

**University of the West of Scotland**  
**Postgraduate Programme Specification**

Session: 2022/23

Last modified: 23/06/2022 13:41:01

Status: Proposal

<b>Named Award Title:</b>	<b>MSc Adult Nursing.</b>
---------------------------	---------------------------

<b>Award Title for Each Award:</b>	<b>MSc Adult Nursing. PG Dip Adult Nursing. PG Cert Health Studies</b>
------------------------------------	--

<b>Date of Validation:</b>	March 2020
----------------------------	------------

<b>Details of Cohorts Applies to:</b>	September 2020
---------------------------------------	----------------

<b>Awarding Institution/Body:</b>	University of the West of Scotland
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	University of the West of Scotland
<b>Language of Instruction &amp; Examination:</b>	English
<b>Award Accredited By:</b>	Nursing and Midwifery Council
<b>Maximum Period of Registration:</b>	4 years
<b>Mode of Study:</b>	Full Time
<b>Campus:</b>	Lanarkshire

<b>School:</b>	School of Health and Life Sciences
<b>Programme Board</b>	Adult Nursing & Healthcare
<b>Programme Leader:</b>	Caroline MacCallum

#### Admission Criteria

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

#### Appropriate Undergraduate Qualification

A relevant degree in biological, health, social science, nursing or related subject normally attained within the past 5 years.

#### Other Required Qualifications/Experience

Successful completion of the admissions process. Recruitment is normally undertaken by interview in partnership with clinical colleagues or other partners and includes service user participation..

Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) evidence of numeracy for entry to pre-registration nursing and midwifery programmes (NMC, 2018).

All offers will be subject to Occupational Health checks and Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) checks (both the PVG scheme and the risk assessment process agreed with all NHS Board partners).

Satisfactory personal or academic reference which supports studying at SCQF Level 11.

#### Further desirable skills pre-application

Care experience in either an employment or voluntary capacity.

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Competent information technology skills.

Academic reading, writing and referencing skills.

Overseas Applicants only:

Complete the academic version of the British Council International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test and achieve at least 7.0 in the listening, reading and speaking and no less than 6.5 in writing. The Occupational English Test(OET)will now be accepted in addition to IELTS as proof of a Nurse or Midwife's English Language Competence (NMC 2019)

#### General Overview

The MSc Adult Nursing Programme is a 2 year, full time programme in accordance with the Nursing and Midwifery (NMC) Standards for pre-registration nursing programmes (NMC, 2018, Part 3). This innovative post graduate programme has been designed to map closely against the proposed BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing 2020 curriculum. The programme was the result of collaborative working within the School and with NHS partners, Alzheimer Scotland and other key stakeholders, including service users and students. The programme was designed with the expressed intention of maximising opportunities for students to experience a contemporary and flexible curriculum that reflects the ambitions of the future nurse.

This programme has been prepared in accordance with the NMC (2018) Standards of proficiency for registered nurses, the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) Regulatory Framework and the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) guidelines. Students with an appropriate degree can be awarded RPL if they can demonstrate relevant prior learning. This learning is mapped against the MSc Learning Outcomes and enables the full BSc programme (3 years undergraduate) to be completed in a shorter time (2 years).

Post graduate students of the adult nursing field will be facilitated to competently meet the holistic healthcare needs of patients across the lifespan and in particular develop a high level of decision making and critical thinking skills, enabling them to meet the complex needs of contemporary adult nursing practice. The NMC (2018) Future Nurse: Standards of Proficiency for Registered Nurses are generic across the fields of adult nursing, mental health nursing, learning disabilities nursing and children's nursing. As a consequence generic proficiencies underpin this adult nursing programme. The programme however contains field specific elements and situates the students learning in adult nursing practice by relating these proficiencies to the field of adult nursing both theoretically and within practice learning experiences. Educationalists who are expert in their nursing field collaborate with Practice Assessors and Supervisors to ensure that student learning is of the highest quality and that professional standards are consistent across all nursing fields. Post graduate students of the adult nursing field can therefore competently meet the holistic healthcare needs of people across the lifespan and in particular will have developed a high level of nursing expertise in the field of adult nursing.

