

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

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|---|---|
| Course Title | MSc Advanced Clinical Practice [Progression route] |
| Awarding Bodies | University of Suffolk |
| Level of Award ¹ | FHEQ Level 7 |
| Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition | None |
| Credit Structure ² | 60 Credits at level 7 |
| Mode of Attendance | Part-time |
| Standard Length of Course ³ | 1 year part-time |
| Intended Award | MSc Advanced Clinical Practice |
| Named Exit Awards | N/A |
| Entry Requirements ⁴ | Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Healthcare Practice or Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Clinical Practice |
| Delivering Institution | University of Suffolk |

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the MSc Advanced Clinical Practice course. This course is a progression route for students who have successfully completed the PgD in Advanced Healthcare Practice or Enhanced Clinical Practice (ACP exit award) and wish to continue their academic study. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2024-25 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This programme of study has been designed to facilitate students in the development and evidencing of the knowledge, skills and competencies required to work at an advanced level within their own professional setting and role.

Students will be supported to develop a critical awareness of current problems and new insights at the forefront of their professional practice. Students will examine care development and delivery from their own professional standpoint and also take account of how other disciplines challenge and contribute to the quality of care delivery.

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 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](#).

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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This course provides the opportunity for students to engage in a critical exploration of the Advanced Practice agenda in healthcare practice with particular emphasis on leadership coupled with modules designed to facilitate knowledge and skills in relation to assessment/examination skills, clinical reasoning and decision-making, Non-Medical Prescribing module which should be considered core unless the student has already completed the Prescribing qualification or works in a profession where Non-Medical Prescribing is not supported, and Research Methods. The student will then complete the dissertation module, and Leading change in Clinical Practice, which are mandatory for those wishing to complete studies towards the MSc Advanced Healthcare Practice.

Course Aims

- To enable students to engage in critical debate of issues pertinent to the roles and responsibilities within advanced professional practice and respond to them appropriately
- To develop practitioners who are able to work in a professionally autonomous way demonstrating leadership within their area of practice and who are accountable for their own professional and clinical decisions
- To enable students to critically evaluate personal and professional development needs in relation to advanced professional practice and implement appropriate responses
- To enable students to meet the challenges of undertaking research at master's level within their field of practice
- To develop an individual who is able to act as a role model and an educator to initiate change and management development opportunities within the clinical setting

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the MSc Advanced Clinical Practice 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.

Knowledge and understanding and cognitive skills

1. Critically evaluate current research and advance scholarship in their field of practice
2. Meet the challenge of undertaking research at this level.

Subject specific skills

1. Independently design, plan, manage and evaluate a research project pertinent to their field of professional practice.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the significance of the research findings to their profession.

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

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Key / common skills

1. Demonstrate an ability to communicate complex ideas and arguments in writing to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Course Design

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

- Health Education England Multi-professional framework for advanced clinical practice in England

Course Structure

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice 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 | | | |
| | Leading Change in Advanced Practice | 20 | M |
| | Dissertation | 40 | M |
| | NB: Students will be required (if not already completed) to submit a portfolio of evidence to include competencies and be signed off by the course lead on completion of the remaining modules. | | |

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a MSc Advanced Clinical Practice.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. During this course students studying part-time on the MSc Advanced Clinical Practice are likely to have approximately 30 tutor structured learning hours in the Leading Change in Advanced Practice module. Throughout the dissertation, 20 hours of individual supervision will be available to students. Tutor structured learning will be a mix of lectures, seminars and practical activity. Students will be expected to undertake approximately 20 hours of independent study in a week but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

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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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 will be in the form of an oral presentation, written assignment and dissertation coursework.

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.

Course Costs

Students undertaking MSc Advanced Clinical Practice will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

| Student Group | Tuition Fees |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Part-time UK | £1,097 per 20 credit module |
| Part-time EU/International | £1,700 per 20 credit module* |

*EU and International students on health courses may also incur a placement fee. For information, please contact the Admissions Department on 01473 338348 or via email admissions@uos.ac.uk.

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

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](#).