Discover Life Sciences at the University of Dundee
9 reasons to study Life Sciences in Dundee

1. Best in the UK for Biological Sciences Research

Dundee is the top University in the UK for Biological Sciences according to the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014), the national system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions over a 5-year period.

2. Degree programmes accredited by the Royal Society of Biology

All of our degree programmes have been accredited by the Royal Society of Biology.

Degree accreditation by the Royal Society of Biology recognises academic excellence in the biosciences, and highlights degrees that provide a solid academic foundation in biological knowledge and equip graduates with the skills that employers need.

Accreditation by the Society is significant recognition of the outstanding quality of the courses that we offer and the employment opportunities that they afford our graduates.

3. The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2017 has ranked the University of Dundee Scottish University of the Year for the second year running!

4. The University of Dundee is Top 10 in the UK for Student Satisfaction

We’re a student city: Dundee has a higher percentage of students in its population than any other Scottish city.

Similarly, in the National Student Survey 2016 the University achieved a 90% overall satisfaction rating.

Similarly, the University of Dundee was ranked top in Scotland in the International student barometer in 2015.

5. Flexible curriculum with interdisciplinary learning

Our unique, flexible curriculum encourages interdisciplinary learning with employability skills fully embedded in the Undergraduate Degree Programme.

6. Research-led Excellence in Teaching

Our internationally acclaimed research staff, design and deliver the modules that constitute levels 3 and 4 of our Undergraduate Degree in Life Sciences, such that these are directly informed by the excellence of our research; world-class researchers delivering lectures on their research topics at the cutting-edge of Biological Sciences and Medicine.

7. Relevant degrees for the real world

We combine life sciences education with exploration into real-world issues. We collaborate with the world’s major pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies in the fight against diseases including cancer, diabetes, Parkinson’s, malaria, anti-bacterials and neglected tropical diseases.

8. Graduate skills that increase employability

We pay constant attention to the relevance of our teaching to the world of work and our students are in great demand, with 96.2% in employment or further studies within 6 months of graduating.

9. Dundee named the cheapest city for students in Scotland

A Royal Bank of Scotland report says students in the City of Discovery enjoy a cheaper existence than peers throughout the rest of Scotland.

Dundee also made it into the top 10 most financially friendly student cities. The index surveyed 2,500 students across the UK to determine the most and least affordable places to study.
We are the Number 1 destination in the UK for Life Sciences

How do we do it?

At the School of Life Sciences at the University of Dundee, we are committed to inspiring, educating and training the next generation of world-leading life scientists.

Flexible pathways:
The smarter route to Specialisation

Our degrees give you the opportunity to study a wide range of different aspects of life sciences.

You can choose to specialise and study for a more specifically named degree, or if you wish to maintain a broader experience, you can graduate in Biological Sciences or Biomedical Sciences.

From Higher Education to Research

We provide a number of Summer Research Opportunities for Undergraduates, giving students the invaluable experience of working in world-class research laboratories during the summer months.

Degrees with a Difference

We encourage all of our students to broaden their horizons and gain experience through the opportunity to:

Go on a study exchange - for a semester or even a whole year;

Gain work experience for a year - in industry;

Do a summer placement in one of our internationally renowned research labs;

Join an interdisciplinary team and take part in international science competitions – and win*

Go directly from an Honours Degree to an MSci - to develop skills, training and enhance employability and research opportunities.
Subject Specialisations to Real-world Impact

Because our Researchers and Academic Staff are so actively involved in collaborations with industry, clinicians, government and health organisations including the NHS and charitable trusts, our subject specialisations are at the frontier of life sciences research, where issues and new developments frequently grab the headlines and can often have an immediate impact on our lives.

We know that these subject areas will become increasingly important in the next 20 years, particularly at the molecular and cellular levels and lead to new and improved ways to diagnose and treat human diseases and contribute to improvements in health, the economy and the environment.

The degree titles which we offer are:

- BSc Honours Biomedical Sciences
- BSc Honours Neuroscience
- BSc Honours Physiological Sciences
- BSc Honours Pharmacology
- BSc Honours Molecular Genetics
- BSc Honours Biological Sciences
- BSc Honours Biological Sciences (Biochemistry)
- BSc Honours Biochemistry
- BSc Honours Biological Sciences (Drug Discovery)
- BSc Honours Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery

All of these degree programmes have received accreditation from the Royal Society of Biology.

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“As a university, our purpose is to transform lives by ensuring our students experience the best learning environment in Scotland and are prepared for the world beyond university. As graduates, they are then equipped to make a real difference in their chosen field and help meet our key university challenges of sustainability, health and wellbeing, and design that helps shape the future.

“We have a great campus in the middle of Scotland’s most student-friendly city, with top-quality teaching and the best students’ union in the country. This is an exciting time for Dundee with its designation as the UK’s first UNESCO City of Design, the V&A Dundee and other developments.”

Professor Sir Pete Downes,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dundee
“The University of Dundee is the epitome of what a good university should be. It provides an outstanding education and university experience for its students, is a key driver in the regional and national economy, and its researchers – particularly in the medical field – are pushing back the boundaries of knowledge and the treatments available to the wider benefit of society.”

Alastair McCall, editor of The Sunday Times Good University Guide
Dundee Now

Located in the very heart of Scotland on the North bank of the River Tay, Dundee enjoys one of Europe’s most enviable geographical locations. Views across the Tay Estuary, east towards the North Sea, south across the Scottish Countryside and west to the majestic glens of Angus, symbolise Dundee’s identity as a city of contrast and complement.

With a 300-year long tradition of invention, innovation and international commerce, Dundee continues to be one of the cities at the cutting-edge of technology, science and design in the 21st Century.

Currently in the second phase of a multi-million pound Waterfront Development Project, there is an excitement and energy among Dundee’s 150,000 inhabitants, 20% of whom work or study at one of the city’s two Universities.

For centuries a port city with commercial links across the globe, Dundee continues to attract dynamic and skilled people from across the world – the University of Dundee alone has staff and students from 88 different countries.

Dundee is the first (and so far only) UK UNESCO City of Design and it is the site of the new V&A Dundee, Scotland’s first design museum.

Culture, Entertainment and Sports

With restaurants serving Japanese, South-Indian and French cuisine, Juice bars and Noodle bars and two international supermarkets specialising in South Asian and East Asian food, Dundee comfortably caters for its multicultural population.

Dundee is home to the highly acclaimed Scottish Dance Theatre, to the critically renowned Dundee Rep and award-winning Dundee Contemporary Arts which hosts regular exhibitions of cutting-edge art and a thriving programme of independent cinema from around the world.

Dundee’s weather is changeable, but its climate, is mild so it is possible to take advantage of warm and sunny days (be they in March, July or October!) and head for one of the many beaches within an easy drive of the city centre.

Dundee is the perfect location for outdoor pursuits, with sailing, kayaking, canoeing, skiing, horse-riding, dirt-biking and of course mountaineering, all within a day’s drive.

With a cost of living 15% lower than the national average, an enviable quality of life and an ability to cater for students, families, and people of all culture Dundee is perhaps one of the most ideal places to study and live in the United Kingdom.
Dundee to...
- London Stansted 1 hour 30 mins
- Edinburgh Airport 1 hour 15 mins
- Glasgow Airport 1 hour 30 mins
- Manchester Airport 5 hours
- Birmingham 5 hours 20 mins
- London 6 hours

Scottish airport flights to:
- Amsterdam Schipol Airport
  1 hour 25 minutes
- Paris CDG Airport 1 hour 45 minutes
- London Airports 1 hour

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