



Module Specification

Obstetric Ultrasound in Practice

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Obstetric Ultrasound in Practice

Module code: UZYS PJ-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

Partner institutions: None

Field: Allied Health Professions

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: Fundamentals of Ultrasound Technology 2025-26, Professional Issues in Ultrasound 2025-26

Continuing professional development: Yes

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: The aim of this module is to provide the student with the knowledge base to become a proficient practitioner in the field of Obstetrics Ultrasound. Students will be given opportunities to study theory and engage in practice concurrently and explore the efficiency and efficacy of ultrasound practice

Features: The student is required to have a suitable clinical placement with support in the UK placement based on this being a practice-based programme. It requires

students to complete on average a minimum of 15 hours per week for the duration of the module in a relevant practice setting per professional practice module.

Educational aims: The aim of this module is to develop a safe and competent practitioner equipped with knowledge, critical understanding and professional skills for participation in an effective Obstetric Ultrasound Imaging service.

Outline syllabus: Typically, this module will cover:

Applied anatomy, physiology and pathology related to the female reproductive system, menstrual cycle;

Embryological/fetal development, including abnormal fetal anatomy/developmental conditions;

Interpretation of biochemical, genetic, and other invasive or non-invasive screening/diagnostic tests;

Issues relating to the holistic preparation and care of the service user;

Role of ultrasound in the overall management of the service user;

Range of ultrasound techniques for external and intra-cavity procedures, including Trans vaginal scanning, Trans abdominal scanning, Doppler studies (e.g. uterine, fetal umbilical, middle cerebral arteries) and Complementary and/or alternative imaging techniques;

Obstetric ultrasound.

Role of ultrasound in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd trimester, and post-natally, to include:

First Trimester

Early pregnancy assessment clinics to include detection of early pregnancy complications including loss, dating scans; screening & anomaly scanning in the first trimester; fetal biometry; multiple pregnancy e.g. chorionicity, amnionicity.

Second Trimester

Routine anomaly screening: fetal biometry; fetal echocardiography; placenta & umbilical cord; amniotic fluid volume; the 'late booker'.

Third Trimester

Maternal complications in pregnancy, assessment of fetal wellbeing; fetal growth trends, multiple pregnancy complications, fetal and maternal doppler placental assessment, amniotic fluid assessment.

Post-partum

Post-partum complications e.g. detection of retained products of conception.

Communication skills

Reporting of ultrasound images

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A blended teaching and learning approach(online and face to face) is used, including key note lectures, seminars and tutorials, student-led sessions, independent study, work-based clinical experience and reflective practice to cover the material within this module, in addition to online learning and online case discussions.

The placement hours for this module are a normal average, based on this being a practice-based programme that normally requires students to complete on average a minimum of 15 hours per week for the duration of the module in a relevant practice setting per professional practice module.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Engage in effective communication with service users, their families, stakeholders, and healthcare professionals, reflecting critically on the effectiveness of own communication skills and level of care provided.

MO2 Plan, perform and interpret all types of ultrasound examinations relevant to their chosen area of practice safely, competently and professionally, according to local policies and current evidence base.

MO3 Critically evaluate the use of ultrasound relevant to their chosen area of practice, with active contributions to the multi-disciplinary healthcare team and

where appropriate, propose follow-up and alternatives for improved service-user care and management.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Placement = 390 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzyspj-30-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzyspj-30-m.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment Task 1: Oral Examination (maximum 30 minutes) – students will be asked critical questions related to clinical competence and decision making.

Rationale: The use of critical questioning enables the demonstration of knowledge and understanding of normal, abnormal appearances, service-user pathways, the protocols, skills and reasoning (including relevant contemporary research) underpinning relevant ultrasound imaging, clinical assessment and decision making.

To pass the Oral Examination, students must achieve a minimum mark of 50%

Assessment Task 2: Clinical Portfolio

Rationale: The clinical portfolio provides the opportunity for the student to demonstrate clinical competence and appreciation of the role of a sonographer in the relevant context of ultrasound imaging.

To pass the clinical portfolio students must evidence:

at least 100 unassisted case logs have been undertaken

competence in four observed ultrasound assessments

completion of a satisfactory final placement progress report.

Formative Assessment:

Formative feedback and support for successful completion of the clinical portfolio is provided through student engagement (for example completion of a memorandum of understanding, student learning contract), and feedback on four observed ultrasound assessments. Simulation opportunities and practical workshops along with tutor support and feedback both in practice and via the module team provide opportunities for students to develop their clinical reasoning which supports the case study.

Assessment tasks:

Examination (First Sit)

Description: Oral examination (max 30 mins)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Clinical portfolio - pass/fail

Weighting: 0 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Examination (Resit)

Description: Oral Examination (maximum 30 minutes)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Clinical portfolio - pass/fail

Weighting: 0 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Medical Ultrasound [Glenside] MSc 2024-25

Medical Ultrasound [Glenside] MSc 2025-26

Medical Ultrasound [Glenside] MSc 2025-26

Medical Ultrasound [Glenside] MSc 2024-25

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