

FACULTY OF HEALTH AND APPLIED

SCIENCES

UNDERGRADUATE MODULAR SCHEME

PRE REGISTRATION NURSING PROGRAMMES

BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult) BSc (Hons) Nursing (Children's) BSc (Hons) Nursing (Mental Health) BSc (Hons) Nursing (Learning Disabilities)

Graduate Diploma Nursing (Adult) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Children's) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Mental Health) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Learning Disabilities)

PROGRAMMESPECIFICATION

Validation June 2011



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Section 1: Basic Data	Version 1.1	
Awarding institution/body	University of the West of England	
Teaching institution	University of the West of England	
Delivery Location(s)	University of the West of England	
Faculty responsible for programme Modular Scheme title Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links (type and dates) Highest award title	Health and Applied Undergraduate Nursing and Midwifery Council BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult)	
Default award title Interim award titles	BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult) BSc (Hons) Nursing (Mental Health) BSc (Hons) Nursing (Mental Health) BSc (Hons) Nursing (Learning Disabilities) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Adult) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Children's) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Mental Health) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Learning Disabilities) None BSc Nursing (Adult) BSc Nursing (Children's) BSc Nursing (Mental Health) BSc Nursing (Learning Disabilities) BSc Health and Social Studies Dip HE Health and Social Studies Cert HE Health and Social Studies Graduate Diploma Health and Social Studies Graduate Certificate Health and Social Studies	
UWE progression route Mode(s) of delivery Codes UCAS code	Full time JACS code	
ISIS code	HESA code	
Relevant QAA subject benchmark statements On-going/valid until* (*delete as appropriate/insert end date)	Nursing (2001)	
Valid from (insert date if appropriate)	September 2015	
Original Validation Date: Latest Committee Approval Version Code 3	Date:	
programme specifications where 2 replace	(1, 2, 3 etc.) should be used for successive es 1, and where there are no concurrent g (1.1; 1.2, 2.1; 2.2 etc) should be used where	

Section 2: Educational aims of the programme

The pre registration nursing programme focuses on preparing individuals to become competent, capable and accountable practitioners based on an ethos of lifelong learning. The ability to deliver evidence based care, to challenge opinions, to evaluate their own work and to cope with the demands of the dynamic nature of nursing is fundamental to this preparation. Education leading to initial registration as a nurse will prepare the foundation for lifelong learning and enable the nurse to:-

BSc/Graduate Diploma students:

- Fulfil the requirements for registration
- Appreciate the broader national and international context of health and social care
- Be self aware, self directed and sensitive to the needs of others
- Critically evaluate knowledge which arises from practice
- Critically evaluate knowledge and practice in relation to theory
- Develop key skills
- Develop effective and appropriate relationships with service users, carers, families, colleagues and other agencies
- Function effectively within the interprofessional team and with other agencies
- Be effective in self management approaches
- Develop leadership potential
- Develop and promote a value base in practice that respects diversity
- Understand and implement research based practice to the field/scope of practice
- Engage in the analysis of academic discourse at the required level
- Use information and technology skills to retrieve, organise and present information whilst adhering to information governance
- Demonstrate the ability to apply critical evaluation and informed decision making when undertaking nursing care
- Demonstrate the ability to respond appropriately and effectively in changing situations of care, and act independently where appropriate at a competent level
- Demonstrate confidence and flexibility in identifying and defining complex problems and the application of appropriate strategies in their resolution
- Demonstrate the ability to engage in debate in a professional manner producing coherent project reports
- Reflect on self and others in relation to safeguarding the public and work within appropriate boundaries
- Demonstrate the ability to apply critical thinking skills and independent decision making in the delivery of nursing care in unknown or changing situations of care appropriately, safely and effectively.
- Demonstrate the ability to undertake an in depth and sustained piece of work with minimal supervision.

Educational aims and learning outcomes of the programme will be applied to the appropriate field of nursing being studied.

