



Sebastian Jedidiah Jivon Year 2 Pharmacy

Why study Pharmacy? And how has the journey been thus far?

My overseas upbringing introduced me to medical volunteering at a young age. I volunteered as a dental assistant or medication packer at the pharmacy at medical camps in the rural villages in Nepal. I found myself drawn to the healthcare sector and I knew that I will be able to contribute to this sector with my interest in the relevant science subjects.



Through various exposures and lessons, I learned more about the professional pharmacy practice in Singapore, as well as the expectations and duties of a pharmacist. I have grown to appreciate the role a pharmacist plays in the healthcare sector. I have enjoyed studying Pharmacy and I am looking forward to more rewarding experiences in the next few years.



What interests you most in your studies?

I find the Skills Lab the most intriguing as we get to learn and practise skills that are used in actual interaction with patients and co-workers. Such skills include but are not limited to patient counseling during medication dispensing and guiding patients towards healthier lifestyle changes (in cases like smoking cessation).

Apart from academic lessons, what other programmes did you participate in? And how did the experience(s) benefit you in your (a) personal growth and development, and (b) academic pursuits?

I was a volunteer for SilverScreen, a free door-to-door screening event, providing an assessment of seniors' frail status, and the contributing factors to their frailty in older age. It was an eye-opening experience as I had the opportunity to interact with the elderly and hear about their struggles and difficulties they face at home. Through this exposure to real-life cases and medication prescription, I was able to understand how different people may take their medication at home and what may impair adherence.

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

Have fun and learn from the experiences even if the tasked activities are ungraded. It is really what you make out of it. You will be surprised at what you can learn from unexpected places.