The MSc programme enables nurses to meet the requirements of a modern health care system, work in a multi-professional team and demonstrate leadership and management abilities. They will be able to work collaboratively and respectfully across the life-span to promote health and deliver strengths based and person-centred care. Successful students will be adaptable, proficient and safe practitioners who will have demonstrated the skills required to engage in a range of therapeutic approaches together with an underpinning knowledge of the evidence base for adult nursing care.

The aims of the MSc Adult Nursing programme are:

1. Prepare students who are fit for practice, award, and employment to meet the needs of future populations.

2. Develop a critically reflective and resilient practitioner committed to inclusive practice, transformational leadership, continuous improvement and life-long learning.
3. Develop post-graduate attributes including decision making skills, criticality, and research mindedness to influence safe and compassionate adult nursing practice.
4. Critically evaluate adult nursing within a multi-professional/multi-agency framework and positively influence an inclusive and collaborative approach to working within an increasingly diverse society.
5. Equip the student with enhanced employability skills and the ability to plan a career pathway in the context of a dynamic and evolving healthcare system.
6. Develop safe, proficient and adaptable nurses who can facilitate health promotion approaches including the nurturing of self-care at individual, family and community level with an appreciation of needs across the lifespan.
7. Develop specific skills, knowledge and an analytical understanding of interventions across the lifespan and in adult nursing practice including telehealth, integrated care and service user participation.
8. Foster a commitment to contemporary practice in adult healthcare and to enable students to critically examine the underpinning models, philosophies and theoretical frameworks in adult nursing.
9. Prepare the nurse to be responsive to the social, political and economic influences on population health and health care.
10. Create a culture that values diversity and individual differences.

During the programme the student will undertake a range of integrated modules comprising theory, simulation and practice. All theoretical and simulation elements of the modules will be taught at Lanarkshire campus. Practice Learning Experiences will generally be undertaken within the Health Board localities in which the student resides although opportunities exist for remote and rural placements.

Whilst the MSc is a two year programme, the NMC split it into three parts as follows -

**Part 1 T1-2 (progression point end of T2) exit award PgC Health Studies (60 credits L11)**

**Part 2 T3-1 (progression point end of T1) exit award PgD Health Studies (120 credits L11)**

**Part 3 T2-3 (progression/award point end of T3) award MSc Adult Nursing (180 credits L11)**

Students must acquire all of the NMC proficiencies in their chosen field of nursing by the end of the programme (NMC, 2018).

On successful completion of the programme, students will receive an MSc award and be eligible to enter the NMC Register as an Adult Nurse.

On completion of the programme, graduates will be equipped for further study in a variety of academic and clinical pathways. The following are examples of further study/progression routes:- Master Degree by Research (MRes), Master of Philosophy (MPhil), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Professional Doctorate, MSc Gerontology, MSc Leading People Centred Integrated Care and MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner. A range of professional Post Graduate diplomas are also available.

#### Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

Linked to the theme of 'Graduates for the 21st Century', the programme has considered the UWS graduate attributes, and has been designed to support students to be **universal, work-ready and successful**. This is achieved by ensuring the programme is capable of developing relevant academic, personal and professional attributes within those students undertaking the programme. The 'I am UWS' graduate attributes are incorporated within each module descriptor and associated assessments.

The facets of 'Mastersness' are also evident within this curriculum to guide the student's progression and application of SCQF 11. These facets are: complexity, abstraction, depth of learning, research, autonomy, unpredictability and professionalism.

PDP is considered an essential component of lifelong learning and continuing professional development, and is seen as particularly relevant to the students undertaking this programme as they consider their transition and progression within the profession of nursing, aligned to professional registration with the NMC. Students on all Pre-registration nursing programmes have access to the NES ePortfolio to create a personal and professional development plan which they can continue to use throughout their professional career.

#### Work Based Learning/Placement Details

Practice learning experience is organised marginally in excess of 2,300 hours, and students attend practice learning environments full time and experience the 24 hour/7 day continuum of care. Practice learning experiences represent contemporary health and social care delivery and include the voluntary sector and social care provision.

Practice learning will take place within specified integrated modules throughout the programme. Student learning is designed to capture and follow the 'patient journey' within health and social care settings. Practice Learning Experiences are designed to expose students to care taking place within localities to meet the needs of the service user in that locality.

Practice Assessment is directed by the NMC Standards for student supervision and assessment (NMC, 2018).

