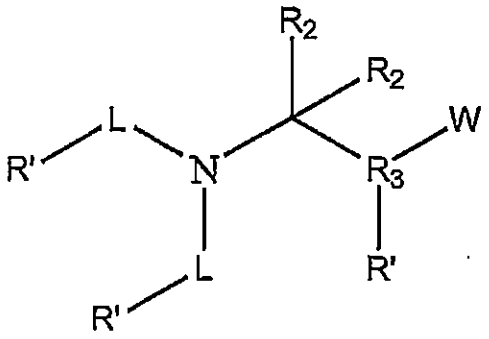
THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

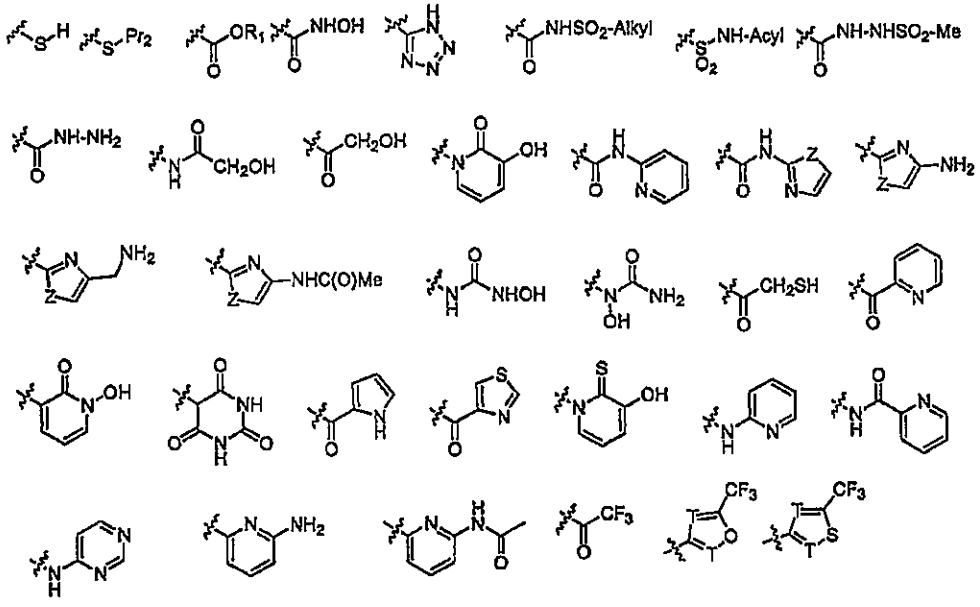
each R' is independently selected from H and QR_1;

each Q is independently selected from a bond, CO, CO_2, NH, S, SO, SO_2 or O;

each R_1 is independently selected from H, C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_1-C_{10} cycloalkyl, halogen, C_1-C_{10} alkylaryl, C_1-C_{10} alkyl heteroaryl or C_1-C_{10} heterocycloalkyl;

each L is independently selected from a 5 to 10-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaryl;

W is selected from;



wherein R_1 is as defined above, Pr^2 is H or a thiol protecting group, Z is selected from O, S or NH and T is N or CH.

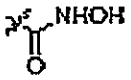
each R_2 is independently hydrogen or C_1 to C_6 alkyl; and

R_3 is an aryl or heteroaryl;

each aryl or heteroaryl may be substituted by up to three substituents selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_3 hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, C_1-C_3 haloalkoxy, amino, C_1-C_3 mono alkylamino, C_1-C_3 bis alkylamino, C_1-C_3 acylamino, C_1-C_3 aminoalkyl, mono (C_1-C_3 alkyl) amino C_1-C_3 alkyl, bis(C_1-C_3 alkyl) amino C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_1-C_3-acylamino, C_1-C_3 alkyl sulfonylamino, halo, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carboxy, C_1-C_3 alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono C_1-C_3 alkyl aminocarbonyl, bis C_1-C_3 alkyl aminocarbonyl, -SO_3H, C_1-C_3 alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, mono C_1-C_3 alkyl aminosulfonyl and bis C_1-C_3-alkyl aminosulfonyl; and

each alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl may be substituted with halogen, NH_2, NO_2 or hydroxyl.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein W is –CONHOH of structure:



3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2, wherein each L is independently selected from a 5 or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaryl, which is optionally fused to a benzene.

4. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein in at least one L group, the atom that is directly bonded to the N is a carbon, and at least one nitrogen atom is directly bonded to said carbon.

