

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-Registration)
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	Nursing and Midwifery Council
Credit Structure ²	180 credits at Level 7
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years full-time
Intended Award	MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration)
Named Exit Awards	PgC Health Studies PgD Health Studies MSc Health Studies
Entry Requirements ⁴	Adult Nursing: An undergraduate degree at classification 2:2 in a science-based subject or a 2:1 for any other subject area. Completion of RPEL portfolio evidencing 750 hours of experience working/volunteering in a health/social care setting within the past 5 years (to meet NMC requirements within the accelerated programme). Three GCSEs at grade 4/C or above to include Mathematics and English (or equivalent) For applicants whose first language is not English, but who have been living in the UK for less than 2 years (or have not lived in the UK at all), IELTS or the University of Suffolk Password test will be considered as meeting the English requirement. Applicants whose first language is not English, but who have been living in the UK for 2 years or more will be expected to hold GCSE English at Grade C or above, (grade 4-9 for the new GCSEs) or the relevant Level 2 equivalent (if applicable) For all applicants Satisfactory Occupational Health Clearance Satisfactory Enhanced DBS check

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

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](#).

MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) (IPGATP/IATPMSTR26)

Information for (2026/2027)

Version 1.0 (October 2025)

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Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2026-27 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

The purpose of the course is to prepare nurses who can assess, plan, lead and co-ordinate the delivery of high quality, person-centred, holistic care, which is underpinned by an evidence base.

Course Aims

The aim of the course is to equip students with the skills and knowledge to:

- Provide high-quality, person-centred care to adults across the lifespan within varied clinical environments which is inclusive for patients and families.
- Deliver safe and effective care utilising evidence-based practice and adhering to NMC standards, developing adaptable and competent practitioners who engage in lifelong learning.
- Lead and co-ordinate nursing care within the multidisciplinary team, making sound clinical judgements and promoting continuous improvement.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) 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 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Critically apply an integrated and comprehensive understanding of nursing theories, biosciences, and ethical principles to inform and enhance decision-making in complex and evolving adult nursing practice.
2. Demonstrate professional autonomy and advanced ethical reasoning by upholding honesty, integrity, and the duty of candour in all care interactions with service users and their families

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

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

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3. Critically manage self, and lead others within multidisciplinary settings, applying the NMC Code (2018) legal and ethical frameworks to safeguard and promote the rights, interests, and dignity of service users.
4. Apply a systematic understanding of health promotion recognising the changing political, social, and economic influences on current/contemporary population healthcare needs.
5. Critically appraise and synthesis evidence-based knowledge to assess, prioritise, and lead the planning and delivery of high-quality, person-centred, and holistic care across the lifespan.
6. Exercise professional accountability for co-ordinating, leading and managing user needs effectively communicating, applying principles of partnership and collaboration to maintain independence or advocate appropriate solutions in complex care contexts.
7. Develop and apply leadership and management skills, acting as a role model to promote teamworking and collaboration within the MDT to effectively care for patients with differing needs in diverse care environments.
8. Critically assess, manage and report risks, continuously evaluating practice to promote quality improvement and ensuring delivery of safe and effective care.
9. Recognise individual responsibilities in maintaining through-career competence, a commitment to lifelong learning, critical thinking and the need for reflection to aid personal and professional development.
10. Achieve the NMC (2018) competencies for entry to the NMC Register as an Adult Nurse, including supporting and supervising students in preparation for the role of practice supervisor upon registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks / Professional Standards / Nursing and Midwifery Council Competency Frameworks:

- NMC Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education (2018)
- NMC Standards for student supervision and assessment (2018)
- NMC Standards for pre-registration nursing programmes (2018)
- NMC Future nurse: Standards of proficiency for registered nurses (2018)
- QAA The UK Quality Code for Higher Education (2018)
- QAA Master's Degree Characteristics Statement (2020)

Course Structure

The MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) comprises modules at level 7.

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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 7			
7	Foundations of Nursing: Professional, Ethical and Legal Basis	30	Mandatory
7	Applied Biosciences and Fundamentals of Nursing Practice	30	Mandatory
7	Adult Nursing Practice 1	0	Mandatory
7	Concepts of Care and Medicines Management	30	Mandatory
7	The Acutely Unwell Adult: Assessment and Intervention	30	Mandatory
7	Adult Nursing Practice 2	0	Mandatory
7	Leading and Managing Evidence-based Care	30	Mandatory
7	Managing Complex Care	30	Mandatory
7	Adult Nursing Practice 3	0	Mandatory

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) and will be eligible to register with the NMC as an Adult Nurse. Students who successfully complete 180 credits but do not pass the Adult Nursing practice element may be eligible for a MSc Health Studies but will not be eligible for registration with the NMC. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a PgD Health Studies on successful completion of 120 credits or a PgC Health Studies on successful completion of 60 credits, although these exit awards will not enable students to apply for entry to the Nursing and Midwifery Council register.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk Ipswich campus as an accelerated pre-registration programme and therefore the nature of study is intensive. Students studying full-time on MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) are likely to have approximately 760 contact hours. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and skills-based practical workshops. Students will also be required to engage with guided study activities through the online learning platform Brightspace and other mandatory e-learning across other platforms. Students will also be required to demonstrate the completion of 2300 clinical hours in practice placements across a range of clinical placement settings. Placements will be arranged by the University. Students will also be expected to undertake additional independent of approximately 1280 hours across the duration of the course, as a key requirement of this accelerated programme of study.

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 include summative and formative assessments of coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects) examinations and practical assessments.

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Special Features

On successful completion of the MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) students are eligible to apply for registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. This does not apply to students exiting the course with PgC/PgD/MSc Health Studies award, who will not be eligible for registration.

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 MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£10,215
Part-time UK/EU	Not Applicable
Full-time International	£18,900
Part-time International	Not applicable

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

Students are reimbursed for travel and parking costs whilst on placement, however, these are paid retrospectively. Students are likely to incur other costs for learning materials such as printing, books and stationery.

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](#).