Programme Specification

Advanced Clinical Practice {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Glenside]

Version: 2026-27, v2.0, Validated

Contents

Programme Specification 1

Section 1: Key Programme Details 2

Part A: Programme Information 2

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes 2

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes 3

Part B: Programme Structure 8

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis 16

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks 16

Part E: Regulations 18

Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Advanced Clinical Practice {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Glenside]

Highest award: MSc Advanced Clinical Practice

Interim award: PGCert Health and Social Care

Interim award: PGDip Advanced Practice

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Health and Social Wellbeing, College of Health, Science & Society

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

NHS England

Apprenticeship: ST0564 V1.0

Modes of delivery: Full-time

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 January 2019

Programme code: B70W42

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (ACP) is a multi-professional programme for all professional, statutory and regulatory body registered practitioners. Its content has been developed in line with NHSE Multiprofessional framework for advanced clinical practice in England (2025) as this now provides the overarching benchmark for this subject area.

This is an apprenticeship programme, and apprentices will have protected off the job learning time as stipulated by their training plan. The apprentice will be encouraged to focus on advancing their knowledge and understanding of current issues related to their own field of practice, and that of the wider context of health and social care.

Apprentices will also attend action set learning sessions throughout the programme, these are mandatory sessions that will address the values, behaviours, knowledge and skills of the role of an Advanced Clinical Practitioner, these will feed directly into the Evidencing Work-Based Learning module which leads to the gateway for the end point assessment.

The programme is based on the ACP standard Level 7 as defined by Skills England. The standard follows the four pillars of advanced practice:
Advanced clinical practice
Education
Clinical Leadership
Research.

The recruitment and selection of apprentices onto the programme will involve a tripartite process with the university, the apprentice and the employer. The apprentice will have a contract with the employer, and have a commitment statement with an individual training plan, that will be mapped to the apprenticeship standard. The apprentice will formally attain 160 credits from the programme prior to the gateway to undertaking their End point assessment.

Features of the programme: The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice Apprenticeship supports registered healthcare professionals to develop their autonomous practice, clinical examination skills, diagnostic skills and decision making and clinical judgement skills to Masters level, while also encouraging them to focus on and apply the knowledge and skills gained to their specialist area.

The programme meets the outcomes of the NHSE (2025) Multiprofessional Advanced Practice framework and supports the development of an autonomous practitioner working across all four pillars of advanced practice in order to meet the needs of the workforce transformation agenda.

The programme has been developed with employers, advanced practitioners and academics (educators and researchers) and patient partners, as well as NHSE South West Faculty for Advancing Practice.

You will need a named educational supervisor in practice in order to support you and undertake work placed assessment during the programme.

You will also complete a portfolio of practice which will evidence your competence against the knowledge, skills and behaviours of the apprenticeship's occupational standard.

This programme has been designed in order to prepare practitioners to work at the level of advanced practice as outlined by NHSE:

"Advanced clinical practice is delivered by experienced, registered health and care practitioners. It is a level of practice characterised by a high degree of autonomy and complex decision making. This is underpinned by a masters level award or equivalent that encompasses the four pillars of clinical practice, leadership and management, education and research, with demonstration of core capabilities and area specific clinical competencies.

Advanced clinical practice embodies the ability to manage clinical care in partnership with individuals, families and carers. It includes the analysis and synthesis of

complex problems across a range of settings, enabling innovative solutions to enhance peoples experience and improve outcomes".

There are core modules which the practitioner needs to complete which meet the core capabilities of an advanced clinical practitioner. If programme requirements are met the learner will enter gateway once 160 credits are complete and then undertake the final element of the programme, which is the End Point Assessment for the remaining 20 credits.

Educational Aims: The educational aims of the programme are to:

Enable apprentices to demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge and understanding, evaluation of practice and implementation in relation to the Advanced Clinical Practice Degree Apprenticeship standard.

Produce an ACP who demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of complex and specialist areas of knowledge and skills, necessary to practice competently as a reflective practitioner.

Enable apprentices to develop a high level of autonomy based on critical thinking to make decisions, taking a patient centred approach and act appropriately in complex and unpredictable situations.

Enable apprentices to demonstrate a systematic understanding and critical evaluation of current issues within health and social care, using new knowledge in innovative ways and to share this with a wider audience.
Equip apprentices to critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in order to effectively, efficiently and flexibly lead, manage, plan and evaluate care delivery in a variety of complex and unpredictable contexts.

Support apprentices to work in partnership with people to develop person and family centred holistic care.

Develop resilience to appropriately question and challenge practice, recognising the

evolution of professional identities.

Critically appraise and synthesize relevant research, evaluations and audits, applying them to one's own area of practice, ensuring measurable quality improvements whilst considering costs and resources.