Section 3: Learning outcomes of the programme				
The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:				
A Knowledge and understanding				
Learning outcomes Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies				
A Knowledge and understanding of:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies:			
 The skills and attitudes necessary to act as facilitators of patient centred/nursing care, optimising health, both in the presence and absence of disease. The skills and attitudes in relation to assessment, delivery, management, and co-ordination of health care in a variety of health care settings. 	Acquisition of 1 - 7 is through: Essential principles and a range of concepts will be introduced in the first year and the depth and breadth of the subjects progressively explored over the next two years through lectures, seminars, debates, work shops, e- learning, simulation skills and self directed study (1,2,6,7).			
 Monitoring the effectiveness of service user and carer centred/nursing care strategies. The skills and attitudes required to meet the range of health care needs across the relevant age spectrum years, their families and carers, 	Underpinning principles and care processes (3) will be examined theoretically and practical skills developed within skills laboratories and practice arenas throughout the three years with continuous assessment of competence a feature of the practice development.			
 reflecting cultural diversity. 5. The skills and attitudes required for competent accountable practitioners who are able to adapt and respond to changes in society and the developments in the changing context of care 	Students complete a range of modules during the 3 years, that introduce and develop knowledge and understanding of underpinning sciences, communication skills and care concepts (4) through the use of skills laboratory, scenario based activities, lectures and seminars, e- learning opportunities, the use of service			
 The significance of social policy and public health within the context of nursing 	user and carer perspectives, and Supervision of Learning Days (SoLD) that underpin nursing practice and theory.			
 The contributions of sociological, psychological and biological sciences to the underpinning of nursing care 	Health care policy and provision, issues of accountability and personal responsibility (5,6) are introduced at the commencement of the programme. These themes are developed and debated within the practice SoLD and within seminars and new concepts introduced through lectures, seminars and work shops. Competence is			

developed through practice based learning and shared dialogues with practitioners both in practice and through shared learning opportunities in the Year 1 shared modules and year 2 and 3 Interprofessional modules in addition to practice.
Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent reading both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of Nursing and Health and Social care in the wider context.
Additional support is provided through:
Module teams Module Leaders Faculty, Programme and Module Handbooks Library Services (including IT based platforms and study skills) Assignment workshops Study skills tutors ICT based platforms
Assessment:
The assessment of knowledge and understanding (1-7) will be undertaken by a variety of means. These could include written assignments, unseen and part seen written examinations, oral and poster presentations, Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE), portfolio assessment and practice based assessment of competence

B Intellectual Skills	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
On successful completion of the programme the student will be able to:	Intellectual skills are developed through:
 Demonstrate a commitment to continuing professional development and lifelong learning through the development of skills in relation to self directed and independent study 	Concepts and theories related to lifelong learning and independent learning (1) being introduced at the commencement of the programme. The diverse abilities within the student population require a number of strategies to manage this
 Use problem solving skills and decision making strategies to support sound clinical judgement 	outcome. Workshops and tutorials, independent study guides, and on-line guides are all used to inform and direct the students toward more independent
3. Use skills of reflection, evaluation and critical thinking to support the delivery of care to service users and carers	working. Student led, lecturer facilitated activities in SoLD and problem based learning, conference, peer assessment and on-line study in the Interprofessional
 Demonstrate the ability to apply critical evaluation and informed decision making when undertaking care 	modules all contribute to this development over the three years. Reflective skills (3) are developed
 Demonstrate the ability to undertake sustained study applying deeper cognitive learning to an aspect of nursing practice 	through the use of portfolios and supported by lectures, seminars, tutorial support and the Graduate Development Programme (GDP). Skills for critical thinking (3) are developed through the use of debate, discussion and
6. Critically evaluate an aspect of nursing based on systematic rigorous research processes which highlights both implications and recommendations for developing current and future practice	exploration both within seminar group work, and during SoLD as part of practice. Study skills tutorial support is available to help students develop. Assignment feedback gives direction and offers insight to students to establish their competency levels. Portfolio
 Incorporate an ethical dimension into a major piece of sustained independent study 	development is encouraged through tutor support and application to practice is assisted through assessment of practice competency, review of the supporting evidence and through a presentation on the theme of service improvement.
	Principles of problem solving (2) are explored within the first year in the Communication in a Diverse World module and in the field specific modules. Problem solving activities are used within scenario based teaching/learning activities, through facilitated student led activities during the SoLD and work shops within the field specific modules as

