

Postgraduate Programme Specification

Session	2024/25	Last Modified	27/08/24			
Named Award Title	MSc Advanced Clinic	cal Practitioner				
Award Title for Each	MSc Advanced Clinica	l Practitioner (Adult)				
Award	MSc Advanced Clinica	l Practitoner (Mental Hea	alth)			
	PG Dip Advanced Clin	ical Practitioner (Adult)				
	PG Dip Advanced Clini	cal Practitioner (Mental	Health)			
	PG Cert Advanced Clir	nical Practice (Adult)				
	PG Cert Advanced Clinical Practice (Mental Health)					
Date of Approval						
Details of Cohort Applies to	September 24					
Awarding Institution	University of the	Teaching	University of the			
	West of Scotland	Institution(s)	West of Scotland			
Language of Inchricati	an 9 Evamination	Facial				
Language of Instruction	on & Examination	English				
Award Accredited by		N/A				
Maximum Period of R	egistration	N/A				
Duration of Study	1 - > /					
Full-time	2 Years	Part-time	3 Years			
Placement (compulsory)		ithin student's own clinical Practice and NI	· ·			
(**************************************	Independent and Supp					
Mode of Study	⊠ Full-time					
	Part-time					
Campus	Ayr	\times Lanarkshire	Online / Distance			
	Dumfries	London	Learning			
		Paisley	Other (specify)			
Oakaal	Hardin and Hard Co.					
School	Health and Life Scien					
Divisional Programme Board	Adult Nursing Comm	unity Health				
Programme Leader	G. McTaggart					

Admissions 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 Qualifications:

Applicants will typically possess a degree or equivalent. In the absence of a degree, where entry requirements do not conform to the general entry requirements, other evidence can be considered on an individual basis in line with Regulations 2.13 – 2.36 (Recognition of Prior Learning – RPL / Recognition of Credit).

Recruitment of students who do not possess a degree may require an entrance interview if deemed necessary by the programme leader, in order that the applicant can demonstrate that they have sufficient professional and practice-based experience, to undertake their chosen field of study. Prior Learning may be accepted for the purpose of gaining credit towards the academic award, as per the requirements of the UWS Regulatory Framework. Such applications shall be reviewed and decided by the Programme Leader.

Other Required Qualifications/Experience

Applicants must possess a relevant Nursing, or Allied Health Professional qualification and have current registration with the NMC or HCPC. They will normally have a minimum of three years' experience within their field of practice and must be working within a clinical environment where they can develop the skills and knowledge required for this programme. Applicants will normally be employed as Trainee Advanced Clinical Practitioners.

Applicants undertaking NMC or HCPC approved modules (e.g. Independent & Supplementary Prescribing L11 Module), must satisfy NMC/HCPC entry requirements for the specific module, alongside the overall Programme requirements.

All applicants must complete and submit the Advanced Clinical Practitioner Health Board Statement of Support, as part of the admission process.

Further desirable skills pre-application

IT Skills:

Students must be able to access regular broadband communication and computer hardware. Software is available to students, via licensing agreements held by UWS, once they are fully enrolled as a student of the University.

A level of skills and experience in Information Communication Technology sufficient to engage positively with online material, both in teaching and assessment. For example, students will be expected to complete the online module 'Head Start', an introductory module for Masters level study.

General Overview

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner programme curriculum has been designed using a constructivist, spiral model which allows for the most complex material, properly structured and presented, to be understood (Johnstone 2012; Bruner 1960).

Students are introduced to new concepts of advanced clinical practice and build their knowledge as they progress through PG Certificate, PG Diploma and full Masters' stages. Further, the programme assessment strategy reflects this curricular model, building on knowledge developed from previous modules.

The benefits of a spiral curriculum include the reinforcement and consolidation of learning, progressing from simplistic to complex analysis. The student will progress logically through the curriculum, revisiting topics, themes, and subjects to reinforce and consolidate their learning. The programme learning outcomes reflect this progression, ensuring that students develop a greater depth of complex information analysis, contextualised to their own field of practice.

