolve around a series of problems. However, in contrast to tutorials the problem sheets are handed out at the beginning of the class and are solved by working in small groups as a team. The element of teamwork and peer-to-peer learning during these sessions is particularly useful. Several academics will supervise these sessions and provide constant help & support.

Problem Based Learning (PBL)

PBL workshops are aimed at getting you to think about the underlying reasons for a given problem, the result being that you gain a deeper understanding into the theory involved. These workshops are also designed to develop important transferable skills valued by employers such as communication, teamwork and problem solving.
Laboratory Classes

Chemistry is, of course, a very practical subject and so there is a strong emphasis on the acquisition of laboratory skills. In your first and second year, this will take the form of instruction and practice in some key fundamental laboratory techniques. This will include the preparation and purification of compounds, the use of sophisticated modern equipment and instrumentation and the analysis of unknown compounds. The practical and analytical skills developed during this time will be fully utilised during your third and fourth year, when you will undertake a more in-depth research project.

A Typical Week

A typical week might include nine hours of lectures, seven hours of laboratory work and two or three workshops or tutorials. In addition, although not timetabled, you are expected to spend some hours each week on private study, which will include preparation for tutorials and the writing up of laboratory reports.

Assessment

You will be assessed by a variety of methods based on the following:

- **Examinations**
  These are usually taken at the end of the module.

- **Coursework**
  All modules include some in-course assessment.

- **Laboratory work**
  All laboratory work is continually assessed i.e., there are no practical examinations.

- **Research projects in your third or fourth year**
  These are assessed on various factors, including effort, quality of results, the written report and an oral examination.
Resources and Facilities

Instrumentation and Specialist Facilities

Carrying out cutting-edge chemistry requires access to specialised equipment and facilities. This includes modern instrumentation for chemical analysis, and knowledge and experience of these instruments is an important part of your training as a chemist. We have invested in a wide variety of modern analytical equipment, including numerous small instruments such as FTIR spectrometers, UV-Vis spectrometers and gas chromatographs, through to more major specialised items such as high-field NMR spectrometers, mass spectrometers, an atomic force microscope, holographic microscopes and an X-ray diffractometer.

You will encounter all these and much more during your studies, gaining hands on experience and an understanding of their applications to real life situations. The department also has technical support from its own mechanical, electronic and glassblowing workshops, which enables bespoke solutions to practical research problems.

Laboratories

The department has a large teaching laboratory (Synthetic and Physical) that can accommodate up to 120 students in a session, and you will use this lab regularly. It is a well equipped facility with modern fumehoods, specialist glassware and an instrument room containing a variety of spectrometers. We have many additional research-specific laboratories, which provide state-of-the-art facilities, and you will use these facilities for your practical research project during your third or fourth year.

Lecture Theatres

The main Chemistry building houses three lecture theatres. Consequently, most chemistry teaching can be self-contained within the department. These are all equipped with lecture recording equipment and the latest software/hardware for teaching.

Computers

Computers will form an important part of your training. The University has plenty of open access, networked PCs available for use in many different locations around the campus, including the library and the halls of residence. Within the Department of Chemistry we have a dedicated open access computer suite containing all-new PCs, which are linked to the central server and powerful mainframe computer. An enormous range of software is accessible, including graphical analysis tools and specialised chemistry programs, for example, Chemdraw. In addition, you will have access to the Virtual Learning Environment and a University email account for use during your studies.

Molecular Modelling Room/Reading Room

The department has a number of quiet study areas including the Molecular Modelling Lab and the Reading Room. Both rooms can be used for tutorials, problem classes, seminars, group discussions or just a quiet place to study. The Reading Room contains a number of textbooks and reference books, which students may use at any time. Other books and reference material can be found in the University’s award winning Main Library or they can be found online via numerous databases and electronic libraries readily accessible through your university IT account.

I really enjoyed my four years at Leicester in the Chemistry Department, and I wouldn’t swap them for anything.

Karl, MChem Chemistry
A Message from ChemSoc

ChemSoc provides a social and academic support system within the department. Providing chemists with the chance to socialise between years and get to know one another better outside of lectures. Run by the students, for the students, ChemSoc arranges a wide variety of events. These include academic events, such as exam revision sessions run by students and trips to other universities, as well as a wide range of socials from laser-tag and curry nights to the ever popular Fresher’s Welcome bar crawl.

The annual ChemSoc ball is also a massive event in our social calendar, with everyone getting dressed up and partying with students from all years, as well as post graduates and even staff members. The ball is most often held at the stunning City Rooms and is always a fun way to end the spring term.

ChemSoc also has football and netball teams which compete in the university intramural sports against other departments, more recently adding a dodgeball team.

