

1. ***Developing a structure activity profile of naphthopyrones***

The synthesis of a variety of α -brominated-unsaturated esters are required to advance our study into developing a structure activity profile of a class of antibiotics known as naphthopyrones. A scholar would be exposed to modern organic synthetic and analytical techniques.

2. ***Bioprospecting : Antibioitcs from Fungi***

As part of an ongoing study examining the biologically active constituents of fungi we will examine the chemistry of a variety of fungal species that have demonstrated activity in our antibiotic assay, or that have a documented use in traditional healing. Macrofungi (from Papua New Guinea) and microfungi cultured in our laboratories may be examined.

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