



**JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research
(Mauritius)**

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**Foundation Programme in
Pharmacy**

Programme Handbook

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Foundation Programme in Pharmacy

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Part I

PROGRAMME HANDBOOK

A. Programme Information

The Foundation Programme in Pharmacy (FPP) is a comprehensive one-year basic programme designed to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to pursue a career in the pharmaceutical sciences and practice. This program is ideal for individuals who have a passion for healthcare and are interested in playing a vital role in ensuring the safe and effective use of medications.

This programme is a broad introduction to the discipline of pharmacy and the roles that pharmacists play in health care as well as the ideas, issues, skills and knowledge base required of a professional pharmacist. A number of topics are introduced and further developed in subsequent units of the programme which will serve as a foundation for the later years of the degree programme. Specific skills in research, critical thinking, writing, group work and presenting are developed in the context of activities designed to orient students to their future profession. The intent is that students begin to think and behave as future members of the profession of pharmacy, and reflect upon the attitudes and beliefs that will shape their practice.

This programme is in line with the Government's decision in the 2024 budget and the amendments made in the Pharmacy, Medical and Dental Acts. Accordingly the students having less than 21 points and who aspire to take up the professional courses like pharmacy, medical or dental, can take up the foundation programme which will serve as a gateway to enter into professional degree.

During the foundation programme, the candidates will learn about the fundamentals of biology, essentials of chemistry and microbiology, introduction to pharmaceuticals, communication skills, basic pharmacology, introduction to pharmacy practice, pharmacy law and ethics etc.

Our experienced faculty members, who are experts in their respective fields, will guide the students through the curriculum, imparting their knowledge and sharing real-world insights from the pharmaceutical sector.

The programme offers a perfect blend of theoretical knowledge and practical training. The candidates will have access to well-equipped laboratories where they will learn essential pharmaceutical techniques, drug formulation, and compounding. Through hands-on experiences, they will develop the necessary skills to prepare and dispense medications, understand interactions, and ensure patient safety.

At the School of Pharmacy, we believe in providing our students with real-world experiences. We facilitate internships, industrial visits, and collaborations with pharmacies, hospitals, and healthcare institutions. These opportunities will allow students to apply your knowledge in practical settings, gain valuable insights into the profession, and develop a professional network.

Upon successful completion of the foundation programme, the candidates will be equipped with basics of pharmacy and can readily take up the degree programmes in Pharmacy.

JSSAHERM is committed to providing a supportive and conducive learning environment for our students. Our campus offers state-of-the-art facilities, including well-equipped laboratories, modern classrooms, a comprehensive library, and research facilities. We prioritize the holistic development of our students, ensuring they receive a well-rounded education that prepares them for professional success.

B. Programme Aim

In line with the Government's decision to encourage the students to take up the science-based programmes to achieve the Government's vision of becoming 'Knowledge Hub' and 'Pharmaceutical Hub', this Foundation Programme in Pharmacy provides students, who are not been able to enrol for the B Pharm programme, with the basic skills and knowledge needed to become pharmacists and hence contribute effectively to the healthcare system. The programme aims to strengthen the nation's need for competent and qualified pharmacy support staff in the healthcare sector by educating students on various aspects of pharmaceuticals, pharmacy practices, communication skills, healthcare management and entrepreneurship and also includes attachments in hospital, community, and industrial settings.

The programme will prepare students for taking up the next career path in the form of degree programme and become life-long career as pharmacy education experts, clinical researchers and pharmaceutical scientists in healthcare services. With this Programme students are provided a learning environment that is nurturing, simulating and interdisciplinary.

C. Programme Objectives

Upon successful completion of this programme participants will be able to:

- Understand the of basics principles of Biology and Chemistry
- Know the basics of different dosage forms and prepare various conventional dosage forms
- Apply knowledge of pharmaceuticals to disease processes and assess problem resolution criteria
- Appreciate the importance of microbial world
- Work professionally and collaboratively while adhering to ethical principles
- Be competent to join the B Pharm / Pharm D programme

Competencies of Graduates:

Competency is defined as “A distinct composite of knowledge, skill, attitude and value that is essential to the practice of the profession in real life contexts”.