With such a large range of activities on offer, and with more ideas and events being added all the time, there is sure to be something you will enjoy. We’re always open for suggestions however, so if you choose to study chemistry at Leicester and there is something that you want to see, whether an event or a new sports team, then make sure to get in touch and ChemSoc will do their best to make it happen.
Research in the Chemistry Department

All of the academic staff in the Department of Chemistry are active in discovering new science as well as teaching it. This has a direct impact on the teaching programme, not only because you are being taught by experts in their field, but also because it offers exciting opportunities for your own research in your final year project. To fund research the department consistently attracts financial support for its research activities from the major UK research councils, from charities such as the Cancer Research Campaign, and directly from companies including BP, GlaxoSmithKline, Rolls Royce and AstraZeneca.

Final Year Research Project

In your final year, you will be able to undertake a laboratory project in the research group of an academic member of staff. This will introduce you to cutting-edge research and challenge you to test out your practical and theoretical skills on an interesting and exciting project relevant to your degree programme. For BSc students the project will be for one semester, while for MChem students their research project is more substantial and will run for two semesters.

Postgraduate Research Opportunities

The departments runs both a MSc and PhD programme. Graduates may apply to stay on at Leicester to continue their studies for these awards.

More detailed information on our research activities can be found on the web at: www.le.ac.uk/chemistry
The Department is highly renowned for six main areas of research:

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<th>Atmospheric Chemistry and Earth Observation Science</th>
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<td>- Air Quality Monitoring</td>
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<td>- Volatile Organic Compounds</td>
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<td>- Formation of Secondary Organic Aerosols</td>
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<td>- Real-Time Air Fingerprinting Technology</td>
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<td>- Medical Diagnostics</td>
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<td>- Night-Time Chemistry</td>
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<td>- Greenhouse Gas Measurement</td>
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<td>- Mechanism and Design</td>
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<td>- Biotechnology</td>
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<td>- Synthetic Biology</td>
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<td>- Sensors and Imaging</td>
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<td>- Molecular Simulations</td>
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<td>- Computational Chemistry</td>
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<td>- Biospectroscopy</td>
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<td>- Optical Tweezers</td>
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<td>- Molecular Spectroscopy</td>
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<td>- Nanomaterials</td>
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<td>- C-H Activation</td>
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<td>- Fluorine Chemistry</td>
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<td>- Fluorous Biphase Catalysis</td>
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<td>- Polymerisation Catalysis</td>
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<th>Learning Enhancement and Pedagogy</th>
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<td>- Effective and innovative teaching approaches</td>
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<td>- Impact of sustained outreach</td>
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<td>- Performance gain of digital prelab activities</td>
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<th>Materials and Interfaces</th>
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<td>- Synthetic Soft Matter</td>
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<th>Some Examples of Typical Chemistry Graduate Careers</th>
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<td><strong>Chemistry</strong></td>
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<td>- Petrochemical Research</td>
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<td>- Material Chemist</td>
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<td>- Polymer Chemist</td>
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<td>- Speciality Chemicals</td>
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<td>- Marine Chemist</td>
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<td><strong>Pharmaceutical Chemistry</strong></td>
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<td>- Pharmaceutical Chemist</td>
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<td>- Toxicologist</td>
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<td><strong>Chemistry with Forensic Science</strong></td>
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<td>- Forensic Scientist</td>
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<td>- Fraud Investigator</td>
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<td>- Customs and Excise</td>
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<td>- Immigration</td>
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<td>- Trading Standards Scientist</td>
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<td>- Sports Doping Agency</td>
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- **Sustainable Synthesis and Catalysis**
  - Asymmetric Catalysis
  - C-H Activation
  - Fluorine Chemistry
  - Fluorous Biphase Catalysis
  - Polymerisation Catalysis

- **Learning Enhancement and Pedagogy**
  - Effective and innovative teaching approaches
  - Impact of sustained outreach
  - Performance gain of digital prelab activities
  - Key skills as part of the curriculum
Results of the Recent Leavers Survey

The majority of our graduates choose to go on to further study or enter a scientific career after completing their degree. However, some choose to use the transferable skills acquired during the course of their degree to enter alternative sectors of employment. The chart shown below outlines the primary destinations recorded several months after completion of their studies for our recent graduates.

Destination of Leavers

Examples of job titles for students entering their first employment

- Oil Broker
- Associate Project Manager (Drug Development)
- Software Developer
- Technical Service Chemist
- Senior Development Technologist
- Process Manager Trainee

Examples of courses entered by students undertaking further study

- PhD Chemistry
- MSc Chemistry
- PGCE Science

Key Statistics

- **105** places
- **570** applications
- **94%** employability
- **95%** overall student satisfaction in the 2016 National Student Survey

10th in the 2018 Guardian League Table for Chemistry
Tell us about your career path since graduation?

