UCLouvain

## 2025

## Medicinal chemistry

The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

22.5 h + 7.5 h

3.00 credits

Q2

Teacher(s)	Frédérick Raphaël ;Lambert Didier ;			
Language :	English > French-friendly			
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve			
Main themes	<ol> <li>The pharmaceutical industry and its current social and economical environment.</li> <li>The strategies of "lead discovery".</li> <li>The optimalisation of ADMET properties.</li> <li>The structure-activity relationships.</li> <li>The methods of screening.</li> <li>Selected examples of "structure-based" drug design.</li> </ol>			
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :         The course objective is to introduce to the master student (in chemistry or biochemistry) the different problems treated in pharmaceutical industry, from the discovery of an active substance ("lead" molecule), till the production of a commercializable drug.         1       It is a general teaching that integrates concepts of physical chemistry, organic chemistry, spectroscopy and biochemistry (previously pointed out during the BAC cursus) into the multidisciplinary context of drug research and development.         Particular attention will be focused on the knowledge integration and the multidisciplinary thinking, as it is nowadays the custom in pharmaceutical industry.			
Evaluation methods	The evaluation consists of the presentation and oral defense, via Teams or in person depending on the possibilities, in pairs of students, of a poster or a slide show on a work based on a paper from a medicinal chemistry journal.			
Teaching methods	Powerpoint presentation Interactive teaching with discussions Distribution of complementary documents (recent articles) to be reviewed at home. 22.5 hours of lecture (Vol1) given by the two co-tutors. Individual work (creation of a poster) for the 7.5 hours of Vol2			
Content	This course is a general introduction to Medicinal Chemistry. The main concepts covered are : • general pharmacology, chemistry, biochemistry • ligand-receptor interactions • strategies for discovering hits: methods, applications, strategies • hit-to-lead approaches: qualitative aspects, quantitative aspects, rational drug design • physicochemical parameters of drugs: pKa, LogP, PSA • lead-like properties: solubility, permeability, blood-brain barrier, metabolic stability, stability in plasma & solution, CYP inhibition, transporters, plasma protein binding, toxicity, prodrugs.			

Other infos	<ul> <li>Background : <ul> <li>Courses of chemistry and biochemistry of BAC (BAC CHIM with minor BIOL, and BAC BIOL with minor CHIM).</li> <li>Relation with other teachings : <ul> <li>the course is constructed in such a way that the knowledge of a minimum of pharmacological terms is required.</li> <li>However, introduction to basic pharmacology should be helpful for chemists (definition of the pharmacological terms is required.</li> <li>However, introduction to basic pharmacology should be helpful for chemists (definition of the pharmacological targets and their functioning, agonists and antagonists, biodistribution, elimination processes,</li> <li>Students in chemistry interested in medicinal chemistry are invited to include in their program the courses BIOL</li> <li>2226 (cellular pharmacology) and AGRO 2750 (human and animal toxicology). The protection of innovation in drugs' industry is also an important aspect, non covered in this course CHM 2244, because this matter makes part of the course SC 3001 (research, innovation and intellectual property: application to the domains of chemistry of life sciences).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Supports : <ul> <li>Notes of the professor.</li> <li>Review articles.</li> <li>Books form the CHIM library.</li> <li>The course could be partly or totally delivered by an invited lecturer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul></li></ul>
Faculty or entity in charge	СНІМ

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)							
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes			
Master [120] in Biochemistry and Molecular and Cell Biology	BBMC2M	3		٩			
Master [120] in Chemistry	CHIM2M	3		٩			
Master [120] in Chemistry and Bioindustries	BIRC2M	3		٩			
Master [120] in Agricultural Bioengineering	BIRA2M	3		٩			
Master [120] of Education, Section 4 : chemistry	CHIM2M4	3		ø			