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner programme provides students with the opportunity to add one of two named titles to the exit award depending upon which field of professional practice they work within:

- MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner (Adult)
- MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner (Mental Health)

A key feature of this programme is the multi-professional nature of shared learning to advanced practice education. This is advocated as a way of breaking down professional boundaries and aids in developing a more cohesive approach to practice. In addition, it allows students the opportunity to enhance previous knowledge through reflection, discussion and sharing of experiences from different professional perspectives. The programme is delivered using a hybrid mode of delivery and supports the achievement of UWS Education Enabling Plan (2014-20) by offering a variety of teaching and learning approaches to facilitate the development of cognitive skills that enhance professional practice and development.

Advanced practitioner roles play a key part in developing and sustaining the capacity and capability of the health and social care workforce of the future (Scottish Government 2016; ICN, 2014). An advanced practitioner is an experienced and highly educated registered nurse or allied health professional who manages complete clinical care for their patient, and not solely on specific conditions. Advanced practice is considered to be a level of practice, rather than having a focus on specific role titles. It takes several years of both academic and clinical preparation to develop an advanced practitioner, with a far greater focus now on clinical care more than ever.

The aims of the MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner programme are to:

- 1. Create a graduate who has the ability to adapt and respond to the evolving advanced practice role within a variety of clinical settings within a given speciality;
- 2. Develop students' knowledge and ability to create robust and credible advanced practice skills which impact on health outcomes across the clinical setting;
- 3. Encourage and support students to become advanced practitioners who can practice safely within the four domains of advanced practice within the UK, but will be aware of developments as they occur on a global basis.

ICN (2001) and the Scottish Government (2016) recognize that the key to advanced practitioner status is education at Masters level. The core educational focus is on the development of competence within the four pillars of advanced practice (NES 2012) and this is developed within the programme modules:

Typical Delivery Method

The programme is delivered using a hybrid approach, where in-person campus-based learning, is combined with synchronous and asynchronous online learning via digital technologies as well as work-based learning within the student's own clinical environment. Students will typically be given weekly online reading to prepare for live online or on-campus sessions and signposted to relevant practice based activities to further contextualise the learning to their own clinical practice.

Students will receive a timetable for each module that clearly outlines online and on-campus attendance and engagement requirements.

Any additional costs

N/A

Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

Programme graduates reflect the UWS "I am UWS" graduate attributes making them Universal (possessing skills, abilities, and behaviours relevant to the local, national and global arena), Work ready (dynamic and prepared for employment in complex, ever-changing environments), and Successful (building on existing strengths to realise potential).

This programme provides students with opportunities to develop academically, professionally, and personally; it embraces the concept of Mastersness described in the QAA Scotland (2013) 'Facets of Mastersness' toolkit. Students are encouraged to reflect on learning achievements, experiences, and the implications these have for their future development. The authentic teaching, learning and assessment strategies support students to become research articulate, and to develop critical thinking and analytical skills that enable knowledge and understanding to be creatively applied within complex health and social care environments.

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner programme fulfils the academic requirements for a wide range of generalist and specialist advanced practice roles including Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Advanced Practice Paramedic, Advanced Practice Physiotherapist. Advanced Nurse Specialist and Advanced Clinical Practitioner. Personal development planning is embedded within the programme. There is also potential to progress with further study e.g., PhD, DProf, MPhil, MRes

Work Based Learning/Placement Details

Within the programme, the focus of each module is for the student to develop appropriate knowledge (and skills) which they then apply to the context of the clinical environment within which they practice within their given speciality.

