



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

I chose Pharmaceutical Science due to my passion for Chemistry and Biology. This field provides me the opportunity to meaningfully apply my knowledge to enhance people's lives. The programme has provided valuable insights into formulation development, clinical trials, and the requirements for bringing a drug to market. Furthermore, collaborating with my classmates to address challenges, such as effectively marketing specific drugs, was both engaging and rewarding. This experience not only enhanced my critical thinking skills but also fostered teamwork and problem-solving abilities.



**Jonathan Ho Jia Jun**  
Year 3 Pharmaceutical Science

## What interests you most in your studies?

I am most fascinated with the manufacturing process of medications. I learned that multiple teams are involved in creating each pill, from research and development to quality assurance. Every step plays a vital role in ensuring the final product is both effective and safe for use. Gaining insight into this complex process has greatly enhanced my appreciation for the effort involved in bringing medications to market.



**Working in a cleanroom  
for my UPIP**



**With my UPIP coworkers**

**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?**

In my second year, I participated in the Undergraduate Professional Internship Programme (UPIP) at the Clinical Imaging Research Centre, focusing on quality assurance in radiopharmaceuticals. This internship provided me with valuable insights into the rigorous processes of checks, documentation, and training required for producing radioactive drugs. I also collaborated with production and quality control teams, highlighting the importance of cross-functional teamwork for product safety and effectiveness.

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

It was during my first laboratory course, PHS2191 Laboratory Techniques in Pharmaceutical Science I, where I produced paracetamol for the first time. I was amazed by how a seemingly simple compound can alleviate pain for millions of people worldwide. This experience reaffirmed my decision to pursue Pharmaceutical Science – a commitment to enhancing lives through the development and application of medicine.



Producing my first batch of paracetamol



NUS Aikido



With my classmates

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

I served as an Orientation Group Leader for XPerience Pharmacy Camp and was a member of the programmes team for the Pharmacy Orientation Programme. I not only had the opportunity to bond with my classmates, but I also shared my passion for pharmaceutical science with prospective freshmen. Additionally, as President of NUS Aikido, I was able to engage with peers beyond my major. Leading the club enhanced my leadership and communication skills while promoting a sense of community and collaboration among members from various backgrounds.

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

Seize every opportunity that comes your way, whether it's in academics or beyond. NUS provides a wide array of opportunities for both personal and professional development. Focus on your personal development while exploring the various career paths. You never know the possibilities these experiences may unfold or how they might shape your future!