

Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice)

Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice)

MSc Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice)

Programme Specification

Valid from:

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Awarding body:	Oxford Brookes University
Teaching institution and location:	Oxford Brookes University, The Alliance of International Education, (H.K.)
Final award:	MSc
Programme title:	MSc Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice)
Interim exit awards and award titles:	Postgraduate Certificate Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice) Postgraduate Diploma Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice)
Brookes course code:	IE90
UCAS/UKPASS code:	N/A
JACS code:	B700
Mode of delivery:	Blended
Mode/s of study:	Part-time
Language of study:	English
Relevant QAA subject benchmark statement/s:	This programme is open to Hong Kong nurses wishing to apply for clinical posts and its content is closely aligned to key aspects of the QAA Emerging Health Professions Framework http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/nursing.pdf
External accreditation/recognition: <i>(applicable to programmes with professional body approval)</i>	Recognised by Non-Local Course Registry in Hong Kong
Faculty managing the programme:	Health & Life Sciences
Date of production (or most recent revision) of specification:	7 May 2015

SECTION 2: OVERVIEW AND PROGRAMME AIMS

2.1 Rationale for/distinctiveness of the programme

The overall aim of this programme is to enable nurses in the health and social care sector to gain the knowledge and skills they need to develop and transform themselves, their colleagues and their organisations to respond to an ever changing and challenging working environment. The development of the online delivery programme is closely aligned with the development of digital literacies for professional health care practice within the 21st Century.

2.2 Aim/s of the programme

To enable course participants to:

- Critically reflect on and challenge existing practices and strategies
- Be cognisant of and challenge the evidence base for clinical interventions
- Work effectively within a multi-professional environment
- Develop an in depth awareness and understanding of health and social care in a broader global context, in order to be able to deliver effective outcomes, including within this, a critical exploration of policy creation and delivery
- Develop knowledge and skills in clinical leadership and the management of change
- Develop skills in systematic evaluation and research utilisation
- Develop knowledge and skills relating to the critical application of ethics in the delivery and management of nursing care within the health and social care sector
- Develop the ability to design and conduct a piece of research to further understand and/or develop a specific area of Nursing practice

SECTION 3: PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge, understanding and skills:

On satisfactory completion of the programme, students will have achieved the following Post Graduate Attributes:

1 Academic literacy

- 1.1 Discuss key concepts and theories and apply these to clinical practice.
- 1.2 Explore and evaluate theories of change

2 Research literacy

- 2.1 Articulate the range of research methods that can be used in relation to the generation of knowledge (For Post Graduate Diploma/MSc)

3 Critical self-awareness and personal literacy

- 3.1 Reflect on the factors influencing both personal and organizational learning
- 3.2 Identify and respond effectively to own learning needs.
- 3.3 Develop and advance personal reflective practice and nursing knowledge

4 Digital and information literacy

- 4.1 Evaluate and apply evidence to clinical practice.
- 4.2 Advance reasoned arguments in discussion, debate and negotiation.
- 4.3 Developing fluency and projecting own voice in online communities * (For UK programme only delivered by distance learning)
- 4.4 Searching, appraising and evaluating online information*
- 4.5 Accessing, retrieving, documenting and storing digital resources*
- 4.6 Functioning effectively within an online community of practice, using a range of synchronous and asynchronous digital tools for the purposes of critique, evaluation & knowledge transfer

5 Global citizenship

- 5.1 Examine and debate political and ethical issues within a health care setting.
- 5.2 Examine and evaluate the role of nursing in influencing health care policy.
- 5.3 Develop a global network of nursing practice

SECTION 4: PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND CURRICULUM

4.1 Programme structure and requirements:

The MSc programme is constructed from nine modules: six modules of 20 credits each and one triple-module dissertation, which accounts for 60 credits. A module is equal to 200 hours of student effort.

