DEPARTMENT OF
PHARMACOTHERAPY AND
OUTCOMES SCIENCE

David A. Holdford, Ph.D., FAPhA
Professor and interim chair

The Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science is the largest of the three departments at the VCU School of Pharmacy. The focus of the department is pharmacotherapy (the safe and effective use of drugs in humans) and pharmacy administration (evaluation of the social and economic impact of drug therapy in humans and in health care systems).

PSCI 607. Introduction to Pharmaceutical Sciences From Bench to Shelf. 2 Hours.
Yearlong course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the interdisciplinary nature of drug discovery and development, to acquaint them with where their research fits into the bigger drug discovery and development picture and to promote interdisciplinary discussions between the students and faculty. Current scientific, regulatory and health care trends impacting drug discovery, development and use will be discussed. Students will be introduced to current topics in the pharmaceutical sciences such as drug target selection, drug design, discovery and development, the drug approval process and regulatory sciences, product optimization, production, and marketing. Graded as PR in the fall semester with a letter grade and credits awarded in the spring.

PSCI 608. Introduction to Pharmaceutical Sciences From Bench to Shelf. 1 Hour.
Continuous courses; 2 credits offered: 1 credit hour each in fall and spring. These two courses will be run as if they were a single 2-credit course spanning two semesters. Students will be introduced to the drug discovery process, both conventional and contemporary, and learn about all the aspects of drug development from drug design to drug approval, production and marketing. Each topic will be introduced by either a faculty member or an expert from the pharmaceutical industry. Active discussion will be encouraged during each session. PSCI 607 graded as PR; PSCI 608 graded S/U/F upon completion.

PSCI 691. Special Topics in Pharmaceutical Sciences I. 0.5-5 Hours.
Semester course. 0.5-5 lecture hours. 0.5-5 credits. Subject matter is presented by lecture, tutorial studies and/or library assignments in selected areas of advanced study not available in other courses or as part of the research training. Graded S/U/F.

PSCI 692. Special Topics in Pharmaceutical Sciences II. 0.5-5 Hours.
Semester course; 0.5-5 lecture hours. 0.5-5 credits. Subject matter is presented by lecture, tutorial studies and/or library assignments in selected areas of advanced study not available in other courses or as part of the research training.