



Programme Specification

Healthcare Science (Respiratory & Sleep Physiology)

{Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Healthcare Science (Respiratory & Sleep Physiology)

{Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay]

Highest award: BSc (Hons) Healthcare Science (Respiratory & Sleep Physiology)

Interim award: BSc Healthcare Science

Interim award: DipHE Healthcare Science

Interim award: CertHE Healthcare Science

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: Yes

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Applied Sciences,
College of Health, Science & Society

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

National School of Healthcare Science (NSHCS)

Apprenticeship: ST0413

Modes of delivery: Full-time

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

For implementation from: 01 September 2024

Programme code: C99500

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The BSc (Hons) Healthcare Science (Physiological Sciences) programme is part of the University's extensive Healthcare Science provision to provide the principle training route for Healthcare Science Practitioners. This exciting course is delivered through a unique collaboration between the University of the West of England and local NHS providers within the South-West region, and has been developed in direct response to the Modernising Scientific Careers programme at the Department of Health. This has been established to develop a common career pathway, education and training standards for Healthcare Scientists (described as a Practitioner Training Programme or PTP), with professional specialism in Respiratory & Sleep Physiology as defined by Health Education England.

Features of the programme:

Educational Aims: The degree programme enables students to develop the knowledge and skills required of a healthcare scientist whilst also completing the extensive work-based training that forms an integral and significant proportion of a three year course, and to demonstrate specified standards of practice.

The programme provides:

A broad knowledge base in healthcare sciences, including the application of physics to physiological measurement, with specific areas of deeper understanding relevant to the specialist physiological pathways.

The opportunity to develop specialist skills and knowledge in Respiratory & Sleep Physiology through targeted work experience in healthcare science laboratories, and via the development of specialist knowledge within the final year of study.

Practical experience of working in a clinical environment through either:

an experiential placement within the first year to introduce Healthcare Science, and in extended placements in years 2 and 3;

or

via the student's pre-existing (and throughout the course) in-post employment in an appropriate role within a physiological sciences department (where this accredited course is an essential professional requirement for career progression to become a Healthcare Science Practitioner) enabling the student to perform a wide range of relevant techniques and to undertake a project out in the work place.

An understanding of the importance of effective communication, patient-centered care, evidence-based practice, clinical audit and multidisciplinary team working.

The underpinning knowledge to enable students to gain the accompanying skills and attitudes to work as a Physiological Scientist.

The opportunity for students to develop the skills to reflect and review their own practice (both academically and professionally) and strive to improve personal performance.

A unique opportunity for students to develop specialist knowledge and skills within pathways specifically designed (and professionally required) for the pursuance of a career as a Healthcare Scientist in the NHS.

Embedded service user and carer interaction to put patient care at the heart of the training.

The programme offers a combination of modules enabling students to understand the science of the physiology and pathophysiology of relevant body systems and the application of technology, while working at the cutting edge within the workplace

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Demonstrate knowledge of cell biology, anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and pathology that provides the foundation for studying the Physiological Sciences pathways of Healthcare Science.
- A2. Understand the context of healthcare sciences and their application to practical problems.
- A3. Understand a broad range of diagnostic and therapeutic measurement techniques including the rationale for the investigation, modification of the investigation, interpretation of test results and treatment of disease.
- A4. Demonstrate competence in specific areas of physiological measurement with an understanding of the principles underlying the techniques used.
- A5. Demonstrate an understanding of the research, development and innovation across the NHS and in healthcare science in particular.

Intellectual Skills

- B1. Actively question and seek relevant information.
- B2. Compare and contrast information from different sources online and offline.
- B3. Critically evaluate information against hypotheses in a range of research scenarios.
- B4. Actively analyse and apply problem-solving strategies.
- B5. Demonstrate independent self-directed learning, and skills for life-long learning.

Subject/Professional Practice Skills

- C1. Understand the importance of patient-centred care, evidence based practice, clinical audit and multidisciplinary working.
- C2. Critically observe, analyse and evaluate information arising from a wide range of sources.

- C3. Apply practical approaches to the study of selective aspects of healthcare science and demonstrate an awareness of safety and good workplace practice.
- C4. Communicate effectively scientific data and concepts using a range of communication strategies.
- C5. Develop discipline-specific interests by specialising within the programme in relation to subject and/or career aspirations.
- C6. Obtain, record, collate and critically analyse data using appropriate practical techniques, working as an individual or within a group.
- C7. Demonstrate an understanding of the research process, including the current ethical and legal frameworks within which human and animal research can be conducted in the UK, through the execution of a research project.

Transferable Skills and other attributes

- D1. Communicate information, advice, instruction and professional opinion to colleagues, patients, clients, users, their relatives and carers.
- D2. Critically analyse data arising from various means of biological or work-based inquiry.
- D3. Undertake active learning and development.
- D4. Apply information management skills to their learning and practice.
- D5. Work effectively as a team member.
- D6. Demonstrate an autonomous and reflective approach to lifelong learning.