Students who undertake modules where there are work-based learning requirements must comply with any regulatory body and university requirements. There are selected modules on this programme, which require specific work-based learning (i.e., Assessment & Decision Making in Advanced Practice, Advanced Clinical Practice and Independent & Supplementary Prescribing L11 modules) which are congruent with the university policy for work-based learning (Chapter 1, UWS Regulatory Framework). These modules contain standards or competency frameworks to be met as set by either the NMC, HCPC or NES Clinical Skills/National competencies which will require to be achieved within the workplace.

Students will be supported by a named Clinical Supervisor/Designated Prescribing Practitioner who is an expert practitioner within their field of practice, who will have the appropriate experience and qualifications to support the student on this programme of study. Clinical Supervisor/Designated Prescribing Practitioner will be supported by the programme team within a tripartite arrangement which includes a Practice Educator. The Clinical Supervisor/Designated Prescribing Practitioner is someone who is able to facilitate learning, supervise and assess the student in practice. Students will have agreed on a suitable expert practitioner from their clinical area of practice in conjunction with their Advanced Clinical Practice Lead, prior to the commencement of appropriate modules (i.e., Assessment & Decision Making in Advanced Practice, Advanced Clinical Practice and Independent & Supplementary Prescribing L11 modules).

Attendance and Engagement

In line with the <u>Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure</u>, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

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

Within this programme, there is a high degree of student-led flexibility. You are academically engaged if you are regularly engaged with scheduled live sessions on-campus and online, including engaging with online learning activities in your own time, course-related learning resources, and with timely completion and submission of assessments.

In addition it is essential that you are regularly participating in work based learning activities and assessments where required including regular contact with the clinical supervisor.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: <u>UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.</u>

In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations

Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards (Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework)

Learning Outcomes

	SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
A1	Demonstrate a critical knowledge of the anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of the adult.
A2	Demonstrate a critical knowledge and understanding of the principle theories, concepts and principles relating to the 'four pillars' of advanced practice.
А3	Critically review the relationship between theory, policy development and professional practice in relation to holistic patient-centred care.
A4	Critically examine and synthesise a wide range of theoretical explanations in relation to decision-making strategies and evaluate the resulting impact on professional practice.
A 5	Develop a critical knowledge and understanding of developments in advanced practice on a global basis.
	Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding
B1	Critically appraise the integration of body systems of the neonate or child or adult in the management of health and illness.
B2	Apply specialised knowledge and decision-making skills for practice related issues at an advanced level of practice.
В3	Critically apply the use of a wide variety of clinical and cognitive skills to select and retrieve information relevant to complex problems in advanced practice.
B4	Demonstrate originality and creativity in the application of knowledge, understanding and practice.
B5	Critically reflect on the practice of others to enhance professional self-judgement and the development of advanced decision-making skills.
	Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills
C1	Communicate, using appropriate methods, to a range of audiences with different levels of knowledge and expertise.
C2	Use a wide variety of ICT skills to support and enhance patient care.
С3	Work constructively with others to progress one's own learning within the team and critically reflect on these.
C4	N/A
C5	N/A
	Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation
D1	Plan, manage and critically evaluate specific projects which contribute to effective and efficient patient care.
D2	Develop creative, innovative and/or original responses to presenting problems and issues in relation to the ethical principles to professional practice.

D3	Critically analyse, evaluate and synthesise issues relating to the neonate or child or adult which are at the forefront of evidence based practice.
D4	Critically reflect on one's own views, values, perspectives, practice and experience using rational argument and evidence based principles in order to develop professionally.
D5	N/A
	Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others
E1	Critically review one's own knowledge of professional autonomy, accountability, regulation, legal and ethical issues and in relation to working collaboratively with patients and their families.
E2	Demonstrate the ability to make autonomous decisions and be able to function confidently as a member of the wider healthcare team.
E3	Critically analyse the appropriate utilisation of the NMC/HCPC/NES Advanced Practice Frameworks and the full spectrum other appropriate practice standards within advanced practice roles.
E4	
E 5	

Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Modules

CORE

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
11	NURS11142	Anatomy, Physiology and Pathophysiology in Advanced Practice	20				
11	NURS11133	Assessment and Decision Making in Advanced Practice	20				Long, thin module over T2 & T3
11	NURS11141	Advanced Clinical Practice	20				Long, thin module over T2 & T3
Footno	Footnotes for Core Modules						

Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Modules

OPTION

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Terr	Term		Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	

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Footno	tes for Option	Modules		<u>'</u>	1	•
		_				
Level 1	1- Postgradu	ate Certificate (F	PgCert)			
Criteri	a for Award					
Please	refer to <u>UWS I</u>	Regulatory Frame	<u>ework</u> for related re	gulations		
Studer	its who succes	ssfully complete	the three core mod	ules (60 cred	dit points	of which a
			ne less than SCQF	•	-	
		-	al Practice (Adult o		_	

	SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
A1	Demonstrate a critical understanding of contemporary theory, principles and concepts in relation to research design and methods.
A2	Integrate an extensive detailed knowledge of a specific clinical aspect with related clinical experience (neonate or child or adult or mental health) to demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding.
А3	Demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of both national and international advanced practice policy / practice.
A4	Demonstrate competence in prescribing, supplying, administering and evaluating effects of medicines, applying legislative aspects and agreed policy/procedure within own practice domain.
A 5	N/A
	Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding
B1	Critically evaluate one's own values and beliefs and their impact on practice.
B2	Use innovation and creativity in application of knowledge, understanding and practices in relation to gathering, generating and disseminating knowledge.
В3	Application and synthesis of knowledge of research through the development of a literature review which demonstrates an understanding of evidence based practice related to the neonate or child or adult or mental health.
В4	Critically evaluate complex issues in practice demonstrated through rational argument which then delivers best practice impacting on clinical outcomes of care.
B5	N/A
	Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills
C1	Demonstrate critical thinking, writing and communication skills with peers, senior colleagues and others.
C2	Demonstrate appropriate use and evaluation of ICT and numeracy skills as considered appropriate to advanced practice roles.
C3	Identify relevant information and categorise in order of significance, communicating important information effectively and timeously.
C4	N/A
C5	N/A
	Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation
D1	Develop original and creative responses to complex situations.
D2	Synthesise information from the evidence base/research to respond to complex problems and issues.
D3	Justify the individual's role in clinical practice/leadership, consultancy and the development of multi-professional policy and strategy within advanced practice.
D4	Rationalise alternative views and perspectives within a wide range of topical and controversial issues relating to advanced practice.
D5	N/A

	Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others
E1	Exercise substantial autonomy, responsibility and innovation in all professional activities.
E2	Critically evaluate advanced practice skills contextualised to own professional practice (in the neonate or child or adult or mental health) and leadership contributions to practice policy and strategy.
E3	Critically analyse and synthesise the utilisation of NMC/HCPC/NES advanced practice frameworks and practice standards in advanced practice roles which may lead to change in practice.
E4	N/A
E 5	N/A

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

CORE

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Terr	Term		Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
11	MIDW11003	Research in Health and Socal Care	20				
11	NURS11153	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing	30				Long, think over T1 and T2
Footno	Footnotes for Core Modules						

If the student already has a recorded Prescribing qualification at level 9, they will have the option to undertake further work in line with RPL processes (in line with Chapter 2 of the UWS Regulatory Framework), to achieve the 20 academic credits at SCQF level 11, or they may opt to undertake a further option module.

*Undertaking Independent & Supplementary Prescribing L11 may not be permitted by certain professional groups (registered with HCPC - Allied Health Professions) - in this case, the Independent & Supplementary Prescribing module will be replaced by another option module.

