CHOOSING A COURSE
Students with a passion for science can use this interest to help people hear and start a career in this rapidly developing area of the NHS.

Audiology is a patient-centred profession involving hearing, balance and function, and providing individualised rehabilitative care.

The Healthcare Science (Audiology) course at The University of Manchester starts with a broad introduction to the subject and other closely related healthcare science areas, such as neurophysiology and vision sciences. As students progress through the course, the focus will shift towards specific areas of audiology.

Students can expect to study units in:

- Neurosensory systems
- Communication skills
- Adult aural rehabilitation
- Balance assessments

**MANCHESTER TIP**

- This course is led by members of the Manchester Centre for Audiology and Deafness (ManCAD), an internationally recognised multi-million pound hearing research programme.

- The audiology and deaf education departments at Manchester work together to provide students with a better understanding of hearing loss.
Audiology is a patient-centred profession providing individualised rehabilitative care involving hearing and balance.

Careers opportunities are excellent in the UK and abroad. Audiologists can work in a variety of roles and settings, including:

- newborn hearing screener
- hearing aid audiologist
- healthcare science practitioner
- clinical scientist.

Students may also choose to undertake further training to specialise in areas such as balance assessment and rehabilitation, tinnitus or cochlear implants.

Some graduates undertake further study such as the MSc in Advanced Audiology Studies at Manchester, the NHS Scientist Training Programme (STP) or a PhD.

There are range of career opportunities students can take up beyond being an audiologist, including:

- entry into a fast-track medicine programme, dentistry and other health-related professions;
- equipment developer;
- researcher at a university;
- consultant;
- other health-related professions.

Graduates are eligible to register with professional bodies including the Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP) and Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) after completing our course.

Students can undertake further study such as the Master’s in Advanced Audiology Studies or a PhD.
UK universities typically offer a large range of biosciences courses.

Although many of these courses are related, the exact content will be different, and course content will vary across the universities even if they share the same course name and UCAS code.

Students can choose to study more general courses or specialist courses. To illustrate this, here are the course options at The University of Manchester.

### Biological sciences

**General:**
- biology
- life sciences

**Specialism:**
- biochemistry
- biotechnology
- genetics
- microbiology
- zoology

**Joint honours:**
- biology with science and society

### Biomedical sciences

**General:**
- biomedical sciences
- life sciences

**Specialism:**
- immunology
- medical biochemistry
- medical physiology
- molecular biology
- neuroscience
- pharmacology

**Joint honours:**
- cognitive neuroscience and psychology

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**Manchester Tip**

The first year is common across most biosciences. Students can change courses (within biosciences) at the end of the first year to focus on what they find most interesting.

Many of our courses can also be studied with a foundation year, integrated master’s, a modern language, industrial/professional experience or entrepreneurship.

[http://uom.link/bio-courses](http://uom.link/bio-courses)
Bioscience graduates can go into a diverse range of careers in laboratories and clinical and technical roles. The transferable skills they develop will also prepare students to work in careers outside the lab.

**Scientific research**
- Researcher in a non-profit organisation or research institution.
- Roles within a university combining research and teaching.
- Progress within a commercial organisation (e.g., biotechnology company).

**Clinical and technical**
- Healthcare (e.g., biomedical scientist in the NHS, clinical scientist).
- Safety or quality control for organisations (e.g., food companies, medical supplies, cosmetics, utilities).
- Roles within forensic science labs.

**Science education, communication and policy**
- Creative roles, science communication and publishing.
- Website management and content.
- Various roles in museums.
- Scientific adviser for the government or civil service.

**Science administration and sales**
- Science or healthcare administration.
- Clinical trials representatives.
- Patent and intellectual property attorneys.

**Science in the field and conservation**
- Environment related roles.
- Ecologist.
- Conservation officer.

**Manchester Tip**
15 months after graduation, 83%* of graduates find a graduate-level job or are in further education.

**Our students have gone to work for:**
- NHS
- AstraZeneca
- Cabinet Office
- Unilever
- BBC
- National Trust
- Costa Rica
- Sloth Sanctuary

*The Guardian University league table 2021
MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

Application process:

• Students wanting to apply to medicine and dentistry will need to submit their UCAS application form by 15 October.
• They will need to do the UCAT exam and have work experience before applying.
• Below is a timeline of the application process from a University of Manchester perspective – other universities have a similar process.

