

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	Approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 100 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Plus five GCSEs grade C or above including Mathematics and English (or equivalent) Subject to interview Any offer of a place will be subject to a satisfactory health check and enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	B760

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2017-18 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

The purpose of the programme is to support the development of a person who will be able to meet the requirements for registration as a Mental Health Nurse. They will voice and demonstrate appropriate values, possess the required knowledge and be able to demonstrate the necessary skills when called upon to do so. In addition they will see learning as a lifelong requirement and be willing to take responsibility for professional leadership and management not only in clinical practice but also in whatever forum provides the opportunity.

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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The curriculum has been designed to be able to respond in and of itself to changing needs, developments, priorities and expectations in health, healthcare practice and education. It will ensure graduates appreciate the expectation that they will provide the highest quality care in whatever environment acknowledging the opportunities and challenges presented by change. Nursing has not always appreciated the leadership function of the newly qualified nurse. This curriculum will ensure they are fitted with the skills and motivation required to assume this responsibility.

Course Aims

- To inform, guide, advise and support the individual in achieving the standards required to attain registration as a Mental Health Nurse fit for practice in the present and beyond.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Mental Health 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

At the end of level 4 students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the requirements of ethical and professional practice at level 4
2. Demonstrate the capacity to contribute to the delivery of effective and efficient, planned, progressive and individualised care
3. Demonstrate anti-discriminatory practice within a safe and effective, respectful and therapeutic relationship with the service user
4. Contribute to the proper management of care within a multi-professional, (interprofessional), context
5. Demonstrate the motivation to become an independent learner within a supportive learning environment
6. Achieve the NMC (2010) competencies for entry to year two of the programme

At the end of level 5 students will be able to:

7. Show a critical understanding of the requirements of the professional regulatory, ethical and legal frameworks of nursing and health care
8. Critically appreciate the processes required to formulate and deliver proper care plans that meet individual needs in a variety of contexts
9. Demonstrate the capacity to negotiate and deliver sensitive and effective care that is in keeping with the dignity and respect of the person
10. Demonstrate effective engagement with other members of the multi-professional care team

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

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11. Demonstrate a commitment to ongoing personal and professional development in the role of the nurse

12. Achieve the NMC (2010) competencies for entry to year three of the programme

At the end of level 6 students will be able to:

13. Manage self and others in practice in accordance with the NMC Code of Conduct and ethical, legal frameworks that ensures the primacy of service user interest, respecting wellbeing and human rights

14. Lead the delivery of innovative, evidence based practice within planned progressive and individualised care plans that generates new understanding of the theoretical foundations of nursing care

15. Show a critical appreciation of the principles of good governance in the management, leadership and development of care

16. Actively pursue a direction of personal, professional development that supports improvements in practice for self and other members of the multi-professional team

17. Achieve the NMC (2010) competencies for entry to the NMC register

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following NMC Competency Framework:

- Nursing and Midwifery Council Standards for pre-registration nursing education (2010)

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

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.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Nursing Practice 1 (including IPL: Working with Others)	40	M
	Nursing Theory 1: Foundations of Nursing Practice	40	M
	Nursing Theory 2: Holistic Care	40	M
Level 5			
	Nursing Practice 2 (including IPL: The Service User)	40	M
	Nursing Theory 3: Recovery in Mental Health	40	M
	Nursing Theory 4: Evidence Based Practice & Complex Mental Health Needs	40	M

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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Level 6			
	Nursing Practice 3 (including IPL: The Professional in the Team)	60	M
	Nursing Theory 5: Preparing for Professional Practice	20	M
	Dissertation	40	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing and will be eligible to register with the NMC as a Nurse - Mental Health.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the Ipswich. Students studying full-time on the BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing programme can expect a mix of direct contact time which is facilitated by lecturers, for example lectures, seminars or workshops, and indirect contact time in students will be expected to undertake other activities such as set reading. This is likely to be approximately 265 direct and 270 indirect contact hours for level 4, 270 direct and 240 indirect contact hours for level 5 and 190 hours direct and 150 hours indirect contact hours for level 6. Students will also be required to participate in 10 weeks of work placement per semester in Suffolk based health settings. Placements will be arranged by the University and students are required to work 37.5 hours per week, this includes weekends and in some cases bank holidays, following a range of shift patterns that include early shifts, late shifts, nights, long days and flexible shifts. Students will normally be expected to undertake 16 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 overall will include approximately 2 pieces of coursework per semester (including assignments, service user case study, reports, presentations, group work, poster presentations, personal development review, reflective portfolio and research projects), with one written examination at level 4 and one numeracy examination at level five. The student will also be assessed in clinical practice throughout the three year course.

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 NMC.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	Not applicable
Full-time International	£14,580 per year
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 are likely to incur other costs books and other learning materials they may choose to buy and the cost incurred when providing two copies of their dissertation. There may be other costs incurred with travelling expenses and car parking.

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](#).