Critically evaluate their own practice and participate in multi-disciplinary service and team evaluation, demonstrating the impact of advanced clinical practice on service function and effectiveness, and quality.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1. Critically evaluate and synthesise national and local policy, professional and regulatory codes, legal and ethical frameworks, and boundaries of practice, applying these to ensure safe, autonomous and accountable advanced clinical practice within your defined scope; assess and implement strategies to identify, communicate and mitigate risk

PO2. Synthesise advanced assessment methods and diagnostic tests, integrating pathophysiological knowledge to critically underpin clinical reasoning in complex and unpredictable presentations; exercise person centred decisions across a diverse population and implement and evaluate a range of safe, effective, evidence based therapeutic interventions.

PO3. Plan and manage a defined episode of care including health promotion within your scope of practice, evaluating and acting on the outcomes of interventions to feed into the design and implementation of service development to improve patient centred care.

PO4. Evaluate and synthesise emerging technologies, including genomics, digital tools and diagnostic innovation, to enhance evidence based decision making, optimise care outcomes and contribute to service development.

PO5. Critically appraise and synthesis the outcomes of qualitative and quantitative research, audit and quality improvement methodologies, integrating ethical, legal, financial and organisational governance principles, disseminating findings to enhance quality and safety of care.

PO6. Critically apply leadership theory and team-working models, to influence practice across professional boundaries, identifying the need for change, evaluating and leading service development at individual, team and organisational levels.

PO7. Critically evaluate and facilitate teaching using learning and motivational theories to support development of self and others; synthesise approaches that foster a positive learning culture acting as a role model and mentor to enable reflective lifelong learning.

PO8. Critically evaluate and contribute to workforce development, identifying learning needs, and supporting a culture of continuous improvement to influence organisational development.

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy has been designed to test the programme learning outcomes and ensure that the learner is meeting the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSB's), of the Skills England Occupational Standard for this apprenticeship.

A variety of assessment strategies are employed throughout the programme, such as project reports, quality Improvement proposals and implementation, critical reflection on change management, poster presentations, exams, clinical SOPEs and a portfolio of practice which demonstrates achievement of the KSB's in line with the NHSE Multiprofessional Advanced Practice Framework Outcomes.

The Assessment strategy incorporates and meets the accreditation requirements of the Centre for Advancing Practice of the programme (portfolio and SOPE).

Student support: As an apprentice on the ACP programme, you will be supported to achieve the requirements of the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours of the academic standard. You will have access to learning resources, opportunities for supervision in practice and a dedicated team from the university who will provide ongoing feedback to help you progress.

Your apprenticeship coordinator, module leads, academic tutor and clinical supervisor will work with you to identify learning needs and review your progress at

agreed intervals. You will have at least four tripartite meetings each academic year with the university and their employer. These will be either face to face, telephone or video conferencing. These meetings will address your development and action plan as they progress through the programme.

You will receive support in developing the advanced clinical, research, leadership and educational competencies required for the role, including guidance on how to evidence these capabilities in both practice and academic settings. You will receive feedforward advice on completion of each academic module on the programme to support your continued progression at Masters level.
Where challenges arise, whether personal, academic or practice based, you will have access to appropriate support. This may include wellbeing services, study skills resources, or additional support from your area of practice. You will be encouraged to communicate openly about any concerns so that tailored strategies can be put in place to help you maintain engagement and achieve your potential. We work in partnership with organisations to ensure open communication about your progress and what we can do to support this.

Part B: Programme Structure

Occupational Therapy pathway

Year 1
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules
Students must take 20 credits from the Compulsory Modules Group

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMODT7-20-M	Leadership, Complexity and Change in Healthcare: Theory, Practice and Development 2026-27	20

Year 1 Optional modules
The student must take 40 credits from the modules in Optional Modules

The student must take either:

(UZUR15-20-M Or UZWK9C-20-M Or UZUSWD-20-M) AND UZWRWX-20-M

OR

Advancing Practice in Clinical Examination and Diagnostic Reasoning for Urgent, Emergency and Primary Care Practitioners (UZWK9M-40-M).

