



Programme Specification

Genomics [Apr][PT][Frenchay][22months]

Version: 2021-22, v1.0, 07 Apr 2022

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.....	5
Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis	6
Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks	6
Part E: Regulations	7

Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Genomics [Apr][PT][Frenchay][22months]

Highest award: PGCert Genomics

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Affiliated institutions: Not applicable

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

Department responsible for the programme: HAS Dept of Applied Sciences,
Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Contributing departments: Not applicable

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable

Apprenticeship: Not applicable

Mode of delivery: Part-time

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

For implementation from: 01 April 2022

Programme code: C450-APR-PT-FR-C450

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The UK is a global leader in genetics and genomics and has made a vast contribution to this rapidly evolving field. The UK set out, in its policy paper “Genome UK: the future of healthcare”, in Sept 2020, its ambition to create the most advanced genomic healthcare system in the world. The policy outlined that the latest genomics advances will be incorporated into routine healthcare to improve the diagnosis, stratification and treatment of illness, and support prevention and research.

Adoption of genomics into routine care requires a workforce understanding how and where genomics fit into current clinical pathways. Nursing is one of the largest groups within the NHS, it is imperative to ensure they have the right knowledge, skills, and behaviours to deliver the service. A genomic healthcare system cannot be realised without giving those who care for patients the skills and tools to do their jobs effectively.

This vision will be achieved by workforce development and engagement with genomics through training, education, and new standards of care. Significant investment was made in 2014 (£20 million) by Health Education England (HEE) via launching the Genomics Education Programme (GEP). This supported upskilling the specialist workforce through for example the Genomic Medicine Master’s framework. However, there is a gap in suitable programmes for the non-specialist workforce particularly for the upskilling of nurses (Jisc Further Education and Skills Strategy 2020-2023, 2021).

UWE is currently the sole Higher Education (HE) provider of genomic CPD aimed specifically for nurses and fully funded by HEE. UWE now supports the delivery of this new PgCert leading to a novel NHS recognised career route for nurses in genomics.

This is an 18-months part-time postgraduate programme that integrates fundamentals of genetics, genomics, and inheritance; genetic counselling skills; research and service evaluation skills; and leadership skills. The research and evaluation skills will prepare participants to lead genomics projects within the

Genomic Medicine Service Alliance (GMS Alliance). Using evidence-based methodologies, participants will work with partners (e.g., local quality improvement and transformation teams, HEE, AHSNs, Cancer Alliances, charities, professional networks, and others) to test changes and embed genomics into clinical practice. Knowledge and case studies will be shared cross-regionally and nationally to illustrate the positive impacts that genomics focussed care pathways have on health outcomes for patients and families. The programme will provide lots of opportunities to practice genetic counselling and conversation skills with active participation of patients.

On this programme participants will have access to extensive academic, scientific, and clinical expertise who will be delivering content of the programme. UWE has close active links with NHS GMS Alliances and Genomic Laboratory hubs (GLHs). The programme was co-created with the involvement of HEE, Macmillan Cancer Support, the British Heart Foundation, the South West Genomic Laboratory Hub and Genomics England.

Anticipated outcomes for the wider health system include:

Provision of evidence for competency frameworks in genomics for nurses/midwives

Strengthening collaboration for building provision of quality education between academic institutes and the wider healthcare system

The development of recognised career pathways for nurses and midwives in genomics

Educational Aims: This programme aims to deliver an innovative, blended learning, flexible provision that enables students to develop, advance and maximise their knowledge, skills and application of the rapidly-developing field of genomics. The programme is based on, and will deliver, the most current knowledge and evidence in the field of genomics. It aims to produce practitioners who are confident in the subject area and who are competent in applying skills with respect to genetic counselling and patient consent.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Programme Learning Outcomes

- PO1. Demonstrate critical and/or original application of genomic science to clinical practice.
- PO2. Apply critical evaluation and informed decision making when identifying patients who may benefit from genomic testing.
- PO3. Apply appropriate genetic counselling skills when conducting genomic conversations with patients and colleagues.
- PO4. Apply critical thinking skills and independent decision making in the delivery of nursing care, supporting patients and their families through their genomic pathway.
- PO5. Operate effectively within complex professional contexts and networks, and be actively involved with the development of strategies that benefit the inter-professional community.
- PO6. Critically evaluate practice and service improvements to effectively support development and delivery of genomic transformation projects in healthcare.
- PO7. Design and undertake systematic investigations that define and critically evaluate problems, apply core research methods, collect and analyse data and interpret different types of evidence.

Part B: Programme Structure**Year 1**

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Year 1

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJK7-15-M	Genomic and Counselling skills for Nurses and Healthcare Professionals 2021-22	15
USSJQG-15-M	Genomic conversation, research and evaluation skills 2021-22	15

Year 2

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Year 2

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJQF-30-M	Evidencing Work Based Learning (Genomics) 2022-23	30

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Successful graduates will have developed an in-depth knowledge of genomics, set within the context of current regulatory frameworks, existing practise and real-world healthcare challenges. Graduates will have benefitted from working with both academic and practice-based leaders in the field. The applied nature of each module will have enabled analytical and critical evaluation skills to be developed, crucial for a range of careers. Development of transferrable and leadership skills will have equipped students with a skill set critical for many advanced nursing and management roles, fostering leaders of the future in this field.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The learning outcomes for this programme have been designed according to the UWE Enhancement Framework, QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ). In addition, the following have also been carefully considered:

HCPC Standards of Proficiency for Biomedical Scientists (2014)

QAA subject Benchmark Statement for Biomedical Sciences (October 2019)

QAA subject Benchmark Statement for Biosciences (October 2019)

QAA subject Benchmark Statement for Health Studies (November 2019)

UK Quality Code for Higher Education (October 2019)

Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) – Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education (May 2018)

UWE Bristol Strategy 2030, aligning particularly with the inclusivity and collaborative focus, with this programme contributing to the key priority areas for course development in 'health and wellbeing'.

We worked closely with stakeholders (Health education England, the British Heart Foundation, Macmillan Cancer Support, Royal Collage of Nursing, Genomics

England) to ensure that the course provides students with the skills that employers are seeking.

Part E: Regulations

A: Approved to University Regulation and Procedures.