



University
of Glasgow

Medicine

Undergraduate study



Founded in 1451, the University of Glasgow has inspired thinkers from the father of economics, Adam Smith, to the pioneer of television, John Logie Baird.



Choose Glasgow

Introduction

The University of Glasgow is rated as one of the top 100 universities in the world (*Times Higher Education QS World University Rankings*).

All of our students study for degrees that are recognised and respected by employers throughout the world, but we can guarantee you will receive a lot more besides. Some of the key benefits of student life at Glasgow are

Satisfied students

Our students report high levels of satisfaction with their studies. According to the independent National Student Survey, an impressive 90% of the University's final-year students rated themselves as satisfied with their course in 2009, well above the national average of 81%.

Flexible course choices

We offer more than 900 degree programme combinations and our flexible system allows you to study a broad range of subjects during your time at university and, in many cases, makes it possible to delay choosing specialist subjects until the end of second year.

Teaching based on research

Glasgow is a research-led university, which means that you will be taught by academics at the forefront of knowledge in their subject areas.

A student experience worth having

You will take away more than a degree from Glasgow. Over the last 550 years our students have built up a fantastic array of initiatives to keep you engaged, entertained and energised. The result is a student experience to be proud of. We have

- four award-winning student media teams
- over 100 clubs and societies
- two undergraduate student unions
- sporting facilities for all levels of fitness
- a study abroad and exchange programme that offers opportunities to study across the world as part of your undergraduate degree.

‘The structure of the programme is fantastic In the first year I was in hospital talking to patients right from the start – that’s what every student wants.’

Natalie Connell, Medicine graduate

Our campus

The University's compact main campus combines grand historical buildings with up-to-the-minute facilities. It's centred on a neo-gothic building with a spire offering breathtaking views across the city.

Come and visit us

Open Day

www.glasgow.ac.uk/openday

In June and September we hold an Open Day to allow you, your family and teachers to visit us on campus and see a little of the city.

Open Day allows you to speak to academic staff, find out more about courses, tour the facilities, visit student accommodation and see for yourself what life would be like as a student at Glasgow. If you have a long way to travel you can also stay in one of our student residences.

Alternative visiting arrangements

Open Day is the best way for you to get a comprehensive picture of what being a student here would be like. However, if for any reason you can't make it on that date, then we will normally be able to make alternative arrangements.

To find out more visit:

www.glasgow.ac.uk/afternoonvisits.

Applicants' Visit Day

At Glasgow we go the extra mile. If you receive an offer of a place at Glasgow, we will invite you to visit us before making your final decision. Applicants' Visit Day usually takes place in March. Details will be sent to you together with your offer of a place.

Training to be a doctor involves extensive and dedicated study. Undertaking a degree in medicine is the start of this lifelong process. If you have the necessary intellectual skills, as well as enthusiasm and dedication, you will find medicine a rewarding career.

The University is tackling Scotland's three biggest killers – cancer, cardiovascular and inflammatory diseases – through world-class researchers, state-of-the-art-facilities and partnerships with other organisations.



www.glasgow.ac.uk/medicine

Medicine

Degree: MBChB

Typical offer

Highers AAAAB at first sitting

A-levels AAB at first sitting

For entry requirements visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/entryrequirements

Right from the start you will be introduced to the challenge of becoming a doctor, starting with vocational studies and an integrated course that covers essential areas both in clinical and scientific work.

We place great emphasis on student-centred learning. Most of your work will be in small groups of students that rotate throughout the year and will involve finding, using and understanding information, not just memorising details.

From the outset you will find yourself being introduced to clinical problems. The group process will help you develop, through curiosity, the information that will be of use in resolving these problems. This type of studying aims to optimise learning by helping you to activate relevant prior knowledge, providing a context that closely resembles the future professional context as closely as possible, and stimulates the group to elaborate on and share their knowledge.

The programme has five main components:

- The core – an integrated programme of clinical and scientific work
- Vocational studies – providing structural experience in clinical techniques and patient contact
- Student selected components – designed to allow study in depth
- Core clinical studies – drawing together all the earlier components of the course into a detailed study of medical practice
- Elective studies – the opportunity to perform in depth studies away from the University.

What can I expect in first year?

