



Masters of Science in Pharmacognosy & Natural Medicine Sciences

Executive Summary

Natural drugs are substances occurring in nature or natural sources that can be used to diagnose, treat and prevent disease in humans and animals.

The world is moving to green /smart technologies away from fossil products that damage the environment and are less compatible with human or animal life. Natural drug products and biopharmaceuticals are on increasing demand, and African countries have a big comparative advantage over other continents due to the rich yet unexploited biodiversity. Africa still has many undiscovered medicinal plants, fungi, bacteria etc. that could be sources of novel healthcare products.

A Master of Science in Pharmacognosy and Natural Medicine Sciences is relevant for Uganda and Africa with abundant biodiversity because it promotes discovery, identification, conservation, protection and sustainable utilization of the flora and fauna for healthcare in humans and animals.

The two-year full-time program, with a minimum graduation load of 75 Credit Units is developed following the Pharmbiotechnology and Traditional Medicine Centre of Excellence mission of solving one of Africa's regional development challenges i.e. the high disease burden and low productivity based on a World Bank report. This program therefore is intended to build a critical mass of highly needed skilled graduates to drive the exponentially growing demand for natural drugs, as well as other healthcare products.

The mission of this program is to provide the graduate with the relevant and practical knowledge base, skills, attitudes, ethics and values to engage in advanced level of natural medicines research, product development, production and business practice.

The curriculum is unique in that it combines traditional Pharmacognosy, natural medicine knowledge and pharmaceutical biotechnology which enable the graduate to be an expert that can translate natural drugs or preparations thereof from field to shelves. Thus the philosophy behind this program - **'natural drugs from field to shelves'**.

At the end of the 2-year program, the graduate would have acquired specialized knowledge, skills and competencies in the areas of Pharmacognosy and Natural Medicine Science, and would be able to chart careers pathways in both the public and private sectors, including but not limited to the following areas: Research and medical Institutions, Pharma companies, nutraceutical and phytopharmaceutical companies, herbal medicine industries, cosmetic industries, health ministries, Drug Regulatory Agencies, Businesses and supply chain units such as Herbal and food supplement stores, pharmacy and medical Teaching institutions, just to name a few.

For more information about the master's program, contact:

Prof. Robert Tamukong, Tel: +256-773-225785, email: tamukong@must.ac.ug

For more information about application procedure / requirements, contact:

Ms. Martha Kyoshiba Twinamasiko, Academic Registrar email: ar@must.ac.ug



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following program offered at Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine:

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHARMACOGNOSY & NATURAL MEDICINE SCIENCE

Programme Duration: **2 YEARS** Minimum CGPA: **2.80**

Minimum Entry Requirements

- Hold the Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE)/O' Level or its equivalent with a minimum of a pass in at least 5 subjects obtained at the same sitting.
- Hold the Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE)/A' Level with at least 2 principal passes or its equivalent obtained at the same sitting for applicants to a degree program.
- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited degree awarding institution in one of the following fields:
 - Health Sciences
 - Chemistry
 - Biological Science

APPLICATION FEES (NON-REFUNDABLE)

<i>Ugandan and East African Community Applicants</i>	<i>International Applicants</i>
Application Fees Ug. Shs. 50,000=	Application Fees Ug. Shs. 100,000=
Tuition Fee 2,800,000UGX per year	Tuition Fee 5,600,000UGX per year
Functional Fees: 1,270,000 per year	Functional Fees: 2,540,000 per year

PAYMENT FOR APPLICATIONS

<i>Payment within Uganda</i>	<i>Payment from outside Uganda</i>
Bank: Any commercial Bank in Uganda that accepts URA (Uganda Revenue Authority) payments, Account Name: Uganda Revenue Authority	Account Name: Uganda Revenue Authority Account Number: 003410158000002 Bank: Bank of Uganda

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 13th March 2020 AND 8th May 2020 for Late applications (early application is encouraged)

All applications **MUST** be submitted online through <https://applications.must.ac.ug>

ONLINE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Go to <https://applications.must.ac.ug>
- If you don't have an Access Code, click "Click here to get an Access Code", fill in the form and submit. An Access Code will then be sent to your email and phone number. If you already have an Access Code, proceed to step 3.
- Enter you email address and Access Code that has been sent to your phone number to login
- Select the application category i.e. Direct Entry and click "Apply Now"
- Fill in the application form and submit
- Click "Pay for Form" to generate a payment reference number to be used for paying application fees in the bank
- Click "Print Form" and attach the printed form to the hard copies of certified academic and other supporting documents and mail the hard copies to the University or submit it to any of the liaison offices
- Go to the bank and pay the application fees using the payment reference number generated in "Step 6".
- Also submit the following with your application:
 - A motivation letter indicating why you are interested in pursuing the course.
 - Two letters of recommendation from employer and former university.
 - A two-page concept paper of a proposed research topic in the field of interest. The concept paper should have the following structure: 1. Background 2. Problem Statement 3. Objectives 4. proposed methods 5. Significance 6. References

"A limited number of scholarship opportunities are available on merit under PharmBioTrac" – No separate application is needed as all outstanding applications will be considered for selection.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM AND RETURNED TO:

Academic Registrar Mbarara University of Science and Technology P. O. Box 1410, Mbarara Tel. +256-414 668971	Liaison Office Uganda Institute of Allied Health & Management Sciences (Uiahms) Former Mulago Paramedical School Mukibi Yasin Head, School of Med Lab Science	Liaison Office Uganda Technology and Management University (Utamu) Bugolobi, Kampala Grace Nakawunde (Registrar)	Liaison Office Jinja School of Nursing and Midwifery, Jinja Kwihangana Gerald (Registrar)
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Ms. Martha Kyoshaba Twinamasiko