UWE
University of the
West of England
BRISTOL

POSTGRADUATE MODULAR PROGRAMME

MSc Medical Ultrasound

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Original validation 2003

University of the West of England

Programme Specification

Section 1: Basic Data	Version 5

Programming institution/body	University of the West of England
Teaching institution	University of the West of England
Faculty responsible for programme	Health and Life Sciences School of Health and Social Care
Programme accredited by	Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education (CASE)
Highest programme title	MSc Medical Ultrasound
Default programme title	N/A
Interim programme title	PG Certificate in Medical Ultrasound PG Diploma in Medical Ultrasound
Modular Scheme title (if different)	Post Qualifying Framework
UCAS code (or other coding system if relevant) **Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s)** **On-going/valid until* (*delete as appropriate/insert end date)** **Valid from (insert date if appropriate)**	1 September 2012

Authorised by…   **Date:…**

Version Code

For coding purposes, a numerical sequence (1, 2, 3 etc.) should be used for successive programme specifications where 2 replaces 1, and where there are no concurrent specifications. A sequential decimal numbering (1.1; 1.2, 2.1; 2.2 etc) should be used where there are different and concurrent programme specifications

Section 4: Programme structure

The original PG Dip/PG Cert Medical Ultrasound programme was validated in 2000 and this was followed by a further validation of the MSc Medical Ultrasound in 2003. The programme content has been updated annually to reflect current knowledge development and contemporary practice. The programme was further developed in September 2007 to increase the flexibility of the course, and to enable students to study a wider range of subject specialty areas. Students have the ability to negotiate with the programme and module leader, the area of study most appropriate for their needs. There is a recognition of the core professional issues required by students in each speciality area and in order to enhance the student educational experience, all students studying on the ultrasound clinical modules will be taught together, as a multi professional group, for approximately 20 hours of the module to develop their understanding of core theoretical issues within an interprofessional forum.

Pattern of attendance:

Students undertaking this programme will do so if they are able to assure the programme leader of their ability to complete a minimum of 2 days (or 15 hours) per week in practice throughout the duration of the professional practice modules. Exceptionally, students with irregular patterns of work must assure the programme leader of their ability to complete 304 hours of practice over one academic year (each 40 credit professional practice module equates to 400 notional hours of student effort. Of these 400 hours, a maximum of 96 hours will be given to theoretical sessions and the remainder will be spent learning in practice). The commitment for this undertaking is endorsed by the student's manager in the learning contract. This situation is monitored on a regular basis through regular review meetings with the appraiser and student, and recorded in the negotiated statements. These mechanisms will help to ensure postgraduate students gain the requisite clinical experience. The programme team is also able to monitor the situation and intervene, where required. The programme team has successfully operated this system since the inception of the first ultrasound course, and it has been shown to work well.

Section 4: Programme structure MSc Medical Ultrasound Pathway			
Year 1	**Core Compulsory module** • Ultrasound Technology UZYRL6-20-M	*Core Optional modules* Students must take one of the following: • General Medical Ultrasound in Practice UZYRLG-40-M • Obstetric Ultrasound UZYRSD-40-M • Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice 1 UZYRLK-40-M OR • Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice 3 UZYS9Y-20-M AND • Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice 4 UZYSA3-20-M OR • Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice 5 UZYSJY-20-M	**Interim Award:** **PG Certificate Medical Ultrasound** • Credit requirements 60 at level M **Students must complete the module UZRYL6-20-M plus 40 credits from the list of core optional modules as described to be eligible to claim the interim award of Post Graduate Certificate Medical Ultrasound**
Students who undertake three 20 credit Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound modules in year 1 **MUST** undertake a 40 credit practice module in year 2.			
Year 2	**Core compulsory modules**	*Core Optional modules* Students must take one of the following: • General Medical Ultrasound in Practice UZYRLG-40-M • Obstetric Ultrasound in Practice UZYRSD-40-M • Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice 2 UZYS9X-40-M • Health and Social Care Research: Methods and Methodologies UZWRGQ-20-M	**Interim Award:** **PG Diploma Medical Ultrasound** • Credit requirements 60 credits at level M plus PG Cert **Total 120 credits at level M** **Students must complete the module UZRYL6-20-M plus 100 credits from the list of core optional modules as described to be eligible to claim the interim award of Post Graduate Certificate Medical Ultrasound**

Students who have taken three 20 credit Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound modules in year 1 will not be able to use these modules in year 2 and will need to undertake one of the 40 credit core optional modules listed above.

