

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing) [progression route]
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	Nursing and Midwifery Council
Credit Structure ²	120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits Plus advanced standing of 240 credits at level 4 and 5
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	1 year full-time
Intended Award	BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing)
Named Exit Awards	BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing Studies
Entry Requirements ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration on Part One of the NMC Register • Diploma in Nursing or equivalent credits • Two years post registration experience the latest of which must be in the Primary Care setting • In addition: • Confirmation that a Practice Teacher or Sign-off Mentor will be available to supervise and assess in the practice area • DBS check which needs to be within 3 years when commencing prescribing element
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	N/A

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing) [progression route] course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 6 in the 2017-18 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

This programme is designed for experienced registered nurses who are based in the community setting within District Nursing teams. The programme content is set by the professional standards listed overleaf and the integration of theory and practice is an essential element of this programme. Students therefore undertake 50% of their learning and assessment in the practice placement where they are provided with opportunities to apply

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](#)

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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their developing knowledge and understanding of specialist nursing practice. On successful completion of the programme students will be eligible to have their specialist practice qualification and prescribing qualification recorded with the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Course Aims

Community practitioners are key to the successful implementation of new ways of working within primary care, and therefore a robust and responsive curriculum is required to develop District Nurses who can confidently apply advanced skills and knowledge to this increasingly prominent practice setting. This programme aims to develop practitioners for this unique and essential role who are able to lead and deliver high quality services within the challenging environment of contemporary health care. To this end the BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing) programme aims to enable the student to:

- Integrate expertise, skills and knowledge to initiate and deliver enhanced health care in partnership with patients, their families and carers and communities.
- Share learning experiences with colleagues from a wide variety of professional backgrounds enabling students to identify and develop their specialist practice.
- Explore and analyse concepts and evidence in order to present complex arguments to support the delivery of care.
- Develop as a reflective, independent, self - directed learner in order to advance and disseminate specialist theory and practice.
- Effectively engage others in the planning, delivery and evaluation of a range of community health care interventions.
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of changing socio – economic and political issues and the impact on primary health care delivery.
- Use effective and creative problem solving skills in a variety of practical settings.
- Meet the required regulatory standards in order to act as a Community Practitioner or Nurse Prescriber.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing) 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

Knowledge and understanding and cognitive skills

1. Independently propose and evaluate alternative approaches to contemporary District Nursing practice.

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

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2. Appraise conceptual models, theories and vocabulary encountered within the programme.
3. Deal with complexity and contradiction in knowledge proffered for practice.
4. Make sound judgments in the absence of complete data.
5. Discern between different research methods and their suitability for undertaking research in the area of District Nursing.

Subject Specific Skills

1. Demonstrate competent practice in a variety of contexts within the field of District Nursing practice. Effectively engage others in the delivery of enhanced care.
2. Demonstrate how they have achieved the appropriate Practice Learning Outcomes according to the Standards for Specialist Education and Practice (District Nursing) (UKCC 2001) and the Voluntary Standards for District Nurse Education and Practice (The Queen's Nursing Institute (2015)) which include competency to prescribe as a community practitioner nurse prescriber.

Key/ Common Skills

1. Analyse and appraise existing sources of information.
2. Demonstrate ability to present complex arguments to a group in a competent manner.
3. Demonstrate self-reflectivity and an awareness of the need for continuing professional development.

Course Design

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

- Standards for Specialist Education and Practice (Nursing and Midwifery Councils 2001).
- Voluntary Standards for District Nurse Education and Practice (Queens Nursing Institute 2015).

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing) comprises 5 theory modules at level 6 and three practice modules. All modules are mandatory.

Module Specifications for each of these modules can be found in the Module Specification Handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

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	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 6			
	Principles of Care Coordination in Community Settings (District Nursing)	20	M
	Physical Assessment for Health Care Practitioners	20	M
	Investigating and Applying the Evidence Base for Therapeutic Interventions in Primary Care	40	M
	Leading and Managing Healthcare Practice in Community Settings (District Nursing)	20	M
	V100 Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribing	20	M
	Practice elements 1,2 &3	Nil	M
	TOTAL	120	

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing) which will be recordable at the NMC along with the V100 prescribing qualification. Students who do not complete the practice elements but who successfully complete the theory elements of the programme may be eligible for an exit award (which excludes the V100 Qualification). This will be Bachelor of Science with Honours in Primary Care Nursing Studies (Exit Award). There will be no eligibility for professional recognition of this award, and graduates will not be eligible to prescribe from the Nurse's Formulary even if they successfully completed the V100 Community Practitioner Nurse Prescriber Module.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Delivery of taught theory lessons will be interspersed with weeks of practice placements. These may be arranged in blocks or alternate weeks. Students studying full-time on BSc (Hons) Primary Care Nursing (District Nursing) are likely to have approximately 24 contact hours per theory week. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminar, practical activity and on-line learning. Students will also be required to spend an equal number of hours in the practice placement, with an additional 10 weeks' equivalent consolidation period in the placement at the end of the programme. Placements will be arranged by the employing organisation in consultation with the University. Students will normally be expected to undertake 12 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 and will include essays, reports, presentations, critical analysis of research, group work and written examinations. In addition there will be observed practical examinations and practice based assessments incorporating critical reflective reviews of the practice experience.

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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Course Team

The academic staff delivering this programme 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 NMC or HCPC.

Course Costs

Students undertaking will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£13,080 per year
Part-time International	£2,180 per 20 credit module

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

Students will incur other costs for one required set text book amounting to approximately £25.00

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](#).