		Level	Credit	Status
P49202	Mastering Professional Practice	7	20	Compulsory PG Certificate PG Diploma MSc
P44614	Advanced Health Promotion	7	20	Compulsory PG Certificate PG Diploma MSc
P44617	Infection Prevention and Control	7	20	Alternative Compulsory PG Certificate Compulsory PG Diploma MSc
P49203	Evidence Based Practice	7	20	Alternative Compulsory PG Certificate Compulsory PG Diploma MSc
P44820	Leadership in Health and Social Care	7	20	Compulsory PG Diploma MSc
P49210	Advanced Research Design	7	20	Compulsory PG Diploma MSc
P49215	Dissertation	7	60	Compulsory MSc

In Hong Kong students attend a total of 4 Intensive Schools. At the first Intensive School, students will be offered the opportunity to attend a 3-day Study Skills workshop, which will prepare them for academic study at Masters level. Students will study a further 2 modules in this first Intensive School and two modules in each of the following two Intensive Schools. The Dissertation module will be run in the fourth and final Intensive School, for example:

Intensive School	Module Titles
1	Study Skills for Health Care Professionals (Optional) Mastering Professional Practice Infection Prevention and Control
2	Leadership in Health and Social Care Advanced Research Design
3	Evidence Based Practice Advanced Health Promotion
4	Dissertation

4.2 Professional requirements

N/A

SECTION 5: PROGRAMME DELIVERY

5.1 Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Each module within the programme will have its own assessment, normally one assignment of 3,500 words in length. Assessment will provide students with an opportunity to synthesise and demonstrate their learning of the evidence base around nursing studies as well as meeting the specific module learning outcomes. Assignments will be individually graded; however, each assignment is intended to contribute cumulatively towards the overall aims of the programme.

The programme team place great emphasis on linking teaching and research and this is particularly important when the central focus of the programme is the study of effective evidence-based nursing practice. Research is also vital for assisting students to base judgements and decision on sound evidence. For this it is important for students to develop skills in critically appraising others' research as well as designing and conducting their own research. Lecturers on the Programme Team are engaged in research and scholarship within the subject areas of the curriculum. This enables teaching to be informed through current research, as well as enabling students to understand and appreciate research within the context of their professional practice. This current research knowledge and expertise will enable students to be well supported when undertaking their research dissertations.

The following chart gives an overview of the assessment methods used in the programme.

Module number	Module name	Method of assessment for intended learning outcomes	Assessment of specific graduate attributes
P49202	Mastering Professional Practice	Essay which relates directly to the development of the student's own professional practice	Academic literacy Critical self-awareness and personal literacy. Digital and information literacy Global citizenship
P44617	Infection Prevention and Control	Essay exploring an area of work where improvements could be made	Academic literacy Research literacy Critical self-awareness and personal literacy. Digital and information literacy.
P44820	Leadership in Health and Social Care	Identify a work based issue in which there are leadership issues and in which you are involved. Write a Management Report	Academic literacy Research literacy Critical self-awareness and personal literacy. Global citizenship
P49210	Advanced Research Design	Research proposal	Academic literacy Research literacy Digital and information literacy Global citizenship
P49203	Evidence Based Practice	An exploration of an aspect of evidence-based practice that is relevant to student's own professional practice	Academic literacy Research literacy Critical self-awareness and personal literacy. Digital and information literacy Global citizenship
P44614	Advanced Health Promotion	A community health promotion project proposal	Academic literacy Research literacy Digital and information literacy. Global citizenship
P49215	Dissertation	A 20,000 word personal research project, which collects and analyses primary or secondary research data.	Academic literacy Research literacy Critical self-awareness and personal literacy. Digital and information literacy Global citizenship

5.2 Assessment regulations

The programme conforms to the University Postgraduate Taught Regulations which can be located at: <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/current/specific/b4/>

The University's regulations apply and, in the event of a conflict of regulation and unless the Academic Board itself has specifically approved the variant regulation before its introduction (as detailed in the Programme Specific Regulations, below) the University's general Academic Regulations take precedence.

