

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

I have a deep interest in drug development, from discovering and manufacturing medicines to understanding how they work in the body. The Pharmaceutical Science programme has been insightful and fulfilling. Core courses in pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and basic physiology have broadened my understanding of the field and deepened my appreciation of the pharmaceutical industry and its impact on healthcare.

What interests you most in your studies?

I am especially drawn to the wide range of analytical techniques that bridge biology and chemistry. In *PHS2104 Macromolecules in Pharmaceutical Science*, I explored the theories of molecular cloning, gene editing using CRISPR, and various immunoassays, and in *PHS3101 Principles of Pharmaceutical Formulations II*, I was introduced to different characterisation methods. These techniques are foundational to pharmaceutical science, underpinning drug discovery, development, and quality evaluation.

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 a UROPS in AY25/26 Semester 1 with the Bhatt Lab on an acute myeloid leukemia project. The experience gave me hands-on training in planning and running experiments, sharpened my laboratory skills, and nurtured greater independence as a researcher. Daily discussions with Ph.D. students and immersion in the lab environment offered an authentic glimpse into postgraduate research life, deepening my interests for a potential academic research career.

I am currently on a Student Exchange Programme at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland, and I'm excited to broaden my perspectives through that experience.

I am also pursuing a Second Major in Statistics, with Minors in French Language Studies, Japanese Language Studies, and Quantitative Finance.



Soh Wen Kang
Year 3 Pharmaceutical Science



With the Bhatt Lab members

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 have also been actively involved in the performing arts through CFA Arts Group NUS Harmonica since the start of my university life. In AY24/25, I served as Vice President, organising and planning performances including our annual concerts *Impressions* and *Soirée*, as well as NUS Arts Festival 2025. This community has given me a creative outlet and helped me maintain a healthy balance between academic commitments and personal interests. Additionally, I participated in the Singapore Model ASEAN Meeting (SGMAM) 2025 hosted by NTU School of Social Sciences, where I represented Indonesia under the ASEAN Economic Community pillar and received the Best Position Paper award. The experience strengthened my understanding of ASEAN and sharpened my public speaking and critical thinking skills.



Performing in NUS Harmonica's Impressions 2024 Concert



Representing Indonesia in SGMAM 2025

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

It has to be formulating tablets from scratch during a core course. Given a wide range of excipients, I applied what I had learned in earlier courses to shortlist two formulations and investigate how varying excipients affected tablet properties. This hands-on work brought theory into practice and deepened my understanding of formulation science. It was especially rewarding to see how small changes in composition could significantly influence the final product, making the learning process tangible and meaningful.

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

Take time to discover which areas genuinely interest you and understand your strengths. Stay open minded to new ideas and actively pursue opportunities to develop yourself.