The candidates who successfully complete the Foundation Programme in Pharmacy are expected to attain the following professional competencies.

1. Knowledge on diversity in living organisms through biology
2. Focus on concepts of chemistry – its atoms and elements; thermodynamics and biomolecules
3. Review the Prescriptions
4. Application of mathematics in pharmacy
5. Proficiency on drugs / pharmaceuticals
6. Hospital and Community Pharmacy Management
7. Professional, Ethical and Legal Practice
8. Continuing Professional Development

D. General Entry Requirements

Mauritian Nationality

JSSAHERM will follow the admission requirements of HEC for tertiary education level programmes. The School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Health Sciences, on a case-to-case basis, will make admission decisions.

Candidates must have:

Either

(i) Pass at one sitting any 3 Subjects at A-level and 1 subject at subsidiary level of Higher School Certificate Examination;

Or

(iii) Pass in 3 Subjects at A-level at the London General Certificate Examination;

Or

(iv) A qualification equivalent to the above.

E. Programme Entry Requirements

‘A’ level in any science subject.

F. Programme Mode and Duration

Full-Time: Minimum 1 years (2 Semesters) – Maximum 2 years (4 semesters).

(i)	Delivery mode	Full Time
(ii)	Delivery Type	Face to face/contact Face to face and distance with an online learning platform
(iii)	Duration (minimum and maximum) in terms of years, and contact hours per year	Full time: Minimum 1 years– Maximum 2 years
(iv)	Number of semesters	Full time: Minimum 2 Semesters – Maximum 4 Semesters

G. Attendance Requirements

The students must secure a minimum of 80% attendance in each module to become eligible to take term end examination. All students must attend every lecture and practical classes except for approved leave like medical emergencies etc., Each module of the semester is treated as a separate unit for calculation of the attendance. A student, who does not satisfy the attendance requirement, mentioned as above, is not be eligible to appear for the examination of that semester and not promoted to higher semester. The student is required to repeat that semester along with regular students later by paying the prescribed fee as per the regulations of JSSAHERM

H. Student Progress and Assessment

- The evaluation of performance of the student is based on the marks obtained in each module. Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) are calculated to determine their final awards at the end of their programme of study.
- Modules are assessed through written examinations of duration of 3 hours.
- All modules are normally assessed over 100 marks
- The overall pass mark for a module shall be 50%, subject to the students submitting their continuous assessment within set deadlines.
- All modules must be passed in the examinations, coursework and other forms of assessment.

The modules will be assessed as follows:

- End semester examinations contributing to 70% of the total marks for theory and 60% for practical's.
- Continuous assessment including sessional exams carrying 30% of total marks for theory and 40% for practical's of total marks. Continuous assessment can be based on attendance, seminars and/or assignments and other activities.

In order to pass in a module, a minimum of 50% should be attained in:

- Continuous assessment, and in
- End semester examination

Scheme for awarding Continuous mode marks;

Criteria	Maximum Marks
Attendance	4
Academic activities (Average of any 3 activities e.g. quiz, assignment, open book test, fieldwork, group discussion and seminar). For Practical's - Based on Practical Records, Regular viva voce, etc.	3
Student-Teacher interaction	3
Total	10

Guidelines for the allotment of marks for attendance

Percentage of Attendance	Marks
95 – 100	4
90 – 94	3
85 – 89	2
80 – 84	1
Less than 80	0

Scheme for internal assessments and end semester examinations

Subject	Assessment				End Semester Exams		Total Marks
	Continuous Mode	Sessional Exams		Total	Marks	Duration	
		Marks	Duration				
Theory	10	20	1 Hr	30	70	3 Hrs	100
Practical	10	30	4 Hrs	40	60	4 Hrs	100

Letter grades and grade points allocations:

Award classifications shall be based on the performance of each candidate in examinations/coursework as determined by the Academic Council.