With the agreement of the Programme Leader, the following level 6 module may be used in lieu of the level 7 equivalent: Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning for Practice UZWK9B-20-3

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZUR15-20-M	Examination of the Newborn 2026-27	20
UZWK9C-20-M	Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning for Practice 2026-27	20
UZUSWD-20-M	Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning of the Presenting Child 2026-27	20
UZWRWX-20-M	Pathophysiology and Diagnostic Reasoning in Clinical Practice 2026-27	20
UZWK9M-40-M	Advancing Practice in Clinical Examination and Diagnostic Reasoning for Urgent, Emergency and Primary Care Practitioners 2026-27	40

Year 2
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory modules
The student must take the 20 credit module and the non-credit bearing module from Compulsory Modules

Module Code	Module Title	Credit

UZYRHM-0-M	Advanced Practitioner Portfolio (non-credit bearing) 2027-28	0
UZWY8H-20-M	Health and Social Care Research for Advanced Clinical Practitioner (Distance Learning) 2027-28	20

Year 2 Optional modules
The student must take 40 credits from the modules in Optional modules in agreement with the programme lead.

With the agreement of the Programme Leader, the following level 6 module may be used in lieu of the level 7 equivalent: Independent and/or Supplementary Prescribing UZTRTV-40-3

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYYXK-30-M	Rehabilitation 2027-28	30
UZZRYE-10-M	Evidencing Work Based Learning 2027-28	10
UZTRTU-40-M	Independent and/Or Supplementary Prescribing 2027-28	40

Year 2 Optional Modules
The student may choose to take Supporting Students in Practice (non-credit bearing) module.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYKFP-0-3	Supporting Students in Practice (non-credit bearing) 2027-28	0

Year 3
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory modules
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit

UZWY8J-20-M	Advanced Clinical Practitioner End Point Assessment 2028-29	20
UZTY8G-40-M	Evidencing Work Based Learning for Advanced Clinical Practitioner 2028-29	40

Paediatric pathway

Year 1
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules
Students must take 20 credits from the Compulsory Modules Group

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMODT7-20-M	Leadership, Complexity and Change in Healthcare: Theory, Practice and Development 2026-27	20

Year 1 Optional modules
The student must take 40 credits from the modules in Optional Modules

The student must take either:

(UZUR15-20-M Or UZWK9C-20-M Or UZUSWD-20-M) AND UZWRWX-20-M

OR

Advancing Practice in Clinical Examination and Diagnostic Reasoning for Urgent, Emergency and Primary Care Practitioners (UZWK9M-40-M).

With the agreement of the Programme Leader, the following level 6 module may be used in lieu of the level 7 equivalent: Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning for Practice UZWK9B-20-3

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZUR15-20-M	Examination of the Newborn 2026-27	20
UZWK9C-20-M	Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning for Practice 2026-27	20

UZUSWD-20-M	Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning of the Presenting Child 2026-27	20
UZWRWX-20-M	Pathophysiology and Diagnostic Reasoning in Clinical Practice 2026-27	20
UZWK9M-40-M	Advancing Practice in Clinical Examination and Diagnostic Reasoning for Urgent, Emergency and Primary Care Practitioners 2026-27	40

Year 2
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory modules
The student must take the 20 credit module and the non-credit bearing module from Compulsory Modules

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYRHM-0-M	Advanced Practitioner Portfolio (non-credit bearing) 2027-28	0
UZWY8H-20-M	Health and Social Care Research for Advanced Clinical Practitioner (Distance Learning) 2027-28	20

Year 2 Optional modules
The student must take 40 credits from the modules in Optional modules in agreement with the programme lead.

With the agreement of the Programme Leader, the following level 6 module may be used in lieu of the level 7 equivalent: Independent and/or Supplementary Prescribing UZTRTV-40-3

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYYXK-30-M	Rehabilitation 2027-28	30
UZZRYE-10-M	Evidencing Work Based Learning 2027-28	10

UZTRTU-40-M	Independent and/Or Supplementary Prescribing 2027-28	40

Year 2 Optional Modules
The student may choose to take Supporting Students in Practice (non-credit bearing) module.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYKFP-0-3	Supporting Students in Practice (non-credit bearing) 2027-28	0

Year 3
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory modules
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZWY8J-20-M	Advanced Clinical Practitioner End Point Assessment 2028-29	20
UZTY8G-40-M	Evidencing Work Based Learning for Advanced Clinical Practitioner 2028-29	40

Urgent, emergency and primary care pathway

Year 1
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules
Students must take 20 credits from the Compulsory Modules Group

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMODT7-20-M	Leadership, Complexity and Change in Healthcare: Theory, Practice and Development 2026-27	20

Year 1 Optional modules
The student must take 40 credits from the modules in Optional Modules

The student must take either:

(UZUR15-20-M Or UZWK9C-20-M Or UZUSWD-20-M) AND UZWRWX-20-M

OR

Advancing Practice in Clinical Examination and Diagnostic Reasoning for Urgent, Emergency and Primary Care Practitioners (UZWK9M-40-M).