The first year of the programme introduces you to a broad sweep of subjects and develops the skills you will require for problem-based learning, including the personal skills associated with active group work. The themes of your first year will be:

- Hierarchy of systems
- Core values in medicine

- Introduction to human anatomy
- Determinants of health
- Disease patterns
- Homeostasis
- Risks and responses
- Health and illness in communities.

What can I expect in second year?

In second year your base of knowledge is advanced and your learning skills developed by the introduction of more complex scenarios and problems for you to solve. The themes of the second year are:

- Conception, growth and development
- Neurological and musculoskeletal systems
- Cardiovascular, respiratory and renal systems
- Digestion and metabolism
- Regulation and responses.

What can I expect in third year?

Your third year will have its emphasis in clinical disorders based on body systems. The themes are:

- Cardiovascular and respiratory systems
- Haematology
- Musculoskeletal systems
- Dermatology
- Neurology
- Psychiatry
- Abdomen and breast.

What happens next?

Electives

During the summer vacations after your third and fourth years, you are required to undertake two four-week periods of elective study. These are in subjects and locations of your choice and are designed to enable you to develop your own interests and to experience medical environments other than those provided on the course. Many of our students spend these components of the course in far corners of the world.

Years four and five

The final part of the core programme takes the form of a series of clinical attachments through:

- Medicine
- Surgery
- Psychological medicine
- Child health

- Obstetrics and gynaecology
- General practice.

A series of academic days during the clinical attachments continues the process of integrating the biological and clinical sciences. You will receive continuing training in both communication skills and clinical skills such as:

- Catheterisation
- IV skills
- Pharmacology
- Advanced life support
- Radiology.

Following the final examinations, there is a nine week period of study in preparation of work experience in which you will shadow a foundation year 1 doctor.

Student selected components

As well as the core topics, you will also choose a variety of student selected components (SSC). These constitute approximately 15% of the structured course time and are designed to allow the selection and in-depth study of special interest subjects, with a wide variety of topics available. These modules are taken in second, third and fourth year. Examples currently include:

- Introduction to cloning techniques
- Working with children
- Lay explanations of addiction.

It's also possible to undertake an SSC in non-medical subjects such as French or Spanish, propose your own module, or take advantage of the facility to link a module to an elective, enabling you to carry out projects overseas or to complete a small research project.

Intercalated science degree

If you do well in the first three years of the programme you will have the opportunity to undertake an intercalated BSc degree programme. The BSc provides an excellent introduction to research methodology, which is invaluable not only to those who wish to pursue a career in academic medicine but also to those wishing to practice evidence based medicine.

Intercalated BSc degree programmes last for one (BSc (MedSci)) or two (BSc (Hons)) years and provide an excellent introduction to research methodology which is invaluable to all who might wish to pursue a hospital or academic career. On completion of the BSc programme, you will return to the MBChB programme.

Visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/medicine/undergraduatstudy/medicine/intercalateddegrees for more information.



Choose Glasgow

‘Studying medicine has been the single best choice I have made – it’s interesting, involves a lot of practical skills and should provide a fulfilling career. I chose Glasgow because I liked the sound of problem-based learning and the early involvement in clinical placements. It’s a busy course and much of the learning is self-directed. This requires a lot of self-discipline and motivation but you soon get the hang of it.’

Elaine Brown, Medicine student

Our facilities include

- a custom built ‘study landscape’ equipped with books, journals and over 100 flat screen multimedia PCs
- custom built areas for developing and practising clinical skills
- innovative technology such as SimMan, an interactive manikin that mimics a wide range of signs and symptoms to enable diagnosis of various conditions, such as cardiac arrest, acute allergic reactions and pneumonia.

Our proud history of outstanding achievements in medical science includes contributions from renowned physicians such as:

- Joseph Lister (antiseptis)
- George Beatson (breast cancer)
- John MacIntyre (X-rays and radiology)
- William Hunter (anatomy and obstetrics)
- Ian Donald (ultrasound).

We provide an interesting and challenging undergraduate curriculum that introduces you to clinical scenarios from the very beginning of your education, putting your learning in a context that resembles the future professional situation as closely as possible.

Innovative technology includes SimMan, an interactive manikin that mimics a wide range of signs and symptoms to enable diagnosis of various conditions, such as cardiac arrest, acute allergic reactions and pneumonia.

Can I study abroad?

