

**DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD**

Course Title	<b>BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science</b>
Awarding Bodies	<b>University of Suffolk</b>
Level of Award <sup>1</sup>	<b>FHEQ Level 6</b>
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	<b>Approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)</b>
Credit Structure <sup>2</sup>	<b>360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits</b>
Mode of Attendance	<b>Full-time</b>
Standard Length of Course <sup>3</sup>	<b>3 years full-time</b>
Intended Award	<b>BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science</b>
Named Exit Awards	<b>None</b>
Entry Requirements <sup>4</sup>	<b>Typical Offer: 112 UCAS points (or equivalent) Five GCSEs at grade C or above (or equivalent), including English, Maths and Science Evidence of recent study (within the last 5 years) Any offer of a place will be subject to a satisfactory health check and enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check Subject to interview and Admissions Test Full clean driving licence with provisional C1</b>
Delivering Institution(s)	<b>University of Suffolk</b>
UCAS Code	<b>B950</b>

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2018-19 academic year.<sup>5</sup>

**Course Summary**

The contemporary role of the paramedic involves complex decision-making. The College of Paramedics believes that educational programmes need to be set at an appropriate academic level to ensure effective high quality paramedic decision-making. The BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science programme has been designed to allow the student to gain competence, depth of specialist paramedic knowledge, flexible clinical decision-making and leadership skills to confidently and effectively care for service users. The course team acknowledge the need for

<sup>1</sup> For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

<sup>3</sup> 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](#).

<sup>4</sup> Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

<sup>5</sup> 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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public protection and to work in partnership to ensure students are fit for purpose and practice at the point of registration.

This course will enable students to develop courage and resilience to recognise, respond and adjust to the ever changing healthcare practice environment while maintaining their professional knowledge, skills, competence and confidence. Education and practice will work in partnership with students to ensure that future paramedics enable service users that are provided with safe and effective care interventions.

Overall, this programme aims to develop a contemporary, holistic practitioner who is safe and competent in practice. By equipping the student with the tools for continual development and life-long learning, they will not only meet the demands of today's health service, but also have the skills to adapt practice to meet the ever-changing needs of the NHS.

### **Course Aims**

- To provide students with the knowledge and skills required to achieve the level of competence necessary to be eligible to apply for registration as a paramedic with the Health and Care Professions Council
- To equip the students with the knowledge, understanding, skills, and attitudes that will enable them to work effectively, flexibly and responsively as a reflective paramedic practitioner
- To ensure the students are equipped with the required skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to enable them to assess and manage patients within a range of complex out of hospital environments
- To develop the student's ability to critique, analyse and evaluate contemporary evidence and research to ensure they provide the highest quality of care in all practice settings
- To enhance the students communication, interpersonal and collaboration skills to enable them to practice effectively within a multi- professional service in the delivery of out of hospital care
- To provide opportunities for the students to develop key skills to prepare them for a career within the context of being lifelong learners, thus ensuring the delivery of effective care and maintaining currency of knowledge and skills expected by the professional regulatory and statutory bodies and general public

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science 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).<sup>6</sup>

### **Knowledge, understanding and cognitive skills**

1. Understand what the regulatory (HCPC) and professional body (The College of paramedics) require of them as registered practitioners

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

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2. Effectively use the ethical, legal professional framework within which paramedics practice
3. Undertake effective, structured assessment and observation in all situations
4. Select appropriate interventions and patient management strategies in all situations
5. Have the knowledge and ability to share information within appropriate boundaries
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge base of the profession and use these to inform and respond to changes in practice

**Subject specific**

7. Act in a way to uphold safety and minimise risk for colleagues, service users and self by establishing and maintaining a safe environment for practice
8. Demonstrate and promote professional, ethical and legal approaches to paramedic practice
9. Contribute to the quality assurance process within paramedic practice
10. Demonstrate competence in the use of medical devices integral to the care of patients
11. Understand and apply a range of complex skills related to paramedic practice
12. Understand the fundamental physical and clinical science and the sociological, health and behavioural science concepts that underpin paramedic practice
13. Demonstrate understanding of the impact of cultural factors, equality and diversity in practice contexts and be able to practice in an anti-discriminatory way, promoting social justice, equality and inclusion

**Key/ transferable/lifelong learning skills**

14. Demonstrate professional autonomy and accountability
15. Demonstrate effective team management and self-management skills including priority setting (where and when appropriate)
16. Ability to monitor personal development as a learner and to practice lifelong learning
17. Demonstrate an ability to review and reflect on practice, think critically and draw on appropriate knowledge to assure quality in practice
18. Problem solve by taking a critical and analytical approach to data and evidence
19. Plan, develop and initiate service improvement projects using their knowledge and understanding of the complexities of the practice setting
20. Demonstrate effective and appropriate forms of communication to ensure that all the information necessary to make informed decisions with service users and all members of the health and social care is available

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### Course Design

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

- Health Care Programmes: Paramedic Science (2004)

Professional Standards:

- Health and Care Professions Council, Standards of Education and Training (2014)
- Health and Care Professions Council, Standards of Proficiency Paramedics (2014)
- Health and Care Professions Council, Standards of, Conduct, Performance and Ethics (2012)
- Health and Care Professions Council, Guidance on Conduct and Ethics for Students (2012)
- College of Paramedics, Paramedic Curriculum Guidance [3<sup>rd</sup> edition] (2014)

### Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science 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 <sup>7</sup>
<b>Level 4</b>			
	Personal and Professional Role Development for Paramedics	20	M
	Anatomy and Physiology	20	M
	IPL - Working with Others	20	M
	Paramedic Practice: Meeting Psycho-Social Needs	20	M
	Patient Management: Care of the Individual	40	M
<b>Level 5</b>			
	Pharmacology for Paramedic Practice	20	M
	Applied Anatomy, Physiology & Pathophysiology	40	M
	IPL – Service User	0	M
	Patient Management: Priorities of Care	40	M
	Research Methods for Paramedics	20	M
<b>Level 6</b>			
	IPL – The Professional Team	20	M
	Transition to Registered Paramedic Practice	20	M
	Dissertation	40	M
	Patient Management: The Complex Environment	40	M

<sup>7</sup> 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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### Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science and will be eligible to apply for registration with the HCPC.

### Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science are likely to have approximately 200 contact hours for level 4, 200 contact hours for level 5 and 150 contact hours for level 6. The contact hours will be a mix of teaching and learning and will take place in the context of lectures, seminars, clinical simulations; practice students will also be required to participate in a minimum of 2250 hours of practice over the entire programme. These placements are throughout the East of England and it is the student's responsibility to ensure they are able to attend various placement areas. Examples may be Newmarket, Sudbury, Saxmundham or Colchester and depend on the allocation of your paramedic educator and associate paramedic educator. Placements will be arranged by the University of Suffolk, East of England Ambulance NHS Trust, West Suffolk Hospital and Ipswich Hospital (specialist placements). Students will normally be expected to undertake 160 hours of independent study per module for each semester, 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 be approximately 85% coursework essays, clinical reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals, and research projects and 15% written and practical examinations.

### Course Team

The BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science course is offered within the Department of Health Studies in the Faculty of Health and Science. Profiles of the academic staff who deliver the course are available online.

### Course Costs

Students undertaking BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science 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	£16,000 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.

Students will be required to pay additional costs for small items of uniform such as epaulettes amounting to a maximum of £100 payable on the first week of the course. Students are likely to incur other costs for optional field trips or equipment of £150 per year.

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**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](#).