

# Full and Part Time MSc Advanced Professional Practice in Healthcare (subject to validation)

**Duration and mode:** One year full time, two years part time.

**Entry requirements:**

- An undergraduate degree in a related health field such as peri-operative care, pre-hospital and emergency care, nursing, midwifery, medicine, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, podiatry, speech and language therapy or health promotion.
- A science degree such as biology, biomedical science, pharmacy, health studies or microbiology would also be appropriate.
- Applicants who do not hold a first degree will be able to submit a portfolio of evidence to show that their learning and experience is equivalent and demonstrates their ability to work at level three. Further advice will be given to individuals on enquiry.
- International students are required to have an IELTS score of 7.0 (or equivalent).

Professionals within health and social care are facing a work environment that offers both challenges and opportunities. This innovative multidisciplinary course is designed for healthcare professionals and those working in health and with an interest in advancing practice and evidence-based healthcare. Themed groups such as 'Gerontology', 'Emergency Care Practice', 'Service Improvement' or 'Research and Enquiry' will meet throughout the course. Each group will be supported by a lecturer who will facilitate the sharing of related specialist knowledge across all units.

The aim of this course is to prepare graduates to deal with the current challenges offered in healthcare. We will provide you with the opportunity to further your skills and knowledge in finding and appraising evidence, leadership through change management or education, service evaluation and improvement, providing person-centred care and extending knowledge through qualitative, epidemiological or clinical trial research. The course is suitable for those who are or who aspire to be responsible for:

- ensuring practice is evidence based and develops in line with key policies
- making evidence-based decisions and disseminating best practice
- conducting research-based enquiry
- leading and managing change within services
- developing guidelines
- leading or participating in service improvement and organisational development
- evaluating services

As a potential applicant, you should be seeking to explore opportunities to use Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to develop yourself, your practice and your organisation. The course will enable you to direct your studies for your own personal and workplace development through core and optional units. You will meet a wide range of health professionals and you may be able to access optional units emerging from other professional areas.

## Why study at Portsmouth?

Our staff are committed to innovation in learning and teaching. We have a long history of providing postgraduate education to employees in health and social services. The majority of courses in the School have been developed in response to service needs and are delivered using specialist input from service providers. Staff involved in teaching, assessing and supporting you on this course come from a variety of health science backgrounds and have a range of experiences within higher education and the health services.

## What will I study?

The programme consists of 120 core credits with an additional 60 credits being taken from optional units or accreditation of prior learning (APL). It involves flexible and student-centred learning that can be tailored to meet your own needs. You will study the following core units:

- Practice Enhanced Learning (15 credits)
- Accessing and Appraising Research Evidence (15 credits)
- Research and Enquiry for Healthcare (15 credits)
- Change Management (15 credits)
- Masters Proposal (15 credits)
- Masters Project (45 credits)

Optional units include:

- Advanced Research and Enquiry (15 or 30 credits)
- Advanced Professional Practice in Healthcare (15 credits)
- Advanced Practice in the Care of Older People (15 credits)
- Accountable and Ethical Practice (15 credits)
- Clinical Simulation (15 credits)

Optional units will be offered subject to minimum numbers of students electing to study them.

## How will I be taught and assessed?

We use a blended learning approach with a variety of activities for you to engage in. Our teaching methods include

workshops, seminars, group work, lectures, tutorials and web-based learning resources such as lecture summaries, self-test quizzes and themed discussions. You will be assessed through coursework, with the opportunity to align coursework to work-based projects. Assessment methods vary for each unit, but are likely to include essays, presentations, literature reviews, portfolio development, presentations and reflective analysis or case study.

#### **What facilities and resources will I have access to?**

You will have access to University-wide resources, including computer suites, excellent journal and book collections at the University Library and, of course, all our sports and leisure facilities. You will also have the opportunity to gain expert advice on knowledge management through our specialist librarian. We have audio and audio-visual equipment available for you to borrow, to help you with your projects.

In addition, our ExPERT Centre, one of the University's two Centres of Excellence in Teaching and Learning, has state-of-the-art facilities that include two patient simulation centres (one comprising four beds with human patient simulators and the other a high fidelity patient simulator) and a laboratory simulation suite. The ExPERT Centre aims to enhance the professional development of students working within the health-related sciences.

#### **Where will it take me?**

Postgraduate qualifications are increasingly recognised as essential for those in, or aspiring to, advanced practitioner or consultant roles. This Masters degree will enable you to demonstrate that you are able to use CPD for both your own development and to contribute to the development of your organisation. If you complete your Masters degree, you may wish to progress to one of our Professional Doctorate courses.

#### **How can I find out more?**

For further information please contact us (details below).

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