

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	Health and Care Professions Council
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy
Named Exit Awards	CertHe Rehabilitation Sciences DipHE Rehabilitation Sciences
Entry Requirements ⁴	<p>Typical Offer: 112 UCAS tariff point or equivalent</p> <p>Students with A levels require a BBC profile. One of these is to be a minimum of a C grade in a life science with (acceptable life sciences include – Biology, Human Biology, Physics, PE, Sociology, Psychology, Chemistry, Sports Science)</p> <p>Students with a BTEC National Diploma require a Distinction Merit Merit profile. Acceptable RQF BTECs include Applied Human Biology, Health Sciences, Sports Science, Health and Social Care extended diploma, other QCF BTEC modules considered on a case-by-case basis</p> <p>Students with an Access to Higher Education Diploma (with appropriate life science content) require a minimum of 45 Level 3 credits at merit grade or above.</p> <p>Successful completion of a Foundation course, or level 4 courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p><i>In addition to the level 3 requirements</i>, students must have achieved a minimum of minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4/C or</p>

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

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	<p>above - including English, Maths and Science (equivalent level 2 qualifications will not be accepted).</p> <p>In order to meet the standards required of the Health and Care Professions Council requirements for English language testing proficiency for international students where English is not the student's first language entry criteria also include an International English Language Testing Score (IELTS) of 7.0 overall (minimum 6.5 in all components).</p> <p>Subject to satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and Occupational health clearance prior to commencing the course</p>
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	[INSERT UCAS CODE]

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2023/24 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

Physiotherapy is a healthcare profession which sees human movement as central to the health and wellbeing of individuals of all ages. Through person centred care a physiotherapist helps to identify and maximise movement potential and quality of life through health promotion, preventive healthcare, and specialist assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation. This contemporary course is designed to support and develop modern, entrepreneurial physiotherapists who feel confident to commence their career in a variety of settings.

During this degree students will learn the essential knowledge, skills, behaviours, and values required to reach the standard for qualification as a physiotherapist. Seven placement experiences are embedded during the course to ensure students achieve the minimum 1000 hours of practice. Following the successful completion of this course students would be eligible to apply for registration as a Physiotherapist with the Health and Care Professions Council and you would also be eligible to apply for membership as a Chartered Physiotherapist with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

Course Aims

1. To provide students with the knowledge, skills, behaviour, values and professionalism that will enable them to work, effectively, flexibly and responsively as an autonomous and reflective physiotherapy practitioner in a variety of service and practice settings.
2. To develop graduates who provide high quality person-centred physiotherapy practice which is delivered in partnership with patients and carers in existing and emerging health and well-being environments.
3. To promote an inquisitive evidence-based and research-informed approach to the application of high-quality contemporary physiotherapy practice across a diverse range of settings and populations through a process of critical evaluation, clinical reasoning and reflection.

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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4. To provide a supportive active learning environment in which students are encouraged to develop skills for life-long learning, personal and professional goals, emotional intelligence, digital literacy, cultural competence, and problem-solving to enable them to develop as an autonomous practitioner.
5. To equip students with the ability to drive the profession and healthcare forward by developing the skills of accountability, resilience, leadership, enterprise, entrepreneurship and innovation.
6. To empower students to take personal and professional responsibility for the sustainable use of resources, and to work within ethical and legal frameworks.
7. To develop graduates who are eligible to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and apply for membership of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP).

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

On successful completion of Level 6, the student will be able to:

1. Work as a flexible and responsive autonomous professional, who can evaluate and reflect on their own scope of practice and respond to the changing needs and demands of health and social care, the implications of limited resources and have the ability to influence practice to provide high quality person-centred care.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the impact of cultural factors, equality and diversity in practice contexts and be able to practice in an anti-discriminatory way, promoting social justice, equality and inclusion.
3. Critically evaluate the fundamental physical and clinical science and the sociological, health and behavioural science concepts that underpin physiotherapy practice.
4. Work in partnership with service users to promote, maintain and improve personal and public health and wellbeing and work collaboratively with a range health, social and integrated care professionals to improve patient outcomes.
5. Demonstrate effective and appropriate forms of communication to ensure that all the information necessary is available to make informed decisions with service users and all members of the integrated care team.
6. Discuss, and respond to changes in, the political, social, economic, environmental and institutional factors that shape delivery of physiotherapy services.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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7. Critically analyse and interpret the evidence base to underpin sound clinical reasoning in making timely and informed decisions about the care of individuals.
8. Demonstrate transferable key skills in problem solving, critical thinking, written and verbal communication, team working, professional autonomy, innovation, entrepreneurship and leadership, time management, prioritisation of workload, reflection and self-evaluation, and use of existing and emerging technologies.
9. Evaluate personal development as a learner and develop an ethos of lifelong learning.
10. Demonstrate the ability to meet all Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Proficiency for Physiotherapists.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks / Professional Standards / HCPC Competency Frameworks:

- HCPC Standards of Proficiency for Physiotherapist (2013)
- HCPC Standards of Education and Training (2017)
- Chartered Society of Physiotherapy Physiotherapy Framework: putting physiotherapy behaviours, values, knowledge and skills into practice (CSP, 2011, updated 2020).

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Becoming a Professional	20	M
	Human Anatomy and Clinical Science	20	M
	Fundamentals of Human Movement and Rehabilitation	20	M
	Placement 1 (NHS Values Based)	0 Pass/Fail	M
	Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy	20	M
	Cardiorespiratory Physiotherapy	20	M
	Neurological and Neuromuscular Physiotherapy	20	M
Level 5			
	Management of Acute Conditions	20	M

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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	Management of Long Term Conditions	20	M
	Placement 2	20	M
	Evidence-based Physiotherapy	20	M
	Placement 3	20	M
	Exercise and Rehabilitation in Specific Populations	20	M
	Placement 4 - Elective	0 Pass/Fail	M
Level 6			
	Research, Innovation and Enterprise	40	M
	Placement 5	0 Pass/Fail	M
	Managing Complexity	20	M
	Placement 6	20	M
	Taking the Profession Forward	20	M
	Placement 7	20	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE Rehabilitation Science on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5, or a CertHE Rehabilitation Science on successful completion of 120 credits including all mandatory modules at level 4.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy are likely to have approximately 360 contact hours for level 4, 250 contact hours for level 5 and 117 contact hours for level 6. The contact hours will be a mix of lecture, seminar, practical activity and students will also be required to participate in a minimum of 1000 hours of work placement across the three years of the programme. Placements will be arranged by the University. Students will normally be expected to undertake 30 hours of independent study in an average week but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 27% coursework (including essays, poster presentations, group work, reflective accounts, digital video production, research projects), 41% examinations, including Objective Structured Clinical Examination and 32% practical assessments.

Special Features

On successful completion of the BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy students are eligible for registration with the HCPC and eligible for membership with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

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Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute and are registered with the appropriate professional body.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK	N/A
Full-time EU/International	£17,768 per year
Part-time EU/International	N/A

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students will be required to pay additional costs for:

Description	Mandatory/Optional	Estimated Cost
Anatomy bone box loan (one box recommended to be shared between 3 students)	Optional	Cost per box £20
Purchase of stethoscope	Optional	£10 - £80
Practical Class Kit: Navy Tracksuit trousers Suitable Navy loose P.E. type shorts White polo/t-shirt Trainers (You will be provided with your clinical uniform for your placements but will require additional clothing which you will wear for your practical classes at the university. You may also wish to purchase kit embroidered with University of Suffolk logos.)	Mandatory	£80 - £150
Smart/casual clothes for community placement or placement where clinical uniform is not required	Mandatory	Estimated cost £50 - £100

*For further details regarding eligibility for claiming travel costs associated with placement please see this link: [Travel and Dual Accommodation Expenses | NHSBSA](#) and information on the NHS Learning Support Funding in this link: [NHS Learning Support Fund | NHSBSA](#)

Given the additional costs presented above, we estimate if the student purchases items on the mandatory list the maximum cost incurred may be £350 in the first year of study.

Students may have to factor additional costs for travel / accommodation to their placement site if they are unable to claim these costs back..

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Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).