



October 2024

*Welcome to Doctorate in Pharmacy Students*

It is a great pleasure to welcome you as a post-graduate doctorate student at the Department of Pharmacy of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Malta (UM). Together with colleagues from the College of Pharmacy of the University of Illinois (UIC) at Chicago, we are committed to offer you a rewarding and successful learning experience.

The Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and the Department of Pharmacy were established in 1676 when the Council of the Order of the Knights of St John approved the Grandmaster's decision for the foundation of the faculty at the Sacra Infermeria in Valletta. The Department is continuously evolving to be at the forefront of pharmacy education and research, providing consistent high-quality teaching, student monitoring, mentoring and student nurturing to ensure student academic and personal success. The Department hosts a number of International pharmacy meetings and enjoys an extensive international collaboration including student and staff mobilities. We are proud of the outreach of Doctorate in Pharmacy alumni. Doctorate students and staff contribute to European and international meetings on pharmacy presenting the practice research undertaken in the Department and the experiences from the innovative pharmaceutical services.

This year we are celebrating the 10 year Anniversary of the Doctorate in Pharmacy programme and over 100 graduates from the programme. This is how we are all contributing together to vibrant research and pharmacists empowerment in a global context.

During the first year of the Doctorate of Pharmacy programme we will be using different learning models including online learning, live and synchronous remote UIC and UM Faculty-led tutorials, journal clubs and rotations. A key characteristic of the Department is the commitment towards international networking and it gives me great pleasure to welcome students from over 20 countries. This international networking enriches how we exchange ideas, reflect and innovate in pharmacy.

I look forward to meet you all personally and to support your academic success.

Best wishes

Lilian M. Azzopardi