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy has been designed to test the programme learning outcomes.

Student support:

Part B: Programme Structure**Year 1**

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJQW-15-1	Foundations of Mathematics and Statistics 2024-25	15
USSJRQ-45-1	Introduction to Physiological Diagnostics 2024-25	45
USSJQX-15-1	Introduction to Professional Practice in Healthcare Science 2024-25	15
USSJQY-45-1	Scientific Basis of Physiological Sciences 2024-25	45

Year 2

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSKL9-30-2	Pathophysiological Sciences A 2025-26	30
USSKLA-30-2	Pathophysiological Sciences B 2025-26	30
USSJTC-30-2	Professional Aspects of Healthcare Science 2025-26	30
USSJT9-30-2	Scientific Practice 2025-26	30

Year 3

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJYB-30-3	Advanced Respiratory and Sleep Physiology 2026-27	30
USSJYC-30-3	Applied Neurophysiology, Respiratory and Sleep Physiology 2026-27	30
USSJSJ-30-3	Healthcare Science Project 2026-27	30
USSKLM-30-3	Professional Healthcare Science Practice 2026-27	30

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

The BSc (Hons) Healthcare Science (Physiological Sciences) programme is a professionally accredited course that integrates theoretical and clinical approaches to understanding the human body in health and disease. It provides a foundation in core bioscience subjects that builds to a choice of physiology specialisms – cardiac physiology, respiratory and sleep physiology or neurophysiology – at advanced levels. These subjects are supported by clinical investigation to develop proficiency in physiological measurement, diagnosis and clinical problem solving. At the heart of the programme is work-based experience in physiology departments (predominantly within the NHS but also the private sector) to provide professional training encompassing patient-centered care and multidisciplinary team working. Students will be expected to adhere to professional body codes of conduct throughout the programme, and demonstrate attendance at all taught and workplace activities.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions/exceptions for in-post delivery:

Candidates must be in employment in a relevant role in a physiological sciences department. Note: to access funding from the employing institution's apprenticeship levy the candidate must be employed in a higher apprenticeship role (further details on the Education & Skills Funding Agency funding requirements can be found here).

Equivalent qualifications and/or work experience may also be acceptable (refer to UWE website for requirements) and would be judged on individual merit.

All students graduating from the UWE C992 FdSc Healthcare Science programme (with a Physiological Sciences specialism) will be eligible to enter the BSc Healthcare Science (Physiological Sciences) at Level 6. The FdSc is identical to the BSc at Levels 4 & 5.

Tariff points as appropriate for the year of entry - up to date requirements are available through the courses database.

Health assessment/declaration/vaccinations.

Applicants must be in good health and be up-to-date with routine immunisations e.g. tetanus, diphtheria, polio and MMR. Applicants who are offered a place will be required to complete a questionnaire and must be prepared to undergo a medical examination. Applicants will also be required to confirm their status in respect of a number of infectious diseases and immunisations (tuberculosis, measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, varicella, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV antibodies) and be prepared to have all required vaccinations. If vaccinations are not up-to-date this will affect ability to continue on the course. Concerns with regards to vaccinations should be raised at the point of application.

Disclosure of Criminal Background.

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 does not apply and all convictions, including those which are spent, must be disclosed. This is in accordance with the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975. Applicants who are

offered a place must undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and will be required to complete a Disclosure Application Form. All information will be treated in confidence and only taken into account when absolutely necessary.

Part E: Regulations

NB: The following variants to University Academic Regulations have been submitted for approval:

Approved variants to University Academic Regulations and Procedures:

The following are relevant to the End-Point Assessment module - USSKLM-30-3 Professional Healthcare Science Practice:

Regulations D5 (Module types) and D6 (Requirements to pass a module):

This module has three assessment tasks, each with a mark expressed as a grade:

- Task 1: Readiness for Practice Test (RPT) is graded as Distinction/ Pass/Fail
- Task 2: Professional Discussion (PD) is graded Distinction/Pass/Fail.
- Task 3: Research Project Presentation is graded as Distinction/ Pass/Fail

The pass marks for both the Readiness for Practice Test and the Research Project Presentation are 60% (59% is a Fail) and 75% must be achieved for a Distinction in each task.

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

Regulations D7 (Failure of a Module) and D8 (Retaking a Module):

For the Readiness for Practice Test, a resit or retake will be capped at a Pass.

Regulation D12 (Requirements for the Award of an Undergraduate Degree)

The End-Point Assessment module grade will count towards the overall degree classification.

Additional PSRB information:

No modules can be considered for condonation.

Aegrotat awards will not give eligibility for NSHCS accreditation.