5.2.1 Programme Specific Regulations

These regulations are made under the University's Academic Regulations and are as validated with the programme leading to the MSc Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice) (flexible mode of delivery) The University's regulations apply and, in the event of a conflict of regulation and unless the Academic Board itself has specifically approved the variant regulation before its introduction, the University's general Academic Regulations take precedence.

SECTION 6: ADMISSIONS

6.1 Entry criteria

Entrants to the programme should possess the following:

Applicants should hold:

- a UK degree, or an overseas degree from a recognised institution which was taught and assessed in English and
- be a nurse who holds current registration within the home country and
- be employed within current clinical nursing practice.

Admission with Credit

Applicants who do not hold the academic requirement of a degree may be considered for entry through accreditation of prior certificated learning or accreditation of experiential learning. For consideration of the latter applicants would have to provide a portfolio of evidence of comparable educational learning.

Applicants may also be admitted to the programme with recognition of prior academic credits, this has to be requested when applying for the programme.

Admission processes are guided by the University's Admission and Equal Opportunities Policies. The general principle is that there should be a reasonable expectation that the applicant will be able to fulfil the objectives of the programme and achieve the standard required for the award.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Prior qualification	A UK degree, or an overseas degree from a recognised institution which was taught and assessed in English, be a nurse who holds current registration within the home country and be employed within current clinical nursing practice.	
Demonstrate preparedness/ability to work at masters level	Evidence of recent study (within last 5 years) at degree or equivalent level. Students who have not studied at degree or equivalent level within the last 5 years, will be required to attend the Study Skills module and write and submit an assignment which will be taken into account as part of their application	
Appreciation of current health/social care management context	Six months experience as a student, employee or volunteer within the health/social care sector, (European or International), (public, private or voluntary).	

Dispensation

Exceptionally, applicants who can show that they have qualifications or experience or both that demonstrate that they have knowledge and capabilities equivalent to those possessed by holders of the qualifications listed above may be admitted with dispensation from the requirement to possess those qualifications. Dispensation will be given only after consideration by the Postgraduate Programme Examination Committee.

Selection Criteria

In addition to educational attainments detailed below candidates must meet the requirements of a person specification. The candidate's will be assessed through the application form.

In addition to enabling an admission decision, the selection process is intended to identify and support students who meet the entry requirements and enable them to begin the course with the best preparation. It will also identify students not yet ready to join the programme and clarify the areas for further development in order to become eligible.

Duration and Mode of Study

This Programme is designed to be completed in three years of study or five years of part-time study. To qualify for the award of MSc Nursing Studies (Leadership in Clinical Practice) a student must have completed all assessments within a maximum of three years from the initial registration date for full time students and within five years from the initial registration date for part time students.

Time out from your course (temporary withdrawal)

Exceptionally, for medical and other reasons beyond the student's control and subject to the approval of the Programme Committee, a student may be permitted to

suspend registration for a determined period of time. Please access the following link for further information.

<http://www.brookes.ac.uk/services/asd/registry/sas/Student%20service%20provider.html#ill>

6.2 DBS checks

N/A

SECTION 7: STUDENT SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

Sources of help and advice, for example:

- **Induction**

A pre-induction wiki has been set up to provide students with information about the programme and the enrolment process. A range of pre-induction materials are sent to distance learning students to orientate them to the online environment and other support services within the university.

An induction to the programme is offered on campus and distance learning students are offered a Skype induction.

- **SSCs**

Are introduced to on campus students during induction and have prepared an online resource for distance learning students

- **Central support services**

Brookes International provides a range of services for on campus international students.

SECTION 8: GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY

Nursing leadership roles within health care organisations and educational roles within higher education institutes

SECTION 9: LINKS WITH EMPLOYERS

There will be no formal work-based learning placements although students will be required to use their own personal experience in the work place when writing assignments.

SECTION 10: QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Indicators of quality/methods for evaluating the quality of provision

The programme is evaluated through the standard university processes of annual and periodic review; module evaluations; student fora; and external examiner scrutiny. An Annual Return is also sent to the Non-local Course Registry in Hong Kong who also monitor the quality of the programme.