



Xu Qi

Year 2 Pharmaceutical Science

Why study Pharmaceutical Science? And how has the journey been thus far?

I have a deep interest in pharmaceutical-related fields due to my family members' experiences with chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease. The Pharmaceutical Science programme aligns my interests and career aspirations. It has provided me ample opportunities to learn and grow, both in terms of character development and career-oriented competencies.

What interests you most in your studies?

I appreciate the strong emphasis on real-life applications to what we learnt in classroom. There is also active participation in class due to the intended small cohort size and this encourages reflexive learning, which interests me the most.

Apart from academic lessons, what other programmes (e.g. UPIP, UROPS, NOC, SEP, Summer/Winter Schools/Research/Internship, etc.) did you participate in? And how did the experience(s) benefit you in your (a) personal growth and development, and (b) academic pursuits?

I completed the University Town College Programme (UTCP) under Tembusu College alongside my studies. The interdisciplinary nature of UTCP allowed me to better appreciate the connections between pharmaceutical science and other fields of study, as well as the roles they play within the society. The seminar-based pedagogy of UTCP has also taught me to be a better listener and speaker within a group setting.

I had the opportunity to enroll in a research internship under Dr Chen Wenqian. I was able to apply what I have learnt in the classroom to real-life lab settings. I have acquired relevant research and lab-based skills through this valuable experience.

What other interesting activities did you partake in to further enrich your student life, e.g. extra-curricular activities on campus?

I am currently the acting Academic Committee Director of NUS Pharmaceutical Society (NUSPS). I am involved in the planning of various enrichment programmes for my peers, such as talks by experts from the pharmaceutical industry and industrial site visits. I am also in the House Committee for Pasteur House, where I help to plan activities for my fellow housemates.

Share with us your most memorable experience as a Pharmaceutical Science student.

My most memorable experience was attending the first class barbecue after the COVID-19 restrictions was lifted. I was glad to finally meet my classmates in person after many months of online classes. Many friendships were forged on this day.

What advice do you have for the incoming students or juniors?

Keep an open mind and seize the opportunities that come your way. Don't be afraid to make mistakes. Learn from them and grow before you step into the working world.

With my orientation group at Pharmacy Orientation Week 2023



Cooking with my classmate from Tembusu College during the summer holiday



Attending a dance performance by some talented classmates



Johor Bahru trip with my classmates