

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: MSc NURSING (ADULT/MENTAL HEALTH) PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

1. These Special Regulations relate only to the following programme:

- MSc Nursing (Adult/Mental Health)

ADMISSION

2. The requirements for admissions are those set out in the General Regulations for the Conferment of Awards; the additional requirements are set out below.
3. All entrants are required to attend a selection day/event, and complete any assessments prescribed as part of the selection process.

GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

4. All entrants are to satisfy the University in relation to health clearance (including occupational health requirements) following the prescribed procedures at the time of application.
5. All entrants must satisfy the requirements concerning clearance in relation to criminal convictions and any other requirements specified by the University, taking account of the requirements of the regulatory bodies, in relation to the protection of vulnerable persons. Students on the programme must remain in good standing in relation to such requirements, including, where required, registration for the updating of certificates by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

ADDITIONAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

6. In addition to the entrance requirements specified in the General Regulations for the Conferment of Awards and any additional requirements specified by professional or regulatory bodies entrants to the programme must hold a Bachelors Honours degree at 2:1 in any subject or a 2:2 in a health related subject. Candidates must also hold English language and maths GCSE grade 4-9 or Functional Skills Level 2 or equivalent.
7. The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) specify requirements to ensure, in the interests of public protection, that entrants to pre-registration programmes have a foundation of literacy and numeracy skills.
8. Where the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is offered as evidence the University will apply the NMC requirements for overseas applicants to the register. In these cases, the NMC will accept IELTS examination results (academic or general) where the scores are at least 7.0 in the listening and reading sections and speaking sections and at least 6.5 in the writing, and where the overall average score is at least 7.0.

PROGRAMME AWARD

9. The award of MSc Nursing (Adult/Mental Health) is made upon successful completion of 180 credits over a period of 2 years full-time. This is the only award that infers eligibility to apply for registration with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC).

DEFAULT EXIT AWARDS NOT LEADING TO PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

10. The following exit awards are available to students not recommended for an award leading to professional registration.
 - a. To qualify for a Postgraduate Certificate in Adult/Mental Health Care students must:
 - i. Pass at least 60 credits at level 7
 - b. To qualify for a Postgraduate Diploma in Adult/Mental Health Care students must:
 - i. Pass at least 120 credits at level 7
11. Where an award cannot be recommended, the Board may recommend the award of institutional credits.
12. Aegrotat awards may be offered at the discretion of the Board of Examiners as outlined in the regulations; however, such awards would not provide eligibility to apply for admission to the relevant professional register.

CREDIT EXEMPTION ON ENTRY

13. EU Directive 2005/36/EC [as amended by Directive 2013/55/EU] requires all students achieve 4600 hours of theoretical and clinical training, 50% of which must be in clinical practice. However, the Directive and NMC (2018) allows prospective students to be awarded RPL for learning achieved prior to their programme of study. The MSc in Nursing will be an accelerated programme undertaken in 2 years, as such all prospective students will be required to evidence, via the submission of a portfolio after successful interview, that they have achieved 750 hours of practice, prior to application. Students will be supported to prepare this portfolio by an academic member of the School.
14. Entrants may gain exemption from modules in line with the University's policy in the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).
15. For applicants other than those who have a current registration at first or second level with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), RPL of up to a maximum of 50% of the programme will be considered, provided all the requirements are met in full.
16. For applicants who have a current registration at first or second level with the NMC, unlimited RPL will be considered providing that all requirements are met in full.
17. For nursing students requesting transfer from another institution, a transcript, reference, completed assessment of practice documentation and validated record of placement hours will be required. All applicants' past theory and practice learning will be mapped against the programme's modules.

PERIODS OF REGISTRATION

18. The programme is full-time comprising 1800 hours theory and 1,600 hours practice experience.
19. Given the requirement to complete 1,600 practice learning hours the MSc Nursing programme is full-time over 2 years.
20. The minimum and maximum period of registration for students recommended for a professional award, including periods for interruption and reassessment, together with credits transferred from another higher education institution or programme at the University, are as follows:
 - a. 2 years minimum and 4 years' maximum for full time students;

ASSESSMENT

21. All assessments must be passed. This includes theoretical assessments and those involved in the assessment of practice.
22. Assessment of Practice will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

COMPENSATION

23. The programme is excluded from University regulations regarding compensation.
24. There can be no compensation for failure in the assessment of practice and there can be no compensation between theory and practice. Students must pass successfully all elements of practice learning.

PROGRESSION

25. A student may only progress from one year or one part of the programme to the next on successful completion of the required practice assessment.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND CONDUCT

26. Students are required to make a formal declaration of good health and good character at the beginning of each year of the programme.
27. As a condition of a professional award, students must successfully meet the requirements concerning attendance and professional practice, together with the requirements of the regulatory bodies relating to student conduct, good health and good character. Potential breaches of professional conduct will be subject to the fitness to practise procedures for the Faculty.

EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

28. At least one External Examiner appointed to the programme must be appropriately experienced and qualified in the relevant area of practice and, unless other arrangements are agreed with the appropriate regulatory body, be from the relevant part of the Register.

Approved by Academic Board, 14 June 2019.