Choosing a fifth choice:
Students applying to medicine and dentistry can only choose up to four medical/dental schools. For their fifth UCAS choice they can:
• Leave it blank.
• Choose an unrelated course (eg history, management, etc).
• Choose a related course (eg biomedical sciences, neuroscience, etc).

15 October deadline
Academic sift
UCAT sift
Multiple mini interviews
Offer

MANCHESTER TIP

After students submit their UCAS form, we will send them a Non-Academic Information Form that they will need to complete.

Students learn through problem-based learning, standard lectures, seminars and tutorials, hospital placements, and full-body anatomy.
Almost invariably, dental graduates apply for one year Dental Foundation Year 1 (DFY1) training posts when they graduate. These are salaried posts in NHS general dental practices, comprising of four or five days per week of clinical work and 30 days of professional study over the year.

Each DFY1 is mentored by a dental trainer in the same practice. All training practices are inspected to ensure they are of a required standard.

After graduating a student would expect to follow:

Graduation → Foundation Year → Employment (NHS or private) → Specialist training (optional)

We offer careers advice throughout the dental course, with much of this concentrated in Year 5, helping students prepare for the Foundation Dentistry selection process.
At the end of a medicine undergraduate degree, students will receive a primary medical qualification, which will entitle the student to provisional registration with the General Medical Council (GMC). Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 posts, for which the student will need to apply during the final year of their undergraduate degree.

The GMC is currently considering the introduction of a formal assessment that UK medical graduates would need to pass to be granted registration with a licence to practise. No final decision has been taken as to whether exams will be introduced, but applicants should be aware of the potential change.

In summary, a medical graduate will go through the following stages:

- **Graduation**
- **Foundation Year 1 and Year 2**
- **Core medical training, 2 years**
- **Specialist training, 2-8 years (eg GP, neurosurgeon, etc)**

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**Manchester Tip**

£31k

Six months after graduating, Manchester students earn an average of £31,000*

Students at The University of Manchester have the opportunity to intercalate and increase their employability.

*theuniguide.co.uk
NURSING

The nursing degrees at The University of Manchester are 50% practical and 50% theoretical. Nursing students can also choose to do the bachelors, or the integrated master’s degrees.

Taking on the primary care of patients and their families, nurses are an important part of the health services. Nurses combine their medical expertise with an attentive and supporting nature to look after the physical, psychological and social needs of every patient.

Students can choose one of four main specialisms to study at undergraduate level:
- adult nursing
- children nursing
- mental health nursing
- learning disability nursing (not offered at The University of Manchester).

Students can expect to study units in:
- introduction to clinical care
- physiology for health
- epidemiology
- complex care
- critical care
- public health
- planning patient care.

MANCHESTER TIP

50%

The nursing degrees at The University of Manchester are 50% practical and 50% theoretical. Nursing students can also choose to do the bachelors, or the integrated master’s degrees.

6th & 3rd

The University of Manchester is ranked 5th in the world and 2nd in the UK for Nursing (QS World University Rankings 2023).
With a shortage of nurses in the UK, and in many other countries, a nursing degree will offer students fantastic employment options, both in public and private healthcare.

Whether in the NHS or private sector, a nursing degree will see most graduates start their careers as a nurse.

Nursing graduates can choose to progress into different careers and specialisms:

- A&E nurse
- Surgical nurse
- District nurse
- Paramedic
- Health visitor
- Management
- Research
- Education.

A UK-registered nursing qualification is recognised in many countries around the world and provides potential opportunities for travel and work abroad.

Manchester Tip

98%

15 months after graduation, 98%* of Manchester graduates find a graduate-level job or are in further education.

During the course, students will have access to dedicated academic employability staff with professional contacts who bring students and NHS staff together.

*The Guardian league table 2021
As one of the five senses sight is hugely important. In a modern world filled with digital screens it is increasingly necessary for everyone to have access to specialist eye care and attend regular eye check-ups. Optometrists are trained to examine the eye, to detect and diagnose any abnormalities and diseases, and to prescribe glasses and contact lenses.

Optometry is an ever-evolving field. As with most science-based degrees, optometry can be intense and challenging but it will also be rewarding and interesting throughout. Students will learn through lectures, seminars, group work, placements, and will be assessed through a variety of means, including practical work, presentations and exams.

**Students can expect to study units in:**

- Physical and visual optics
- Mathematics for optometry
- Pharmacology
- Anatomy and physiology
- Anatomy of the eye
- Optometric examination

The University of Manchester is ranked 1st in the world for Optometry (QS world university ranking 2024).