Immediately after graduation I took a job as a data analyst with the Zeta Compliance Group Ltd., based in Bicester. This was only a temporary role, which I held during the Summer just before I joined the University of Warwick to start my research PhD degree. I started my PhD in September 2014, and this is where I have been ever since. My PhD is due to finish March 2018 and after that I intend to pursue a career in academia, with a strong bias towards teaching in higher education.

How did studying at Leicester help you?

Apart from the good quality chemistry degree that I obtained from Leicester, my time there also gave me many other transferable skills due to the part-time work I was doing. The Students’ union was crucial in this sense, because there were so many part-time roles that were designed to be filled by students only and were, therefore, very flexible in terms of how much time you are asked to work for and how long the shifts were. For me, this was as important in terms of financial support as it was in terms of getting on-the-job skills and enriching my CV.

Studying at Leicester was also an ideal combination of studying at a great university that was up there in the rankings while also living in an affordable town.
What is your favourite memory of studying at Leicester?

I don’t think I could pick a favourite memory. I have many memories of good times spent with friends, good nights out, good shifts working at the O₂ and so on. I also have (if you can believe it) good memories of being in the library during revision season, fun lab sessions, interesting lectures and some fantastic lecturers. Studying at Leicester was an all-round positive experience and I look back at it with nostalgia.

How well did Leicester prepare you for the challenges that you have faced, or will face, in your career?

Especially considering the fact that I ended up doing a PhD after my degree, my two final years at Leicester – my placement and masters years – were essential to get where I am now. The opportunity to work at the Science and Technology Facilities Council in Oxfordshire for a year put me in touch with state-of-the-art scientific research and made me feel part of the scientific community like never before. This placement made it clear in my mind what I wanted to do next, and what I needed to do to get there; it also made my masters (final) year easier in terms of practical, research and scientific writing skills. These two years involved a lot of work but I felt supported throughout and I believe that they gave my CV the edge it needed to make me stand out in the crowd.

What is the best, most exciting or fun thing that you have done in your career?

Doing a PhD has been a real journey – from student to academic – it hasn’t always been easy but it has certainly been exciting and experiencing the change in myself and how I approach science has been very rewarding.

Why would you recommend undertaking a course with University of Leicester?

One of the things that really made Leicester the place for me was the support that I always had – both from the department of chemistry and the students union. Because I am an EU student, I didn’t have the chance to go on an open day, but I came to Leicester well before term started and went to visit the chemistry department and Debbie (not sure if she still works there, but what a star!) took a few minutes of her time to show me around. It was my first day ever in the department and from then on the welcoming feeling became the norm: the support staff where always helpful, the lecturers would reply to e-mails and be happy for you to see them with your problems, and I felt the department really listened to student feedback. As far as the SU was concerned I needed financial support at times during my degree and they were my rock, I really felt they were there for me and weren’t going to let me fall in bad times in that sense. Studying at Leicester was like having a massive team all there to support me to achieve my goal – and so I did!

What advice would you give to anyone wanting to get in to the same line of work?

The best advice I can give to anyone – at any stage in their degree, and independently of what line of work they want to follow, really – is to plan ahead. It really makes a difference to keep in mind what you want to do with your degree at the end so that you can make sure you look for and take all the opportunities you can to get involved with something that prepares your CV to what you want to do after you graduate. If you are not sure what you want to do in the future, then taking these opportunities during your degree might also help you decide. The important thing is that you don’t leave it to the last minute. I know it’s hard keeping up with everything and looking for these opportunities and/or jobs at the same time, but you don’t want to find yourself in a situation where the time to apply has already gone by the time you start looking. Get the ball rolling early!

Is there anything else which you would like to share with our current or prospective students?

I was a student-worker so it was really difficult for me to get involved in student activities while studying at Leicester and it is one of my greatest regrets, even though I know I couldn’t really have done it differently at the time. However, if you can, get involved! There is so much happening and the Leicester Students’ Union is fantastic, so please make the most of it!
My four years studying chemistry here have been amazing because of the genuine enthusiasm and love of teaching by the lecturers.

Rowan, Pharmaceutical Chemistry with a Year in Industry
Student Life

Campus
On our bustling compact campus, it’s impossible to walk from one end to the other without bumping into someone you know along the way. Our campus is a vibrant community, with all manner of places to meet, eat and drink, as well as study. We’re committed to providing you with high quality facilities and resources that meet the needs of modern and ambitious students.