During the elective period of the programme you will choose a topic to study in greater depth either in Glasgow or elsewhere. Students that have arranged electives outside the UK and EU have travelled to the USA, Canada, Asia, Australia, the Caribbean and Africa.

The benefits of studying abroad are huge. You will not only be able to gain an entirely new perspective on your academic subject and enhance your employability, you will also find out new things about yourself, increase your independence, develop self-confidence, learn to live and work with people from different backgrounds and cultures and form a large circle of international friends.

What are my career prospects?

The MBChB degree is the first step in a pathway which can lead to a wide variety of differing careers practised in all parts of the world, but always in some manner involved with the health of the population and caring for people.

A significant proportion of our graduates become specialists in hospitals. However, as with all medical schools, up to half of our graduates become general practitioners, providing comprehensive health care for the local community.

We encourage academic excellence at all levels and there are opportunities to develop a career in research or teaching. This might be laboratory based or be of a more clinical nature. Exposure is also given to all the major specialised areas such as cardiology (treatment of heart disease) or neurosurgery (operating on the brain and nervous system) as well as many others.

Finally, some graduates will pursue a career in administration, the legal aspects of clinical care and also management of health services.

Where can I find out more?

For more information visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/medicine.



Simulated ward areas can be subdivided into smaller examination rooms where students can practice clinical skills such as blood pressure monitoring and reflex testing.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/medicine



The award-winning Wolfson Medical School Building was opened 2002.

‘Scotland at its artsy, riotous, high-octane, good-time best.’

Lonely Planet



City of Glasgow

What is it like living and studying in Glasgow?

Named as one of the world’s top ten cities by independent travel guide *Lonely Planet*, Glasgow attracts the largest student population in Scotland. The city’s reputation for friendliness means that wherever you come from, you’ll soon treat it as your second home.

Music and nightlife

In an average week Glasgow hosts 123 bands, 72 classical composers, 49 choirs, 38 orchestras and 21 jazz bands. Renowned for discovering acts from Franz Ferdinand to Primal Scream, the city has fantastic venues for live music including King Tut’s Wah Wah Hut – voted UK’s best live venue by listeners of Radio 1 three years in a row.

More than 700 bars, pubs and nightclubs mean no two nights in Glasgow are the same. Whether you’re after a record-breaking 100-foot long bar where everyone can be a barfly (the Horseshoe), or a pub with a log fire, stuffed stags’ heads and kilted staff that’s as appealing as it is unpronounceable (Uisge Beatha), Glasgow has a venue to suit. Dance until you drop at the Subclub, or travel back to 1920s America at the Vegas clubnight on the Renfrew Ferry, it’s up to you.

Festivals

At least one festival every month of the year shows Glasgow loves to celebrate. Some of our favourites include Glasgow International Comedy Festival, Celtic Connections folk music festival, Glasgay, Piping Live!, Glasgow Film Festival and Aye Write!, the city’s book festival.

Culture

The city of Glasgow owns one of the richest collections in Europe, displayed in 13 museums and art galleries – and admission is free. You are spoilt for choice, with the city’s famous Burrell collection vying for attention beside Scotland’s most visited attraction, the Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum, located next door to the University.

Sport

The city will host the Commonwealth Games in 2014. Across the world people know Glasgow as home of Celtic and Rangers football clubs, but with no fewer than 27 public fitness centres including swimming pools, running tracks, 11-a-side pitches and tennis courts, you’re guaranteed to find something to get involved with, whatever your level of fitness.

Campus culture

Are you craving cosy campus living or do you prefer big city excitement. Whichever is your style, you’ll be impressed by the University’s excellent location in the compact West End. Just two miles from the city centre, with great bus and underground links, the West End has a reputation as the bohemian, trendy and cosmopolitan quarter of Glasgow.



What our students say

‘Glasgow is such a diverse and vibrant city with lots to offer and a great social scene with a fantastic range of bars, clubs and music venues.’

Alexander Hutchison

‘I chose Glasgow because compared to the other cities I visited it just seemed like a much more lively place. I think the high student population makes it a very young city.’

Elizabeth Ritz

‘The campus at Glasgow is unbelievably beautiful. It’s hard to believe sometimes when walking down busy Byres Road and turning into University Avenue, that this Hogwarts is situated right in the heart of the West End.’

Beverley Simpson

‘Glasgow is very vibrant. The West End is like the village within the city.’

Sarah Gibson