Students who have **not** completed UZYSA3-20-M or UZYS9Y-20-M Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice module in the first year may choose to do so in Year 2. Students **may** also undertake an additional 20 credits from the optional modules list below.

	Core compulsory modules	**Optional modules**	**Target programme**
Year 3	• Health and Social Care Research: Methods and Methodologies UZWRGQ-20-M Either • Dissertation UZWS4W-60-M Or • Dissertation UZWS4V-40-M **Students taking the 40 credit Dissertation module UZWS4V-40-M must take a further 20 credits from the optional list to be eligible for the award**.	• Legal and Ethical Issues and Dilemmas in Health and Social Care UZYRL8-20-M • Health Promotion Theory and Practice UZFRF5-20-M • Independent Study UZYRLC-20-M • Leadership and Change UZVRQW-20-M • Applied Pharmacology UZTRBA-20- M • Evidencing Work Based Learning 4 UZYRLD-20-M • Clinical Examination Skills for Advanced Practice UZWRH7-20-M • Communication Skills in Cancer and Palliative Care UZTR7R-20-M • Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice 2 UZYS9Y-20-M • Negotiated Specialist Ultrasound Practice 4 UZYSA3-20-M	**MSc Medical Ultrasound** • Total credit requirements **180 credits at level M**

Section 5: Entry requirements

The normal entry requirement is a first degree from a recognised institution of higher education or its equivalent in a relevant subject area. This will constitute standard entry into the programme

We also welcome applicants from a diverse range of backgrounds who do not have the entry requirements outlined above. The University will consider applicants on the basis of evidence of personal, professional and educational experience which indicates an applicant's ability to meet the demands of a postgraduate degree programme.

Applicants with non-standard entry criteria will also be considered on an individual basis. This will take the form of an interview and submission of written evidence. Students whose health and/or social care role requires them to undertake masters level study must demonstrate sufficient ability to achieve M level academic criteria.

Applicants must be eligible for registration by their respective UK regulatory body eg HPC, GMC, NMC.

Course requirements:

- Access to an appropriate clinical area in order to fulfil the practice requirements of this programme.
- Commitment from manager to support clinical learning
- An appropriately qualified individual who will act as clinical appraiser (supervisor and assessor)

Desirable:

- Previous ultrasound experience is highly desirable.

Section 6: Assessment Regulations

Wholly in accordance with Academic Regulations and Procedures

Section 7: Student learning: distinctive features and support

Learning is based on an androgogic/student-centred approach, where the students are encouraged and empowered to take responsibility for their own learning. Active research, exploration, feedback and teamwork, case study presentations are expected in all aspects of the programme, and will develop skills such as critical analysis, autonomy, communication, problem solving and reflection.

Key lectures from experts within specialities in ultrasound are incorporated to encourage the student to consider innovative approaches in clinical practice, and keep abreast of current research.

There is strong inter-professional interaction, with sharing of ideas and experiences to resolve practice and person related health and social care situations. This approach should ultimately enhance responsiveness to the 'service user' perspective and promote the best possible care.

The use of action learning sets will promote group dynamics and team building (theories of collaboration), interprofessional working and problem solving and decision making.

Through self directed learning and the formative use of the unique clinical assessment scheme, learning contracts and negotiated action plans, the student will develop intellectual, professional, practical and report writing skills. The clinical portfolio of evidence during their clinical learning will promote the student to reflect on their clinical learning experiences and develop a culture of reflective practice and life-long learning.

Models for e-learning, e-portfolios and e-OSCEs have been developed for integration into most modules. This reflects the e-learning strategy of the faculty.

Student support will be offered in a number of ways:

- Through personal tutorials from the programme team – each student will be assigned a personal tutor.
- Through the support of a suitably experienced and trained appraiser, for facilitation, supervision and monitoring of the student's clinical learning.
- Through negotiation of learning contracts and action plans with the appraiser.
- Through regular clinical liaison (link) lecturer visits for student and appraiser support.
- Student Union membership
- An induction programme for all students.
- A policy on student support and guidance.
- Provision of University, Faculty, Programme and Module handbooks.
- Through Module and Programme leaders.
- Access to faculty student support systems.
- The provision of on-demand workshops on literature searching skills.

The programme team will liaise with students and their employers to determine the choice of dissertation module and the topic.