the students progress through the programme. Skills of clinical judgement are developed through exploring decisions related to direct patient care and through skills preparation and role play activities in the skills laboratories, using problem solving approaches and also expert practitioners in workshops.
Intellectual skills (1-7) are developed through the use of enquiry based and problem based learning. For example students will use case studies or scenarios to develop an understanding of practice theory links and interprofessional learning, which they can apply in their professional role, and the wider context of Health and Social care. Critical thinking skills will be developed through reflection and the Personal Portfolio.
A variety of learning methods are used. The intention is to facilitate the students' progression towards self directed learning for professional practice and life long learning. This will include key lectures, student led seminars, small group work, skills based practice sessions, student directed studies including web based study, learning in and through practice.
Assessment
The assessment of intellectual skills (1-7) will be undertaken by a variety of means depending on the module. These could include written assignments, unseen or part seen written examinations, seminar, oral and poster presentations, simulation skills/OSCE, portfolio assessment and assessment of evidence based practice and competencies.
The dissertation offers the student the opportunity to undertake a significant piece of independent study and so develop the critical skills of enquiry and analysis.

C Subject/Professional/Practical Skills	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
On successful completion of the programme the student will be able to	Subject, Professional and Practical Skills are developed through:
1. Work in partnership with service users and their carers, respecting their wishes, needs and rights and where necessary advocating for them.	Communication skills, concepts of partnership working and working together in teams, groups etc (1) are introduced in Year 1 Communication in a Diverse
2. Recognise and monitor changes in the physical and mental health status, and respond appropriately	World, Year 2 and 3 Interprofessional modules. Group work, conference, role play, use of video, and games are all methods of developing these skills.
 3. Provide and co-ordinate competent nursing care for service users and their carers, in hospital, community or at home. 4. Undertake health promotion 	Assertiveness, advocacy and rights are introduced and developed across the programme over the 3 years. Using lectures, seminars, activities during SoLD and practice based learning under
 Undertake health promotion, screening, growth and development monitoring and disease prevention at a competent level 	supervision. Skills of assessment, care planning and care delivery, and the requirements of the professional role (2-7) are introduced
5. Work competently in a dynamic and changing environment	in the first weeks of the programme and developed throughout the 3 years using skills teaching in classroom, skills
6. Demonstrate the ability to respond appropriately and effectively in changing situations of care, and act independently where appropriate at a competent level	laboratory, lectures, seminars and group work and facilitated supervised learning Study packs, e-learning and self directed activities are all part of this development. Direct practice learning is accomplished through placement learning activities
7. Be an accountable practitioner, who demonstrates the ability to be flexible and able to work with other health care practitioners and agencies in recognising and meeting health care needs	under the supervision and mentorship of practitioners. Student competencies are assessed through assessment of identified Nursing and Midwifery Council outcomes for field and registration, as well as the NMC Essential Skills Clusters.
8. Work with expert, specialist nurses to provide specialist care	Students will be exposed to a range of practice placements from the
9. Work within the multi-disciplinary team and with other agencies to ensure that the total needs of the service user are addressed	commencement of the programme (8- 10), exposure to interprofessional and multidisciplinary team working is a key element of this experience. Preparation is managed through seminars,
10. Promote independence enabling the individual to reach their full potential	workshops and supported through SoLD activities and practitioner teaching on placement.
11.Work in partnership, negotiating care	

 and empowering the service user and carer to become independent and self managing 12.Demonstrate the ability to apply critical thinking skills and independent decision making in the delivery of nursing care in unknown or changing situations of care appropriately, safely and effectively 	Participation in partnership working, leadership and independent care delivery (11) is achieved by the end of the programme. This is supported through partnerships in teaching and practice and the shared input from lecturers, practitioners service users and carers (12). Assessment
	Practice skills (1-12) are primarily assessed in the practice setting by qualified mentors who are supported in this role by the university based programme team and Academics in Practice (AiP). This is undertaken using a system of continuous assessment of competence and a skills assessment framework which is professionally driven and defined. The assessment may also contain written assignment components to test critical thinking and appraisal skills underpinning the evidence base of nursing care (12).