5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein L is independently selected from pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, oxadiazolyl, pyrazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyrazinyl, benzofused thiazolyl, benzofused oxazolyl or benzofused imidazolyl.

6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein at least one L group is pyridinyl, oxadiazolyl, pyrazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyrazinyl, benzofused thiazolyl, benzofused oxazolyl or benzofused imidazolyl.

7. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R_3 is phenylene or phenylene substituted with a halogen and/or wherein at least one R_2 is/are H.

8. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R' that is attached to L is independently selected from H, C_1-C_{10} alkyl or O-(C_1-C_{10} alkyl), halogen, C_1-C_{10} heterocycloalkyl, aryl, trifluoromethyl and heteroaryl.

9. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein at least one R' is H, halogen, CF_3, C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl optionally substituted with halogen, heteroaryl optionally substituted with halogen or heterocycloalkyl.

10. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein at least one of the R' that is attached to L is heterocycloalkyl.

11. A compound according to claim 10, wherein R' attached to R_3 is hydrogen or halogen, or wherein at least one R' is C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with halogen, NH_2, NO_2 or hydroxyl.

12. A compound according to claim 11, wherein at least one R' is C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with halogen.

13. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is:
4-{[Bis(pyridin-2-yl)amino]methyl}-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-{[Bis(3-methyl-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)amino]methyl}-2-fluoro-N-hydroxybenzamide;
2-Fluoro-N-hydroxy-4-{[(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)(3-methyl-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-(((3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)(pyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-(((1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)(pyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-((pyridin-2-yl(1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-((pyrazin-2-yl(pyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;

N-Hydroxy-4-(((5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)(pyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
4-((Benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl(pyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-(((1-methyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)(pyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-((pyridin-2-yl(1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
4-(((5-Fluoropyridin-2-yl)(pyrazin-2-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((5-Fluoropyridin-2-yl)(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((5-Fluoropyridin-2-yl)(1-methyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((5-Fluoropyridin-2-yl)(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-((Benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((4-(4-Fluorophenyl)pyridin-2-yl)(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((5-Fluoropyridin-2-yl)(3-methyl-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((4-(4-Fluorophenyl)pyridin-2-yl)(3-methyl-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((5-Fluoropyridin-2-yl)(3-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-(((4-(4-Fluorophenyl)pyridin-2-yl)(pyrazin-2-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-((Benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl(pyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-((pyridin-2-yl(3-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-(((3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-(((5-methoxypyridin-2-yl)(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-(((3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)(5-morpholinopyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-(((5-methoxypyridin-2-yl)(5-morpholinopyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-((pyridin-2-yl(thieno[3,2-c]pyridin-4-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;

N-Hydroxy-4-(((6-methylpyridin-2-yl)(5-morpholinopyridin-2-yl)amino)methyl)benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-{[(pyrazin-2-yl)(pyrimidin-4-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-{[(pyrazin-2-yl)(pyrimidin-4-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-6-{[(pyrazin-2-yl)(pyrimidin-4-yl)amino]methyl}pyridine-3-carboxamide;
4-{[Bis(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-{[Bis(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}-3-fluoro-N-hydroxybenzamide;
6-{[Bis(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}-N-hydroxypyridine-3-carboxamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-{[(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
3-Fluoro-N-hydroxy-4-{[(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-6-{[(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}pyridine-3-carboxamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-{[(pyrazin-2-yl)(pyridazin-3-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
3-Fluoro-N-hydroxy-4-{[(pyrazin-2-yl)(pyridazin-3-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-{[(3-methyl-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-yl)(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-{[(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)(pyrazin-2-yl)amino]methyl}benzamide;
N-Hydroxy-4-{[(pyrazin-2-yl)[6-(trifluoromethyl)pyrazin-2-yl]amino]methyl}benzamide;
4-({[5-(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl](pyrazin-2-yl)amino}methyl)-N-hydroxybenzamide;
4-({[5-(2-Aminopyridin-4-yl)pyridin-2-yl](pyrazin-2-yl)amino}methyl)-Nhydroxybenzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[({5-[2-(methylamino)pyridin-4-yl]pyridin-2-yl}(pyrazin-2-yl)amino)methyl]
benzamide; or
N-hydroxy-4-{[(pyrazin-2-yl)[5-(pyridin-4-yl)pyridin-2-yl]amino]methyl}benzamide.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 13, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

15. A product containing (a) a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 13, and (b) another inhibitor of HDAC, for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment or prevention of a condition mediated by HDAC or (c) another

chemotherapeutic or antineoplastic agent, for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment or prevention of cancer.