MSc Biotechnology & Business

(1 Year Full Time)

Biotechnology encompasses all aspects of the industrial application of living organisms and/or biological techniques. Ireland has an enviable biotechnology sector and is home to nine of the top 10 global pharmaceutical companies. The MSc in Biotechnology and Business is an exciting programme designed for non-business graduates who want to become managers or entrepreneurs in complex business environments in technology and science-based fields.

The MSc in Biotechnology and Business provides you with a solid grounding in the science underpinning biotechnology coupled with a comprehensive business education.

The programme is the result of a close collaboration between the UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science and the UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business, which is Ireland’s leading business school.

Course Content and Structure

You will spend 50% of your time studying biotechnology and 50% of your time studying business. You may choose optional biotechnology modules to ensure that you specialise in your area of interest. Depending on your chosen subjects you will also gain experimental and theoretical knowledge in the following topics:

- Drug Discovery
- Medical Device Technology
- Biomedical Diagnostics
- Regulatory Affairs
- Bioprocessing
- Marketing Management
- Corporate Finance
- Entrepreneurship
- Business plan development
- Biotechnology Case Study

Modules and topics shown are subject to change and are not guaranteed by UCD.

Entry Requirements

- This programme is intended for applicants with a BSc in a biology- or chemistry-related discipline. An upper second class honours or international equivalent is required.
- Graduates with equivalent qualifications in related areas of science and technology or with proven relevant industrial experience will be considered for places.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent, such as TOEFL (IBT) score of 90 or PTE score of 63. Applicants with an IELTS score of at least 5.5 may apply for admission to the UCD Pre-Masters Pathway programme.

Career Opportunities

This advanced graduate degree in Biotechnology and Business has been developed in consultation with employers and therefore will be recognised and valued by them. A key feature is the opportunity to carry out a business development plan which will allow graduates to develop connections with prospective employers.

Prospective employers include: Abbott; Allergan; Alpha Technologies; Amgen; Avonmore Foods; Baxter Healthcare; Beckman Coulter; Biotrin International Ltd.; Boston Scientific; Elan Corporation; Eli Lilly and Co.; Celsot; GlaxoSmithKline; Icon Clinical Research; ImmunoGen Inc.; Janssen Pharmaceutical Ltd.; Johnson & Johnson Ltd.; Kerry Group Plc.; Medtronic; Merck Sharp & Dohme; Olympus Diagnostica; Quintiles; Quest International; Sandoz; Seroba Kernel; Serology Ltd.

Graduate Profile

Jennifer McKeever,
Senior Analyst at Seroba Life Sciences

During the MSc in Biotechnology & Business, I broadened my knowledge in key modules including medical devices, diagnostics and regulatory affairs, while also developing core business skills in finance, marketing and management. The highlight was developing a business plan for a UCD Nova start-up company. I am currently working as an Investment Analyst in a life sciences venture capital firm.