D Transferable skills and other attributes	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
On successful completion of the	
programme the student will be able to:	The acquisition of key and transferable
 Demonstrate skills of engagement and communication 	skills will be acquired during small group work, SoLD and practice experience. Students will be
2. Demonstrate skills in facilitation through effective interaction	encouraged and facilitated to explore skills development and interprofessional working through
3. Demonstrate skills in negotiation	scenario and problem based learning and independent study which will
 Demonstrate the ability to share responsibility 	include web based learning resources, and study packs. E-learning is a key feature of skills development.
5. Demonstrate active listening skills	(I/T skills work shops, lessons and tutorials on line.)
6. Use effective inclusive communication	Assessment
 Demonstrate the ability to accommodate diversity in collaborative working 	The key and transferable skills (1-14) are assessed in the undertaking of
 Apply critical evaluation and informed decision making skills 	practice based assessment, formative class work, research project module and other module assignments.
9. Demonstrate an adequate knowledge of research methods, design, methods of data collection and data analysis to appraise and interpret different kinds of evidence	
10. Use information and management technology in the workplace	
 Show awareness of the implications of different types of evidence in professional policy, practice and service improvement Use available library services (eg library 	
catalogues, CD Rom, on line databases etc)	
 Critically analyse the implications of different types of evidence in professional policy, practice and service improvement. 	
 14. Incorporate a critical ethical dimension into a major piece of sustained independent study. 	

BSc (Hons) Nursing

	Compulsory modules for	Field specific compulsory	Interim Awards:
	 all fields Communication in a Diverse World 	modulesAdult FieldUnderstanding Adult	Cert HE Health & Social Studies
	 UZZSDT-20-1 Essentials of Professional Practice UZW SDU-20-1 	Nursing UZTSG7-40-1 Participating in the Practice of Adult Nursing UZTSG8-40-1	 Credit requirements 120 credits of which not less than 100 credits are at level 1
Level 1		 Childrens Field Understanding Children's Lives UZUSDW-40-1 Participation in the Practice of Children's Nursing UZUSDV-40-1 Mental Health Field Foundations of Mental Health UZZSE6-40-1 Making a Difference: 1 UZZSE7-40-1 Learning Disabilities Field Building Positive Relationships with, and Services for, People with Learning Disabilities UZZSG6-40-1 Learning Disabilities Nursing Practice 1 UZZSFV-40-1 	or above

	Compulsory modules	Field specific compulsory	Interim Awards:
	 The purpose, scope and context of Interprofessional Collaboration (IPA) UZYSFD-20-2 Evidence Based Practice for Nursing and Midwifery UZW SFS-20-2 	 modules Adult Field Planning and Delivering Nursing Care UZTSGA-20-2 Assessment and Clinical Reasoning UZTSG9-20-2 Implementing the Practice of Adult Nursing UZTSGC-40-2 	Dip HE Health & Social Studies • Credit requirements 240 credits of which not less than 220 credits are at level 1 or above and not less than 100 credits are at level 2 or above
Level 2		 Childrens Field Making Every Child and Family Matter UZUSDX-20-2 Delivering Care and Keeping Children and Young People Safe UZUSE3-20-2 Implementing Children's Nursing Practice UZUSDY-40-2 	
		 Mental Health Field Working in Partnership in Mental Health UZZSEB-40-2 Making a Difference: 2 UZZSE8-40-2 Learning Disabilities Field Making Every Child and Family Matter 	
		 UZUSDX-20-2 Health of Adults and Older People with Learning Disabilities UZZSG5-20-2 Learning Disabilities Nursing Practice 2 UZZSFW-40-2 	

	Compulsory modules	Field specific compulsory modules	BSc Health and Social Studies
Level 3	 Exploring Quality practice for Interprofessional/interagency Collaboration (IP B) UZYSFE-20-3 Nursing and Midwifery Dissertation UZWSFU-40-3 	 Adult Field Leadership for Health UZTSGF-20-3 Managing the Practice of Adult Nursing UZTSGD-40-3 Childrens Field Leadership in Children's Nursing UZUSE5-20-3 Managing Children's Nursing Practice UZUSE4-40-3 Mental Health UZZSED-20-3 Making a Difference: 3 UZZSEA-40-3 Learning Disabilities Management of Complex Situations in Services for People with Learning Disabilities UZZSG3-20-3 Learning Disabilities Nursing Practice 3 UZZSFY-40-3 	 Credit requirements: 300 credits of which not less than 280 credits are at level 1 or above, not less than 60 are at level 2 or above and not less than 60 are at level 3 or above. BSC Nursing (Adult) BSC Nursing (Childrens) BSC Nursing (Childrens) BSC Nursing (Learning Disabilities) Credit requirements: 300 credits of which not less than 280 credits are at level 1 or above, not less than 60 are at level 2 or above and not less than 60 are at level 3 or above. Achievement of all modules with the exception of UZW SFU-40-3 Target/highest Award: BSC (Hons) Nursing (Adult) BSC (Hons) Nursing (Mental Health) BSC (Hons) Nursing provide eligibilities) Only the interim awards and target/highest awards with named descriptors i.e. BSC Nursing and BSC (Hons) Nursing and Midwifery registration providing all NMC requirements are met.

