

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	120 Credits at level 7
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years
Intended Award	PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care
Named Exit Awards	PgC Professional Practice: Integrated Care
Entry Requirements ⁴	An Honours degree normally at 2:2 or above Or Evidence of the student's ability to work at master's level Currently working or volunteering in the field of health and social care This course is not open to visa sponsored students (those students sponsored by the University under the student route)
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2026-27 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This PgD programme is designed to enable students to transform integrated care services to enhance quality outcomes for people, professionals and organisations. Students will develop enhanced leadership and a critical understanding of integrated care and public health complexities in both a regional and national context. It also bring the opportunity to develop

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](#).

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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change management and research appraisal skills. Working together with other students will provide an opportunity to generate insights and explore professional experiences to enrich learning and insights from the health and care arena.

The programme has a step-off point at certificate level to provide a flexible approach to studying and working and provides options for students to meet both personal and professional requirements.

Course Aims

- To advance critical knowledge and awareness of contemporary integrated care theory, policy and practice within complex health and care systems.
- To develop advanced critical evaluation and professional communication skills, enabling confident leadership, influence and debate across integrated care settings.
- To promote high levels of autonomy, self-direction and professional accountability, underpinned by robust evidence-based and improvement-focused practice.
- To enable the application of advanced knowledge to evaluate professional practice and provide effective leadership in complex, uncertain and multi-agency environments.
- To explore contemporary challenges in integrated care and public health and apply population-based and preventative approaches to integrated care practice.
- To develop master's-level academic, research and intellectual skills, including independent scholarly activity, to support innovation and transformation in integrated services.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care 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 completion of the PgD students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical understanding and awareness of contemporary issues, dilemmas and policy drivers shaping integrated care practice.
2. Critically reflect on the impact of the integrated care agenda on self and key stakeholders, demonstrating professional judgement, autonomy and accountability.
3. Critically reflect on the scope and limitations of their professional role within integrated practice, in relation to local and national policies, frameworks and system priorities.
4. Critically evaluate the impact of public health and wellbeing challenges on health and social care delivery within integrated and population-focused settings.
5. Disseminate and apply evidence-based practice to support service improvement, innovation and the delivery of effective integrated care interventions.
6. Demonstrate effective communication and influence strategies to support contemporary leadership within complex, multi-agency integrated care environments.
7. Critically evaluate and appraise theory and practice to inform decision-making, leadership and transformation in integrated care.
8. Actively engage with colleagues to discuss and critically debate a variety of issues and perspectives
9. Take a lead in promoting a culture of evidence-based practice in integrated care provision

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

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10. Critically evaluate and appraise existing sources of information to facilitate problem solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical settings
11. Work collaboratively with others to enhance the understanding of effective integrated care delivery.

Course Design

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

QAA Master's Degree Characteristic's Statement

Course Structure

	Module	Credits	Module Type
Level 7			
Y1	Effective Leadership in Integrated Care	30	Mandatory
	Choose from the below: 1 x 30 credit optional module or 2 x 15 credit optional modules	30	
	Population Health Management	15	Optional
	Workforce design and development	15	Optional
	Digital Skills and AI in Integrated Care	15	Optional
	Creative Health in Integrated Care	15	Optional
	Coaching within Healthcare	30	Optional
	Principles of Cancer Care	30	Optional
	Improving Practice through Application of Learning	30	Optional
	Professional Advocate	30	Optional
	Principles of Public Health and Wellbeing	30	Optional
Y2	Research Methods	30	Mandatory
	Leading and Managing Change	30	Mandatory

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

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care.

Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a Postgraduate Certificate Professional Practice: Integrated Care on successful completion of 60 credits consisting of the *Effective Leadership in Integrated Care* module and 30 credits of optional modules.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying part-time on the PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care are likely to have approximately 3.5 tutor-structured learning hours per week. Tutor-structured learning will be a mix of blended learning and traditional and

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contemporary learning approaches. Examples include seminars; problem-based learning; enquiry-based learning; work-based learning; debate and case study analysis. Students will normally be expected to undertake 8 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 will include essays, reports, presentations, group work, and research projects.

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 to the programme.

Course Costs

Students undertaking PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Part-time UK	£1,665 per 30 credit module
Part-time EU/International	£2,670 per 30 credit module

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](#).

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