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UZUSWD-20-M	Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning of the Presenting Child 2026-27	20
UZWRWX-20-M	Pathophysiology and Diagnostic Reasoning in Clinical Practice 2026-27	20
UZWK9M-40-M	Advancing Practice in Clinical Examination and Diagnostic Reasoning for Urgent, Emergency and Primary Care Practitioners 2026-27	40

Year 2
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory modules
The student must take the 20 credit module and the non-credit bearing module from Compulsory Modules

Module Code	Module Title	Credit

UZYRHM-0-M	Advanced Practitioner Portfolio (non-credit bearing) 2027-28	0
UZWY8H-20-M	Health and Social Care Research for Advanced Clinical Practitioner (Distance Learning) 2027-28	20

Year 2 Optional modules
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Year 2 Optional Modules
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Module Code	Module Title	Credit
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Year 3
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Year 3 Compulsory modules
The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit

UZWY8J-20-M	Advanced Clinical Practitioner End Point Assessment 2028-29	20
UZTY8G-40-M	Evidencing Work Based Learning for Advanced Clinical Practitioner 2028-29	40

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

This is a post graduate professional practice programme for those students working in a variety of care settings who are registered with the relevant regulatory body. This master's level award adheres current ACP Apprenticeship (degree) standard ST0564 as agreed by the Institute of Apprenticeships in November 2017.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

Qualification characteristics for Foundation degrees and Master's

Advanced Clinical Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship Standard

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-year-health-plan-for-england-fit-for-the-future

The design of the MSc Advanced Practice has been developed with reference to a number of key guidelines, policies and strategies. Professional body requirements (Nursing and Midwifery Council [NMC]; Health and Care Professions Council [HCPC]; General Pharmaceutical Council [GpHc], and QAA benchmarks (2025) and have also been considered.

Health Education England (2017) Framework to promote person-centred approaches in health and care: https://hee. nhs.uk/news-blogs-events/hee-news/new-frameworkpromote-person-centred-approaches-healthcare

https://www.ficm.ac.uk/careersworkforceaccps/accp-training

https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/workforce-transformation

https://advanced-practice.hee.nhs.uk/

https://www.csp.org.uk/professional-clinical/cpd-education/professional-development/professional-frameworks

https://www.england.nhs.uk/

https://www.nmc.org.uk/

https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks

https://rcem.ac.uk/emergency-care-advanced-clinical-practitioners/

https://www.rcn.org.uk/

https://skillsengland.education.gov.uk/apprenticeship-standards/st0564-v1-0

https://tools.skillsforhealth.org.uk/

NHSE (2025) Multiprofessional Framework for Advanced Practice.

NHS England (2016) Leading Change, Adding Value: A framework for nursing, midwifery and care staff. https://www. england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/nursingframework.pdf

NHS England (2017) Allied Health Professionals into Action: Using Allied Health Professionals to transform health, care and wellbeing. https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/ uploads/2017/01/ahp-action-transform-hlth.pdf.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society Faculty (2013) The Royal Pharmaceutical Society Advanced Pharmacy Framework. RPS Faculty: London.

https://www.rpharms.com/resources/ frameworks/advanced-pharmacy-framework-apf

NHSE (2025) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-year-health-plan-for-england-fit-for-the-future

Academy of Royal Medical Colleges (2017) Joint Professions' Statement: http://www.aomrc.org.uk/ wp-content/uploads/2017/10/JOINT-PROFESSIONSSTATEMENT-111018.pdf

Part E: Regulations

Approved variants to University Academic Regulations and Procedures:

The following are relevant to the End-Point Assessment module - UZWY8J-20-M Advanced Clinical Practitioner Synoptic Module:

Regulation D5 (Module types) and D6 (Requirements to pass a module):
This module has two assessment tasks, each with a mark expressed as a grade, not as a percentage:
Task 1: Open book Exam is graded as Distinction/Merit/Pass/Fail.

Task 2: Presentation of Practice with a clinical practice report is graded Distinction/Merit/Pass/Fail.)

The overall module outcome is graded Distinction/Merit/Pass/Fail in line with the Advanced Clinical Practitioner assessment plan.

Regulations D7 (Failure of a Module) and D8 (Retaking a Module):
Skills England regulations state that the apprentice's employer will need to agree that a resit or retake is an appropriate course of action. UWE's regulations need to align with this.

For the purposes of the apprenticeship outcome only, a resit or retake will be capped at a Pass, unless the university determines there are exceptional circumstances

requiring a resit or retake. There is no capping of this module for the degree outcome.

Regulation D12 (Requirements for the Award of an Undergraduate Degree):
The End-Point Assessment module grade will count towards the overall degree classification.

Any changes to this programme must meet the requirements of accreditation by the centre for advancing practice and the standards fro education and training (SETS) https://advanced-practi...rogramme-accreditation/