#### Engagement and Attendance

Students are academically engaged if they are regularly engaged with timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. Please refer to the Academic Engagement and Attendance Procedure at the following link: [Academic Engagement and Attendance Procedure](#)

For the purposes of this programme, this equates to the following:

Although 100% attendance in Practice Placement areas is required by the end of the programme to meet NMC requirements, the student may be assessed if 70% of any practice learning experience is met.

#### Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality and Diversity Policy](#)

To promote inclusive practice, procedures and processes have been subject to Equality Impact Assessment where appropriate. In line with the Equality Act 2010 and UWS Refreshed Equality Outcomes 2021 - 2025 Public Sector Equality Duty Mainstreaming and Equality Outcomes Report 2021 (uws.ac.uk) (pp. 37 - 39)

The School of Health and Life Sciences encourages the disclosure of support requirements, including disability, at the recruitment stage and throughout the duration of the module. Emphasis is placed on confidentiality of information, the benefits of disclosure and that no detriment to progress will be experienced. The School will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments to teaching and learning approaches and arrangements for assessment, and (when applicable) periods of placement, where a student has disclosed specific requirements.

If modules have a practice component, and take account of the Nursing and Midwifery Council's statement on reasonable adjustments (NMC 2019) (<https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/eandd/reasonable-adjustments-policy.pdf>). In particular section 23:

"The (Equality) Act 2010 makes it clear that it is not discriminatory to apply competence standards (which include our Code, our revalidation and our education standards) to a disabled person. As a professional regulator responsible for protecting the public, it would not be right for us to adjust these standards. However, we can make reasonable adjustments to assist nurses, midwives and nursing associates in meeting our standards".

**A. PG Cert**

**Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)**

<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
A1	Critically analyse the fundamental models, concepts and principles that inform contemporary adult nursing practice.
A2	Assimilate the related knowledge of the life and social sciences across the lifespan to nursing practice in a range of health care environments.
A3	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the research process and how research influences practice by appraising evidence based practice approaches to patient centred care.
A4	Recognise the impact of public health on individuals, families and communities health and well-being from a local, national and global perspective.
A5	Identify the responsibilities of professionalism to promote patient safety and compassionate care, demonstrating a critical understanding of political and economic factors.
<b>Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
B1	Demonstrate the fundamental skills of nursing practice through assessment skills and the design of appropriate plans of care that are safe and supported by evidence.
B2	Review nursing research and evidence bases and use and adapt to a range of fundamental nursing skills.
B3	Act therapeutically to work in partnership with people, respecting patient autonomy and diversity, showing compassion for patients, carers and their families.
B4	Identify the contributions of the multi-professional team and the value of inter-professional education and collaboration to the nursing profession.
B5	Reflect on personal lifestyle and recognise factors that contribute to vulnerability or resilience in self and others, taking action to enhance patient safety and minimise risks to health.
<b>Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills</b>	
C1	Show evidence of developing a range of communication and interpersonal skills which enhance interaction with patients, carers, families and other healthcare professionals.
C2	Demonstrate information literacy and the ability to search, interpret, extract and present information that informs nursing practice.
C3	Engage with the range of technology/eLearning that informs nursing practice and develop the ability to enhance learning independently.
C4	Demonstrate numeracy skills to support administration of medicines through both eLearning and supervised practical application.
C5	Interpret accurately and record numerical and graphical data to enhance safe patient care.
<b>Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation</b>	
D1	Undertake literature searches to source information/evidence that gives academic insight into current/new areas of study.
D2	Engage in reviewing practice using a problem solving approach, and develop presentation, negotiation, and decision making skills.
D3	Identify the application of theory and research to nursing practice by developing reflective practice.
D4	Participate in self review/peer review of actual and simulated nursing practice to reflect on nursing practice, develop competency and identify/understand best practice.
D5	Recognise and acknowledge professional, ethical and legal issues in recovery focused, patient centred care.
<b>Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others</b>	
E1	Work independently and take responsibility for individual learning and develop the habit of life long learning.
E2	Apply professional standards of nursing and accountability in a variety of healthcare environments complying with local and national frameworks, legislation and regulations.
E3	Structure and communicate ideas effectively both verbally and in writing with reference to the NMC Professional Standard for Record Keeping.
E4	Develop a value based approach and apply principles of courage, transparency and duty of candour in all relationships.
E5	Engage in team work that involves multi-professional, inter-agency and collaborative working.