Graduate Diploma Nursing

Independent Study modules and Evidencing Work Based Learning Modules may be used as alternative options to compulsory modules as negotiated with the programme leader; the appropriateness of this is dependent on the individual student's profile of modules achieved and AL/AEL.

	Compulsory modules for all fields	Field specific compulsory modules	Interim Awards: Graduate Certificate
Level 1	 Communication in a Diverse World UZZSDT-20-1 Essentials of Professional Practice UZWSDU-20-1 	 Adult Field Understanding Adult Nursing UZTSG7-40-1 Participating in the Practice of Adult Nursing UZTSG8-40-1 Childrens Field Understanding Children's Lives UZUSDW-40-1 Participation in the Practice of Children's Nursing UZUSDV-40-1 Mental Health Field Foundations of Mental Health UZZSE6-40-1 Making a Difference: 1 UZZSE7-40-1 Learning Disabilities Field Building Positive Relationships with, and Services for, People with Learning Disabilities UZZSG6-40-1 Learning Disabilities Nursing Practice 1 UZZSFV-40-1 	 Graduate Certificate Health & Social Studies Credit requirements At least 60 credits at level 1 or above of which not less than 40 credits are at level 3 or above (in addition to holding a first degree in a relevant subject area)

	Compulsory modules	Field specific compulsory	Interim Awards:
	- ,	modules	
Level 2	The purpose, scope and context of Interprofessional	Adult Field	
		 Planning and Delivering Nursing 	Graduate Diploma
	Collaboration (IPA)	Care	Health & Social Studies
	UZYSFD-20-2	UZTSGA-20-2	
	Evidence Based	 Assessment and Clinical Reasoning 	Credit requirements
	Practice for Nursing	UZTSG9-20-2	At least 120 credits at
	and Midwifery	 Implementing the Practice of 	level 1 or above of which
	UZWSFS-20-2	Adult Nursing	not less than 80 are at level 3 or above (in
		UZTSGC-40-2	addition to holding a first
		Childrens Field	degree in a relevant
		Making Every Child and Family	subject area)
		Matter UZUSDX-20-2	
		 Delivering Care and Keeping 	
		Children and Young People Safe	
		UZUSE3-20-2	
		 Implementing Children's Nursing Practice 	
		UZUSDY-40-2	
		Mental Health Field	
		 Working in Partnership in Mental Health 	
		UZZSEB-40-2	
		Making a Difference: 2	
		UZZSE8-40-2	
		Learning Disabilities Field	
		Making Every Child and Family	
		Matter UZUSDX-20-2	
		 Health of Adults and Older 	
		People with Learning Disabilities	
		UZZSG5-20-2	
		 Learning Disabilities Nursing Practice 2 	
		UZZSFW-40-2	

	Compulsory modules	Field specific compulsory	Target/highest Award:
Level 3	 Exploring Quality practice for Interprofessional/int er-agency Collaboration (IP B) UZYSFE-20-3 Nursing and Midwifery Dissertation UZWSFU-40-3 	 modules Adult Field Leadership for Health UZTSGF-20-3 Managing the Practice of Adult Nursing UZTSGD-40-3 Childrens Field Leadership in Children's Nursing UZUSE5-20-3 Managing Children's Nursing Practice UZUSE4-40-3 	Graduate Diploma Nursing (Adult) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Childrens) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Mental Health) Graduate Diploma Nursing (Learning Disabilities) • Credit requirements At least 120 credits at level 1 or above of which not less than 80 are at level 3 or above (in addition to holding a first degree in a
		 Mental Health Promoting Recovery in Mental Health UZZSED-20-3 Making a Difference: 3 UZZSEA-40-3 Learning Disabilities Management of Complex Situations in Services for People with Learning Disabilities UZZSG3-20-3 Learning Disabilities Nursing Practice 3 UZZSFY-40-3 	relevant subject area) Only the target/highest awards i.e. Graduate Diploma Nursing provide eligibility to apply for Nursing and Midwifery registration providing all NMC requirements are met (achievement of all modules, with the exception of UZW SFU-40-3, is necessary to meet Nursing and Midwifery requirements).