Students will be able to gain experience at the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital – one of Europe’s biggest eye teaching hospitals.
Studying optometry can lead to an exciting and varied career. Students will put their knowledge into practice with diverse placement opportunities and will learn about the issues that can affect eyesight. This may lead students on to further studies, with options to specialise and gain further qualifications in areas such as glaucoma, independent prescribing, low vision or research.

Optometrists are now also involved in the primary care of patients with diseases such as diabetes and glaucoma. This has given rise to more emphasis on the study and management of these conditions.

Students will have the unique opportunity to complete an integrated master’s where successful students do not need to undertake the pre-registration year, leading to direct registration with the General Optical Council.
Pharmacy degrees are designed to train and license students to dispense prescription medicines and become a pharmacist.

A pharmacy undergraduate degree will equip students with a wide range of technical skills and scientific knowledge.

Pharmacy undergraduate degrees are usually a mixture of practical and theoretical elements.

Integrated science and practice: gain workplace experience in a range of settings and different sectors and an understanding of how to apply your knowledge to solve clinical problems.

Varied teaching and learning: enquiry-based learning workshops, lectures, tutorials, practical classes, group assignments, interactive online learning and research project.

Improve your skills: develop your consultation, clinical decision-making, professional and leadership skills to work effectively with patients and other healthcare professionals.

Body system focus: course units are organised by body system, increasing in complexity year on year. Within each block, learn about medicine design, disease management, professional skills and clinical practice.

Manchester Tip

We have a foundation year that prepares students who do not have the right qualifications for our pharmacy degree.
Students can feel confident that they are progressing into a career in which there will always be a need for their services when they complete a pharmacy degree.

To be able to use the title of pharmacist in the UK, students will need to register with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). Membership is granted to graduates with a degree in pharmacy from a UK university who have completed a year’s training at an approved establishment and passed a registration exam set by GPhC.

Pharmacy offers a variety of interesting careers with the possibility of flexible working across several sectors, including:

- community pharmacy (high street)
- hospital pharmacy
- industrial pharmacy
- clinical pharmacy
- regulatory pharmacy
- academic research.

Pharmacy graduates can also go on to work in:

- primary care
- NHS
- journalism and medical communication
- agricultural and veterinary pharmacy
- prison and army services
- forensic science.

91%

15 months after graduation, 91%* of Manchester graduates go on to work or further study.

During their degree, Manchester students get to experience placements in different areas, including in local hospitals and in the community.

*Discover Uni
Psychology undergraduate courses at UK universities and colleges can focus on scientific research or applied psychology.

Research-focused degrees will study perception, developmental psychology, cognition and behavioural neuroscience.

Applied courses will study neurorehabilitation, education and health.

The University of Manchester’s psychology course is split into four themes:

**Mind and Brain**: units on cognition to understand brain mechanisms and processes underlying learning and memory.

**Evolution and Development**: units focusing on how people change throughout their lifespan and how human development differs from that of other animals.

**Adaptability and Wellbeing**: units exploring mental health, criminal behaviour and how we can influence choices important to wellbeing.

**Psychology in Society**: units examining society through a psychological lens, covering a range of topics in social psychology, politics, the workplace and forensic settings.

Our psychology degree is accredited by the British Psychological Society.
Gaining a BPS-accredited psychology degree is the first step toward a professional psychology career (eg clinical, counselling, health, forensic, organisational, educational or sports psychology).

The skills that students develop during a psychology degree are highly valued by many employers (eg data handling, critical thinking, analysis and communication).

As a result, psychology graduates have a wide range of options, including:

- Marketing
- Academic research
- Social work
- Consulting
- Journalism
- Counselling
- Mental health nursing
- Roles in the police and prison service

**MANCHESTER TIP**

Students have the opportunity to enhance their employability with access to career consultants, work placements and the ability to swap psychology units for those offered by the University’s College for Interdisciplinary Learning.

www.college.manchester.ac.uk
Public health is all about understanding how people’s surroundings impact their health, lifestyle choices, wellbeing, and mental wellbeing. An undergraduate degree in public health will show students how to protect, promote, and improve the health and wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities in the UK and abroad.

At The University of Manchester, there are five main units:

- **Evidence Based Practice**
  Students will learn how to use and review evidence from published literature to inform their work.