Based on the performances, each student shall be awarded a final letter grade at the end of the semester for each course as given below:

Undergraduate/ Postgraduate		
Overall Marks	Grade	Remarks
$90 \leq X \leq 100$	O	Outstanding
$80 \leq X < 90$	A	Excellent
$70 \leq X < 80$	B	Very Good
$60 \leq X < 70$	C	Good
$50 \leq X < 60$	D	Satisfactory
$X < 50$	F	Failed

Grade Points equivalent to Percentage of marks and performances

Percentage of Marks Obtained	Grade Point (G)
90.00 – 100	10
80.00 – 89.99	9
70.00 – 79.99	8
60.00 – 69.99	7
50.00 – 59.99	6
Less than 50	0
Absent	0

A learner who remains absent for any end semester examination shall be assigned a letter grade of AB and a corresponding grade point of zero. He/she should reappear for the said evaluation/examination in due course.

Calculation of Semester grade point average (SGPA)

The performance of a student in a semester is indicated by a number called ‘Semester Grade Point Average’ (SGPA). The SGPA is the weighted average of the grade points obtained in all the courses by the student during the semester. For example, if a student takes five courses (Theory/Practical) in a semester with credits C1, C2, C3, C4 and C5 and the student’s grade points in these courses are G1, G2, G3, G4 and G5, respectively, and then students’ SGPA is equal to:

$$C_1G_1 + C_2G_2 + C_3G_3 + C_4G_4 + C_5G_5$$

$$SGPA = \frac{\text{-----}}{C_1 + C_2 + C_3 + C_4 + C_5}$$

The SGPA is calculated to two decimal points. It should be noted that, the SGPA for any semester shall take into consideration the F grade awarded in that semester. For example, if a learner has a F grade in course 4, the SGPA shall then be computed as:

$$C_1G_1 + C_2G_2 + C_3G_3 + C_4* \text{ZERO} + C_5G_5$$

$$SGPA = \frac{\text{-----}}{C_1 + C_2 + C_3 + C_4 + C_5}$$

The CGPA is calculated with the SGPA of all the semesters to two decimal points and is indicated in final grade report card/final transcript showing the grades of all semesters and their courses. The CGPA shall reflect the failed status in case of F grade(s), till the course(s) is/are passed. When the course(s) is/are passed by obtaining a pass grade on subsequent examination(s) the CGPA shall only reflect the new grade and not the fail grades earned earlier. The CGPA is calculated as:

$$C_1S_1 + C_2S_2 + C_3S_3 + C_4S_4 + C_5S_5 + C_6S_6 + C_7S_7 + \dots + C_nS_n$$

$$CGPA = \frac{\text{-----}}{C_1 + C_2 + C_3 + C_4 + C_5 + C_6 + C_7 + \dots + C_n}$$

where C_1, C_2, C_n, \dots is the total number of credits for semester I, II, ..., n, and S_1, S_2, S_n, \dots is the SGPA of each semester I, II, ..., n.

**I. Programme Structure – Foundation Programme in Pharmacy
Full Time One Year**

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Modules	Hr T/P per week	Credits	Code	Modules	Hrs T/P per week	Credits
FP101T	Fundamentals of Biology	4	4	FP201T	Basic Pharmacology	4	4
FP102T	Essentials of Chemistry	4	4	FP202T	Essentials of Microbiology	4	4
FP103T	Introduction to Pharmaceutics	4	4	FP203T	Introduction to Pharmacy Practice	4	4
FP104T	Mathematics	4	4	FP204T	Pharmacy Law and Ethics	4	4
FP105T	Communication Skill	4	4	FP205T	Seminar/Assignment	6	3
FP106P	Laboratory Practice I	4	2	FP206P	Laboratory Practice II	4	2
Total		24	22	Total		26	21