Section 5: Entry requirements

BSc (Hons) Nursing – all fields

• 5 GCSE subjects at grade C or above including Mathematics and English Language

Additional field specific criteria

Children's

GCSE subjects must also include a Science

Mental Health

GCSE subjects must also include a Science/Social Science

PLUS

• Tariff points as appropriate for the year of entry (refer to the UWE website) OR

• Access Diploma (refer to UWE website for requirements)

OR

• European Baccalaureate 68-74

Applicants who do not have the above academic profile will be considered on an individual basis.

Students who have gained the Foundation Science Degree Health Care Practice (Adult Nursing pathway or Mental Health pathway), (Gloucestershire College) are eligible to apply for direct entry into the mid point of level 2 of the undergraduate BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult) and BSc (Hons) Nursing (Mental Health) programmes respectively via accreditation of learning processes.

Graduate Diploma Nursing – all fields

A first degree in a relevant subject area where AL/AEL can be used appropriately to reduce the number of modules studied. An example of where it may be appropriate to study the Graduate Diploma Nursing, would be where a registered nurse already holds a first degree from UWE in one field of nursing and wishes to seek registration to work in another field of nursing.

All Applicants

All applicants will be interviewed for suitability.

NMC registered first and second level nurses enrolled may have unlimited accreditation of prior learning (APL) considered, all NMC requirements must be met in full (NMC Standard R3.5.5).

All other individuals, including NMC registered midwives, enrolled on the programme may have a maximum of 50% APL considered, all NMC requirements must be met in full (NMC Standard R3.5.6).

Accreditation of prior (experiential) learning will be evaluated on an individual basis in accordance with university regulations. Where a student has studied and gained credit in a similar subject then Accreditation of Learning (AL) may be applied for, Accreditation of Experiential Learning (AEL) relates to learning achieved through experience gained outside formalised learning arrangements and may also be applied for. Please see further information including the administrator contact details at http://hsc.uwe.ac.uk/net/student/Default.aspx?pageid=64

And also http://acreg.uwe.ac.uk/caat.asp

UWE AL and AEL processes and regulations must be adhered to.

Applicants whose first language is not English must have a minimum IELTS of 7.0 in each section to meet NMC requirements.

Health checks and criminal record bureau checks will be undertaken on all candidates in accordance with university, faculty and programme policies.

Section 6: Assessment Regulations

Approved to University Academic Regulations and Procedures.

The professional standards of the Nursing and Midwifery Council prohibit the progression of

students who do not first complete all compulsory modules at a specified level within 12 weeks of them entering the next part of their programme. The Academic Regulations **do** allow progression, but if students who are trailing modules do not pass them and are subsequently required to withdraw from any new module registrations, they may then lose an attempt. This variant regulation proposes a change to allow the new module registrations to be entirely removed from the student's record, unless they have successfully passed them within the 12 weeks

Progression points occur at the end of Year 1 and at the end of Year 2; all outcomes must be achieved within the assessed period for that part of the programme, any outstanding outcomes must be met and confirmed within 12 weeks of the student entering the next part of the programme for progression to be allowed, in accordance with NMC requirements (NMC, 2010).

The maximum registration period for this programme is six years to safeguard continuing currency of knowledge and its application in a professional context. Any progression beyond six years must be approved through a UWE examination board.

In order to be eligible for registration at the end of the course, students must have demonstrated that they have met the professional requirements as stipulated by the NMC, including numeracy (all fields) and EU requirements (Adult Field).

Professional practice periods are designed to ensure they meet the NMC (2010) requirement of at least four weeks of continuous practice learning towards the end of the first and second parts of the programme and at least 12 weeks towards the end of the programme.

External examiner(s) are appointed in line with the NMC (2010) requirement 'who can demonstrate currency in education and practice with due regard and engage with assessment of both theory and practice'.