- **Global Health**
  The differences between global and public health will be explored and students will learn about how policies and practices are developed.

- **Health Promotion**
  Student will explore the importance of health promotion in public health practice and learn how it improves population health and wellbeing.

- **Health Protection**
  This unit will look at the causes of infection and how to protect against these using vaccinations.

- **Healthcare Public Health**
  Students will learn more about inequalities in health and the history behind it while developing their knowledge of how to reduce inequalities.

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**Manchester Tip**

- Students can decide to do the course on campus or online, full-time or part-time. The flexibility of our course will enable students to study around other commitments.

- Students can access additional learning opportunities through the WHO Geneva Winter school and an annual international conference.

- Students can tailor their learning through personalised plans and optional units.
A career in public health offers diverse opportunities in a variety of settings within health protection, health promotion and public health.

Becoming a public health practitioner will make students adaptable and flexible people, with a broad experience in a range of subject areas.

This course is a great step towards a career in the following roles:

- Public health practitioner or manager
- Consultant in public health
- Epidemiologist
- Biostatistician
- Health educator
- Public health researcher or statistician
- Health visitor
- Community development worker
- Environmental health worker
- Transport development worker
- Housing officer
- Lecturer in public health
- Communicable disease consultant
- Health protection specialist

Manchester Tip

- Bursaries are available to BSc Public Health graduates who may wish to take our Master of Public Health postgraduate course.
- Our BSc Public Health students will have access to all of our paid PPD (personal professional development) courses for free.
Speech and language therapists provide life-changing treatment, support and care for children and adults with speech, language, communication, eating, drinking or swallowing disorders.

Speech and language therapists help people who have problems due to physical or psychological reasons.

Speech and language therapy could be the right course for students who enjoy science, education, languages, linguistics and/or medicine.

Students at The University of Manchester learn through interactive, enquiry-based teaching and will study theoretical and clinical-focused units.

Throughout the degree, students will experience a range of speech, language, communication, and swallowing disorders while on placement.

These disorders could include:
- Development language disorder
- Dysfluency (stammering)
- Dysphonia (voice disorders)
- Reading and writing disorders
- Aphasia (language disorder following a stroke or other trauma)
- Speech Sound Disorder (SSD)

Manchester Tip

The university is partner with over 66 organisations in the north-west of England, allowing students to gain extensive placement experience.
Speech and Language Therapy: Careers and Employability

Speech and language therapists experience varied careers and can choose to work in many areas supporting and caring for people of all ages. Roles may focus on speech, language, communication, eating, drinking, or swallowing disorders to improve people’s quality of life. Specialist areas also exist, such as supporting trans and non-binary people as they retrain their speech.

Once qualified, students could progress into roles in hospitals, schools or pre-schools, rehabilitation units, in the community and in clients’ homes, prisons or young offenders institutions.

Speech and language therapists are allied health professionals. They will typically work as part of a multidisciplinary team, alongside other healthcare professionals to meet the needs of a patient.

Graduates may choose to work in:

- stroke rehabilitation centres;
- community settings such as clinics;
- schools, nurseries and colleges;
- paediatric assessment centres.

Manchester Tip

Students will be able to register with the Health and Care Professions Council and the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists after graduation.
There are many more options for students who are interested in a career in healthcare. For most clinical careers entry is through a degree approved by a regulatory body. Most of these degrees will be vocational and, as a result, will be a mixture of theory and practice.

UK universities offer a wide range of options for students, including:

- dietetics (nutrition)
- midwifery
- occupational therapy
- osteopathy
- paramedic science
- physiotherapy
- podiatry
- prosthetics and orthotics

However, the healthcare sector employs many non-clinical staff who have different academic backgrounds.

Manchester’s healthcare courses are all accredited by the relevant governing body and offer students a mixture of practical and theoretical studies.

All of our healthcare programmes offer clinical and practical experience from Year 1 and prepare students to enter the profession after graduation.
A lot of undergraduate courses offer additional opportunities to enhance students’ learning including:

- a year in industry
- studying a language
- studying abroad
- studying units outside the main course discipline.

Other opportunities may exist outside of the course, including:
- studying a language
- summer internships.

Students should consider all the options offered by universities when they are choosing where to study.

MANCHESTER TIP

The Stellify award recognises students who have completed all Stellify action points. Students will take part in ethical challenges, leadership activities and social, educational, health, environmental and cultural volunteering programmes.

Do more, be more

STELLIFY