



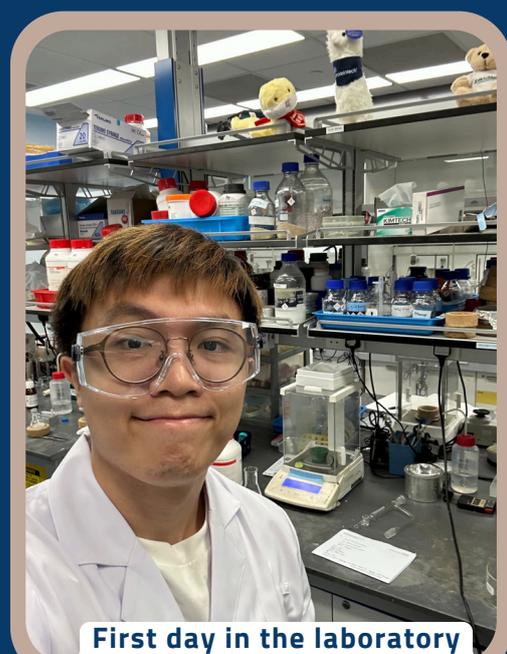
## Why study Pharmaceutical Science? And how has the journey been thus far?

I chose Pharmaceutical Science because it blends my interests in chemistry and biology. Studying Pharmaceutical Science at NUS has been an eye-opening journey seeing how theory translates into real-world drug development, from decision-making in the laboratory to clinical applications and industrial processes.

## What interests you most in your studies?

When I first started the programme, I thought I would focus mainly on small molecule drugs because of my passion for chemistry. As I progressed, courses on biologics broadened my perspective beyond small molecule chemistry, especially the synergy of antibody drug conjugates. This learning experience has deepened my appreciation for the diverse landscape of drug development and motivated me to step beyond my comfort zone to build a more holistic understanding of the field.

## 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?



**First day in the laboratory  
working on Summer UROPS project**

I had the opportunity to pursue a summer Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme in Science (UROPS) in medicinal chemistry under Prof Christina Chai. Having loved organic chemistry in junior college but never having worked in a laboratory, I was curious and uncertain about research and postgraduate paths. Over ten weeks, I immersed myself in the life of a researcher — reading literature, designing synthetic routes, troubleshooting reactions, and communicating scientific ideas. At first, I was very outcome focused and took failed experiments personally. Over time, I learned to see failures as valuable steps that offer clarity on what went wrong and how to improve. By the end, I took pride not only in successful results but also in the insights gained through setbacks.



**Sean Ang Teng Han  
Year 3 Pharmaceutical Science**

Taking advantage of the programme's flexibility, I am also pursuing a Minor in Astronomy out of personal interest. It complements my scientific training by strengthening my quantitative reasoning and broadening my perspective on how fundamental principles and data-driven inquiry can illuminate complex systems across disciplines.



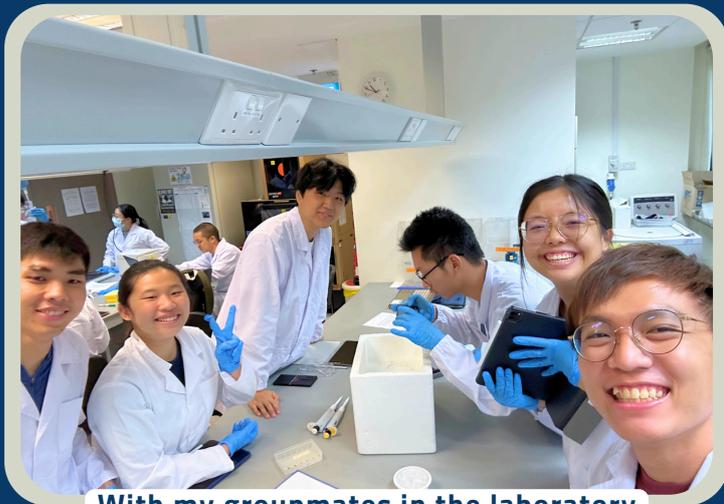
## What other interesting activities did you partake in to further enrich your student life, e.g. extra-curricular activities on campus (e.g. NUSPS, House, etc.)?

Beyond academics, I participated in Pharmacy Rag and Flag (Pharm RxAG) as a freshman and later as a senior, serving on the Floats Committee to design and build props and backdrops for stage performances. It was a fulfilling way to spend the summer, allowing me to bond with Pharmaceutical Science batchmates, juniors, and peers from Pharmacy. Seeing our floats come to life and watching the public appreciate our efforts was rewarding and reflected the spirit of RAG — giving back to the community through creativity and collaboration.



Weekly engagement sessions with the elderly participants at PCF Sparkle Care Yew Tee

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



With my groupmates in the laboratory

One of my most memorable experiences was in the pharmaceutical biology lab sessions during *PHS3191 Laboratory Techniques in Pharmaceutical Science II*. Working in groups on various biological assays provided both reassurance and a valuable opportunity to collaborate and exchange ideas. With the typical waiting times in these experiments, I got to know my groupmates, teaching assistants, and lecturers better. It felt like being part of a close knit family — everyone in white laboratory coats, hoping together that our experiments would succeed.

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

Keep an open mind. This four year degree offers a broad and comprehensive overview of the drug development pipeline, from target discovery and formulation to clinical trials and post market surveillance. Not every course will be your favourite, but staying curious can lead you to areas that truly resonate and may spark a passion you want to pursue long term.



My Team-Based Learning (TBL) group with Dr Chng Hui Ting