**Core Modules**

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	NURS11154	Integrated Human Development	20	✓			
11	NURS11157	Self, Society and Nursing	20	✓			
11	NURS11158	Health and Society	20		✓		

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

**Optional Modules**

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

**Criteria for Progression and Award**

Part 1 runs over T1-2 with a progression point at the end of T2 - exit award PgC Health Studies (60 credits, SCQF Level 11)

In order to progress, students must evidence sufficient achievement in Part 1. Students will not be permitted to progress to Part 2 carrying a fail in a practice placement.

A student who has not gained passes in some modules may be allowed to progress to the next part ("progression with deficit") provided:

- they have no more than 40 credits deficit and
- they undertake the re-assessment (or choose to retake the module while studying the next part) and
- they meet all prerequisites for core modules in the next part and
- they have undertaken the full set of modules as identified in the programme specification for part 1.

- They have successfully passed all practice placements within part 1

Any student not meeting these requirements will incur a period of academic interruption and will be supported to complete Part 1 in line with the University Assessment Regulations.

Students who have successfully achieved 60 credits at SCQF level 11 from this programme, and who wish to exit at this point, will be eligible for the award of Post Graduate Certificate in Health Studies. This award is academic and carries no professional recognition from the NMC.

## B. PG Dip

### Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
A1	Critically discuss fundamental models, principles and theories of adult health nursing reflecting on co-morbidity and complex health and social care needs.
A2	Demonstrate an understanding of the application of the biosciences and social sciences related to a range of healthcare needs in order to promote positive outcomes.
A3	Demonstrate a critical understanding of research methods and evidence based care to enhance safe and holistic care interventions.
A4	Critically appraise the factors contributing to common and complex health problems and appraise therapeutic interventions and the consequences for the individual, family and society
A5	Critically discuss key legal frameworks, ethical principles, political and economic factors that influence contemporary nursing practice.
<b>Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
B1	Perform holistic assessment recognising diversity, and deliver care interventions to individuals and groups prioritising care in partnership with carers and other key people involved in their care.
B2	Apply evidence base and professional guidelines to promote health and deliver safe effective care in a range of health challenges across the lifespan and at the end of life.
B3	Formulate care plans and health promotion strategies which identifies and promotes resilience, working in partnership to meet the health care needs of people, their families, lay carers and colleagues.
B4	Critically appraise the value of contemporary assessment tools and evidence based therapeutic interventions in adult nursing practice.
B5	Accurately assess risk and vulnerability to manage safe evidence based care and promote self management, recognising professional responsibility to adopt a healthy lifestyle.
<b>Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills</b>	
C1	Apply a range of strengths based approaches using communication and inter-personal skills to enhance patient autonomy and self management.
C2	Establish a command of digital and communication technology and clinical devices to evidence developing nursing expertise.
C3	Provide information in accessible ways to help people understand and make decisions about their health, life choices, illness and care.
C4	Demonstrate numeracy and literacy skills necessary to manage healthcare data and share information appropriately.
C5	Demonstrate proficiency when calculating dosages and administering prescribed medicines promoting concordance and optimising therapeutic effect.
<b>Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation</b>	
D1	Demonstrate decision making skills through the analysis and evaluation of care delivery and personal development planning.
D2	Evaluate current nursing practice and gain insight into future areas of investigation to enhance professional development.
D3	Engage in reflective practice that is focused on the application of values to practice, seeking and responding appropriately to constructive feedback.
D4	Integrate professional standards and national/local guidelines into strategies for quality patient care.
D5	Analyse legal and ethical issues that impact on nursing practice to arrive at morally and legally sound solutions.
<b>Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others</b>	
E1	Demonstrate effective management and leadership skills of collaborative team work to facilitate safe discharge and transition of people between caseloads, settings and services to enhance the quality of care in multi-professional and inter-agency teams.
E2	Develop a commitment to anti-discriminatory practice that advocates patient's rights, welcomes diversity and applies the principles of courage, transparency and the professional duty of candour to promote positive care.
E3	Positively manage potentially challenging situations in healthcare and community environments recognising and addressing human and environmental factors.
E4	Demonstrate clear and precise communication of all relevant information to appropriate colleagues, orally and in writing.
E5	Apply emotional intelligence and self awareness to evaluation of performance, self-resilience and competency, providing rationale that influences judgements and decisions through self and peer review.

### Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	NURS11156	Resilience in Health	30			✓	
11	NURS11155	Managing Holistic Care	30	✓			

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

### Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

### Criteria for Progression and Award

Part 2 runs over T3-1 with a progression point at the end of T1 - exit award PgD Health Studies (120 credits, SCQF Level 11)

In order to progress, students must evidence sufficient achievement in Part 2. Students will not be permitted to progress to Part 3 carrying a fail in a practice

placement. A student who has not gained passes in some modules may be allowed to progress to the next part ("progression with deficit") provided:

- they have gained at least 80 credits across part 1 and part 2 and
- they undertake the re-assessment (or choose to retake the module while studying in the next part); and
- they meet all prerequisites for core modules in the next part; and
- they have undertaken the full set of modules as identified in the programme specification for part 1 and part 2.
- They have successfully passed all practice placements within part 2

Any student not meeting these requirements will incur a period of academic (programme) interruption and will be supported to complete Part 2 in line with the University Assessment Regulations.

Students who have successfully achieved 120 credits at SCQF level 11 from this programme, and who wish to exit at this point, will be eligible for the award of Post Graduate Diploma in Health Studies. This award is academic and carries no professional recognition from the NMC.

### C. Masters

#### Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Critically analyse the research and evidence base underpinning the core theories, values, principles and concepts of contemporary adult nursing.
A2	Critically apply knowledge of relevant bioscience and social science theory to the understanding of health issues, therapeutic approaches and contemporary adult nursing care.
A3	Demonstrate an understanding of health economics including resource allocation and models of welfare provision that directly influence the health and well-being of both individuals and communities from a local, national and global perspective.
A4	Evaluate the impact of governmental/professional policies and the research which impacts on health care and the nursing profession.
A5	Demonstrate an informed appreciation of legal frameworks, ethical principles, social and political factors that shape the professional responsibilities and accountability mandatory for public protection.
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Demonstrate the safe and effective use of a range of therapeutic strategies commensurate with safe and effective holistic nursing care.
B2	Work effectively within integrated teams to effectively manage and lead the care of people with complex needs, delegating and referring to other members of the multi-professional team as appropriate.
B3	Support and supervise students in preparation for the role of Practice Supervisor following registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council.
B4	Formulate plans and strategies for monitoring and enhancing the quality of care, promoting independence and strengths-based care whilst effectively managing risk in a diverse range of potentially challenging or complex situations.
B5	Safely and effectively lead and manage a small care load applying a sound knowledge of leadership skills, decision making skills and current adult nursing practice, to prioritise and manage the assessment, planning and delivery of care.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Show evidence of continuing development of a wide range strengths based communication skills and therapeutic interventions to promote empowerment, resilience and self management where appropriate.
C2	Demonstrate ICT skills and use information and healthcare technology to inform and enhance nursing practice and professional development.
C3	Enhance professional development and safe practice through peer and professional review and support, clinical supervision and personal development planning.
C4	Demonstrate competent management, analysis, interpretation and presentation of statistical and graphical healthcare data.
C5	Apply knowledge and skills commensurate with the ability to progress to a prescribing qualification following registration with the Nursing & Midwifery Council.
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Engage in an on-going evaluation of care based on evidence, values and the principles central to quality improvement in health care demonstrating skills of critical enquiry, critical appraisal and evaluation.
D2	Critically appraise and produce a range of complex oral and written communications appropriate to professional and academic development.
D3	Demonstrate the expertise and insight of the reflective practitioner in self and others through personal development and education of junior nursing staff.
D4	Demonstrate a range of enhanced communication strategies to professional practice.
D5	Critically evaluate current practice and develop insight into emerging areas of practice improvement to achieve research/benchmark standards.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others	
E1	Engage effectively and use discretion whilst working collaboratively within teams and with other disciplines and agencies.
E2	Show leadership qualities within a team and uphold the values and reputation of professional nursing.
E3	Exhibit organisational skills and managerial ability when working under supervision but with increasing autonomy and initiative relating to an identified care load.
E4	Consistently apply and evaluate the ethical obligations and legal requirements of professional nursing practice
E5	Demonstrate a commitment to quality improvement, reflective practice and personal development and apply this to the critical appraisal of adult nursing practice.

#### Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	NURS11160	Research and Practice	60	✓	✓	✓	

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

#### Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term	Footnotes