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

OPTION

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Terr	Term		Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
11	NURS11017	Leadership for Effectiveness	20			\boxtimes	
11	NURS11049	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	20				

11	MIDW11010	Clinical Teaching	20	\boxtimes		
11	NURS11094	Frailty in Later Life	20			
11	NURS11012	Independent Study (HSCE)	20			
11	NURS11151	Assessment of Capacity	20		\boxtimes	
Footno	tes for Option I	Modules				

Level 11- Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Criteria for Award

Please refer to <u>UWS Regulatory Framework</u> for related regulations

The student will be eligible for the award of Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Clinical Practitioner (Adult or Mental Health) with 120 credit points of which a minimum of 90 are at SCQF level 11 and none less than SCQF level 10 including all core modules and one option module.

Distinction shall be awarded in line with the UWS Regulatory Framework

	SCQF LEVEL 11 – Masters
	Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)
	Knowledge and Understanding
A1	Demonstrate a detailed critical knowledge that covers and integrates most, if not all, of the main aspects of research methodology utilised within health and social care.
A2	Critically analyse concepts of theory, systems and practice and the influence of these concepts on a wide range of issues related to advanced practice and patient care.
А3	Critically appraise the contextualisation of Government strategy and policy and strategic developments in relation to advanced practice development.
A4	Critically debate a variety of mechanisms used in strategic development and project management, appraising relevant regulatory, legal and organisational factors involved in advanced practice.
A5	N/A
	Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding
B1	Demonstrate originality and creativity in the choice of topic (related to neonate or child or adult or Mental Health)/methodology used and development of a research project or research proposal.
B2	Utilise knowledge and understanding of contemporary research related to the neonate or child or adult or mental health, to contribute to the body of knowledge at the forefront of the student's area of professional practice.
В3	N/A
B4	N/A
B5	N/A
	Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills
C1	Utilise a range of advanced communication methods and numeracy skills to support and enhance research and professional practice.
C2	Design the presentation of information for dissemination across the appropriate levels and areas of the professional audience and organisational contexts.
C3	Evidence of advanced ICT skills in extensive online database searching and utilisation of a range of ICT software to support writing of the dissertation.
C4	N/A
C5	N/A
	Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation
D1	Critically review, analyse and synthesise a range of research theories which will support a change of practice or impact on practice.
D2	Demonstrate originality and creativity in defining new and abstract problems which identify gaps in care or require solutions through the research evidence base.
D3	Critically appraise and evaluate research and other forms of evidence to ensure only best evidence is used to support changes or developments in practice.
D4	N/A
D5	N/A
	Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others

E1	Critically demonstrate substantial autonomy and initiative in professional practice and research activities.
E2	Demonstrate synthesis and application of effective accountability and leadership to make significant contributions to policy and strategy at a local level, national level and global level where appropriate.
E3	Manage complex ethical and professional issues and makes informed judgements on issues not addressed by current professional and/or ethical codes or practices.
E4	N/A
E5	N/A

Masters Modules

CORE

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term		Footnotes	
Level	Code			1	2	3	
11	NURS11010	MSc Dissertation (HLS)	60	\boxtimes			
Footno	tes for Core Mo	odules					

Masters Modules

OPTION

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term		Footnotes	
Level	Code			1	2	3	
Footno	tes for Option	Modules					

Level 11- Masters	
Criteria for Award	
Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework	k for related regulations

Mental Health) with 180 credit	he award of MSc Advanced Clir points of which a minimum of 1 ncluding all core modules and o	50 are at SCQF level 11 and			
Distinction shall be awarded in	ı line with the UWS Regulatory F	ramework			
Regulations of Assessment					
Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the <u>University Regulatory Framework</u> .					
An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.					
To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.					
Combined Studies					
_	a student has been unsuccessf her more generic named award				
Provided that they have met the credit requirements in line with the SCQF credit minima (please see Regulation 1.21), they will be eligible for a Combined Studies award (please see Regulation 1.61).					
For students studying at Level ´PgDip / Masters in Combined S	I1, they will normally be eligible tudies.	for an exit award of PgCert /			
Version no: 1 Change/Version Control					
What	When	Who			