

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). Five 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 7.0 (with a minimum of 6.5 in each component) will be required.

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 Taught Postgraduate 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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	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) Applicants who are NMC Registered nurses in mental health, learning disability or children's nursing who are applying to undertake the MSc Adult Nursing course to achieve registration in a different field of nursing can apply for recognition of prior learning that is capable of being mapped to the Standards of proficiency for registered nurses and the university course outcomes to a maximum of 80 credits. For all applicants Satisfactory Occupational Health Clearance Satisfactory Enhanced DBS check
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

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 2025-26 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:

- Care for people across the lifespan, within all healthcare environments
- Deliver evidence-based, safe, and compassionate care
- Become adaptable, competent practitioners, capable of working in a multi-disciplinary team

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.

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

1. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to assess and prioritise the healthcare needs of individuals across the lifespan, to be able to lead, plan and deliver high-quality, person-centred care in a range of healthcare environments.
2. Critically evaluate healthcare delivery and the underpinning evidence base, models, philosophies and theoretical frameworks in adult nursing.
3. Demonstrate the ability to manage self and others in practice, in accordance with the NMC Code (2018) and relevant legal, and ethical frameworks, to protect the rights and interests of the service user.
4. Create an environment in which diversity and individual differences are recognised, respected and valued.
5. Demonstrate a critical appreciation of the principles of good governance in the management, leadership and development of care.
6. Demonstrate a responsive approach to the changing political, social, and economic influences on contemporary healthcare, population health and healthcare.
7. Recognise individual responsibilities in maintaining through-career competence, a commitment to lifelong learning, and the need for reflection to aid personal and professional development.
8. Demonstrate the critical application of the biological sciences, social theories, communication theories and research to the planning and delivery of contemporary nursing care.
9. Support and supervise students in preparation for the role of practice supervisor upon registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).
10. Achieve the NMC (2018) competencies for entry to the NMC Register as an Adult Nurse.

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)

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- 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.

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			
	Nursing in Society	40	Mandatory
	Health and Human Development 1	20	Mandatory
	Adult Nursing Practice 1	0	Mandatory
	Health and Human Development 2	20	Mandatory
	Recognising the Acutely Unwell Adult	20	Mandatory
	Adult Nursing Practice 2	0	Mandatory
	Managing Complex Care	20	Mandatory
	Leading and Co-ordinating Care	20	Mandatory
	Dissertation	40	Mandatory
	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

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

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The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk Ipswich campus. Students studying full-time on MSc Adult Nursing (Pre-registration) are likely to have approximately 640 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 on-line learning platform Brightspace and other mandatory e-learning across other platforms. Due to the accelerated nature of the course students will be expected to complete 43 hours of study per week (inclusive of: direct contact hours, preparing for contact sessions, online activity, assessment preparation and independent study), to meet the required 2300 theory hours. 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.

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.

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, including the NMC or HCPC.

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	£18,470
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.

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Students will be required to pay for their DBS check and a small ID check and processing fee; additional fees may be incurred upon a student returning from a period of intercalation. The cost of DBS checks can be found on the DBS page of the [University of Suffolk website](#).

Students may be eligible to claim for travel and car parking costs whilst on placement; however, these are paid retrospectively.

Academic Framework and Regulations

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