Students’ Union
The Students’ Union is brimming with opportunities that will make your time at Leicester unforgettable. The Percy Gee building boasts superb facilities, including the fantastic live music venue, O2 Academy Leicester. You are encouraged to get involved with the Students’ Union – there are over 200 student societies covering a huge range – sport, politics, media, performing arts and much, much more. It’s a great way of meeting new people, gaining skills or trying something completely different!

www.leicesterunion.com

Accommodation
Our accommodation offers you a wide variety of choice, whether you fancy self-catered or catered, en-suite or shared bathroom facilities.

www.le.ac.uk/accommodation

Private accommodation is available through our lettings agency, SUlets.

www.sulets.com
Sports Facilities
You can enjoy a workout, take a swim or build up a sweat in a fitness class at our modern sports centres on campus or at Manor Road (next to our accommodation). You can also get involved with our sports clubs, which welcome members of all abilities. Keen competitors can represent the University through Team Leicester, the hotly-contested Varsity matches and our thriving Intramural events.

www.le.ac.uk/sports

Library
Our award-winning David Wilson Library is a light, airy, five-storey building providing state-of-the-art services. The Library is a first-class study environment with wireless access throughout, 24/5 opening during term-time, hundreds of PCs, laptop loans, group study rooms, support staff and a café. Our digital library, available 24/7 on and off campus, contains over 800,000 eBooks, 65,000 electronic journals and online support services. The Library is home to over one million printed volumes and extensive collections of rare books and archives.

Our Librarians have created online guides to help you find information for your coursework and we invest over £7 million each year in the Library to make sure that you have the resources and services you need.

www.le.ac.uk/library

Attenborough Arts Centre
The Attenborough Arts Centre is the University’s own arts centre, offering a vibrant programme of events, music, spoken word, and exhibitions in its new gallery and performance spaces. Attenborough Arts offers you the chance to try something new, from a variety of arts courses to hula hoop dancing or creative writing. There are special discounts for students. Or if you just want a break from your studies you can enjoy free lunchtime music performances or have a drink at the café.

www.attenborougharts.com
The City of Leicester

Leicester is a lively and diverse city and the tenth largest in Britain. It has all the activities and facilities you would expect, with a friendly and safe atmosphere. The city centre is just a short walk from campus so you’ll never be far from the action.

Leicester’s diverse heritage is reflected in a dazzling array of festivals and cultural experiences including one of the largest Diwali celebrations outside India, the UK’s longest running Comedy Festival and the University’s hugely successful book festival – Literary Leicester.

Leicester is home to several cinemas, theatres, museums and galleries, including the world-class Curve Theatre and independent Phoenix Square.

A city of sporting excellence, sports fans will need no introduction to the remarkable Leicester City and their phenomenal Premier League title victory and Champions League adventure. You can also watch top-class English and European rugby at Welford Road, home of the mighty Leicester Tigers. The Leicester Riders are a formidable presence in the British Basketball League (BBL), and during the summer months, Leicestershire County Cricket Club competes in the county championship and T20 Blast competition.

For shoppers, Highcross features 110,000 square metres of retail therapy, café bars and restaurants. Those with independent tastes should explore Leicester Lanes with its variety of boutiques and specialist shops.

As you would expect from a true student city, there is a huge choice of bars, clubs and live music venues that cater for all preferences. Food lovers are treated to a fantastic selection of restaurants, with specialities available from every corner of the world.

In the lanes you’ve got all these little old boutiques that sell vintage clothes and things you wouldn’t expect to find in your general high street stores.
The city is big enough that it will take you three years to discover everything about it, but it’s small enough so you won’t be completely lost the entire time you are here.
This brochure was published in June 2017. The University of Leicester endeavours to ensure that the content of its prospectus, programme specification, website content and all other materials are complete and accurate. On occasion it may be necessary to make some alterations to particular aspects of a course or module, and where these are minor, for example altering the lecture timetable or location, then we will ensure that you have as much notice as possible of the change to ensure that the disruption to your studies is minimised. However, in exceptional circumstances it may be necessary for the University to cancel or change a programme or part of the specification more substantially. For example, due to the unavailability of key teaching staff, changes or developments in knowledge or teaching methods, the way in which assessment is carried out, or where a course or part of it is over-subscribed to the extent that the quality of teaching would be affected to the detriment of students. In these circumstances, we will contact you as soon as possible and in any event will give you 30 days written notice before the relevant change is due to take place. Where this occurs, we will also and in consultation with you, offer you an alternative course or programme (as appropriate) or the opportunity to cancel your contract with the University and obtain a refund of any advance payments that you have made. Full Terms and Conditions and Senate Regulations governing our teaching programmes can be found here: www.le.ac.uk/offer-terms.