Section 7: Student learning: distinctive features and support

The design of the award route has been influenced by a numbers of factors:-

- The University regulations and interprofessional pre-qualifying framework of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences; provides opportunities for programmes to share common elements.
- Students will experience an interprofessional and field specific nursing experience in the classroom and in the practice environment to widen their nursing perspectives
- The professional requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Council
- The need to adopt an integrated and interactive approach so that component subjects are not free standing
- The changes in health care delivery which have resulted in nurses working with greater autonomy in an increasingly wide range of settings.
- Input from service users and carers and local stakeholders
- The recognition that students need to gain an in-depth knowledge and understanding of nursing, informed by current practice, scholarship and research, including an awareness of current issues and the wider developments in nursing and the nursing profession

It is our intention that the nursing pre-registration curriculum of 2011 will prepare individual learners to be caring, competent, critical and creative practitioners. The philosophy that underpins this curriculum not only recognises the importance of a programme of preparation that is practice centred, but also acknowledges the need to promote the integration of theory and practice for the achievement of professional competence. This has been recognised through the development of SoLD, which are held on University Campus, during practice placements and the inclusion of modules with an enquiry based learning focus. SoLD strengthen the integration of theory and practice in a number of ways e.g. by using real life scenarios to facilitate student learning; involving practitioners, users, carers and other agencies in the exploration of nursing issues; maximising their vital contribution and expertise in delivering the curriculum, and by expanding the opportunity for students to develop independence, autonomy, flexibility and reflective thinking.

It is recognised that the use of a skills laboratory maximises and enhances the experience of practice placements. Student preparation in the skills laboratory is timetabled into the formal course programme with sessions that offer a flexible provision for skills acquisition under guidance and supervision of nurse lecturers. In addition, specific 'preparation for practice' weeks occur that combine a mixture of practice experience and supervision for learning activity and occur prior to full time practice weeks.

The length of practice learning opportunities allows the assessor/student relationship to develop. This facilitates the integration of theory and practice towards competency and compassionate care.

The student journey will be enhanced by a diversity/variety of practice learning opportunities providing the student with broad practice knowledge and skills base at the end of the programme. A Practice Support Helpline and the Academic in Practice role gives students and practice staff access to immediate support and guidance over practice issues.

Interprofessional learning is integral to all programmes within the pre - qualifying

framework. This approach enables students to examine cross boundary health care provision and services and the nature of interprofessional collaboration necessary for the delivery of high quality health and social care.

Elective practice opportunities exist for students to expand their skills and practice nationally and/or internationally. These are supported by a designated team of lecturers and the nominated department leader in international working.

Students may be considered for transfer to another field at the end of Year 1 subject to placement capacity, academic, and professional criteria.

The Graduate Diploma is designed to recognise the knowledge, understanding and skills that a graduate may bring to a pre-registration programme. Through the use of an established AL/AEL process, students will be able to gain credit where it can be demonstrated in a rigorous manner that they have already met the learning outcomes of one or more compulsory modules. Where all the learning outcomes of a module cannot be credited, these can be accumulated and reflected in either an Independent Study module or an Evidencing Work Based Learning module, at an appropriate level, so that deficiencies can be made up appropriately. The use of these additional modules supports the learner in fully meeting the required academic and professional outcomes of the programme at the point of qualification.

The Faculty is committed to providing an organised and consistent system of student support in relation to both academic and personal concerns. It also recognises the need to ensure that students have access to comprehensive information on the availability of resources and sources of help. This commitment is demonstrated through:-

- An induction programme for all students
- The provision of a named tutor
- Provision of Faculty, Programme and Module Student Handbooks
- Web site information
- Access to libraries and computer suites
- Student advisors and study skills advisors
- Student one stop shop
- Academics in Practice
- Graduate Development Programme
- Practice Support Helpline

The programme meets the NMC requirement for 4,600 hours of curriculum activity, which is equally divided between theory and practice (NMC, 2010). No more than 300 hours of the 2,300 hours of practice are used for clinical training in a simulated practice learning environment.

The NMC four competency domains for practice are: Professional values, Communication and interpersonal skills, Nursing Practice and Decision-making, and Leadership, Management and Team-working and have been included in the module specifications and in the ongoing assessment of practice document. These are required for field specific registration by the NMC.

Reference

NMC (2010) *Standards for Pre-registration Nursing Education.* London. Available at:

http://standards.nmc-uk.org/PreRegNursing/statutory/background/Pages/Introduction.aspx Section 8 Reference points/benchmarks

- Darzi, A. (2008) *High-quality care for all: NHS Next Stage Review final report.* London: The Stationary Office.
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This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications. These are available on the University Intranet.

Programme monitoring and review may lead to changes to approved programmes. There may be a time lag between approval of such changes/modifications and their incorporation into an authorised programme specification. Enquiries about any recent changes to the programme made since this specification was authorised should be made to the relevant Faculty Academic Registrar.