Undergraduate Programme Specification

Session	2026/27	**Last Modified**	13/01/2025
Named Award Title	BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies		
Award Title for Each Award	BSc Nursing Studies BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies		
Date of Approval	ILR 2021		
Details of Cohort Applies to	From September 2025		
Awarding Institution	University of the West of Scotland	**Teaching Institution(s)**	University of the West of Scotland Uddipan, Bangladesh
Language of Instruction & Examination		English	
Award Accredited by			
Maximum Period of Registration		BSc 2 years BSc (Hons) 4 years	
Duration of Study			
Full-time	BSc 1 year BSc (Hons) 2 years	**Part-time**	
Placement (compulsory)	No		
Mode of Study	☒ Full-time ☐ Part-time		
Campus	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☒ Other (specify) TNE UDDIPAN Bangladesh.
School	**Health and Life Sciences**		
Divisional Programme Board	**Adult Nursing Community Health**		
Programme Leader	Gillian Gamble		

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:

SQA National Qualifications:

Or GCE

Or SQA National Qualifications / Edexcel Foundation

Other Required Qualifications/Experience
To be eligible for this degree, applicants must meet the following criteria:

Nursing Qualification: Applicants must hold a recognised nursing qualification equivalent to 240 credit points from their home country. At least 100 of these credits must be at the equivalent of SCQF Level 8.

Recent Practice or Continued Development: If the nursing qualification was obtained over five years ago, the applicant must have been in practice within the last five years and provide evidence of continued academic development during this period.

Nursing Registration: Current registration as a nurse with the nursing regulator in the applicant's home country is required.

English Language Proficiency:
Applicants must provide evidence of English language proficiency.

This can be demonstrated either by being a native English speaker as defined by UKVI or through a secure English language test. For IELTS, a minimum overall score of 6.0 with no element below 5.5 is required, the test must have been taken within the last two years. Alternative tests will be considered according to the current UWS English Language Requirements, available at: https://www.uws.ac.uk/international/english-language-requirements/ .

Reference: A satisfactory and recent reference is required, either from the applicant's academic institution or their employer in a healthcare position.

Further desirable skills pre-application

General Overview

The programme is designed for international nurses who hold a diploma-equivalent qualification in any field of nursing and seek to advance their education by obtaining a degree or honours degree in Nursing Studies. It is ideal for internationally students who bring experience in healthcare practice and nursing.

Key Features
The programme develops nursing graduates with a comprehensive understanding of contemporary nursing practice. It emphasises the critical evaluation of professional issues to ensure the delivery of safe, effective, person-centred, and compassionate care. Additionally, the programme focuses on enhancing students' analytical skills in interpreting the role of nursing on a global stage and across different socio-economic environments.

Modes of Delivery and Entry Points: The programme offers flexibility with entry points in both September and January. All modules are delivered face-to-face on campus, providing students with direct access to experienced faculty and state-of-the-art facilities.

Professional Knowledge: The curriculum is designed to equip students with in-depth knowledge in key areas of contemporary nursing, including clinical skills, leadership, management, research, and the management of adult patients. Although there are no clinical placements, the programme prepares students to understand the broader context of nursing in various environments.

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): This programme aligns with several UN SDGs, including Good Health and Wellbeing, Poverty, Gender Equality, Quality Education, and Reducing Inequalities. It is committed to fostering a global perspective on health, healthcare and nursing.

Support Arrangements: Students are supported throughout their studies with a range of academic and pastoral resources, including a designated personal tutor, stduent wellbeing support and services, and academic support.

Learning, Teaching, and Assessment
The programme employs diverse teaching and learning methods to engage students actively. These include simulation, enquiry-based learning, role play, small group work, and critical discussions. Assessment methods are varied and practical, including Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs), computer-based tests, essays, case studies, reflective writing, and written reports. This approach ensures that students develop both theoretical knowledge and practical skills to enhance professional knowledge.

This programme offers international nurses the opportunity to enhance their professional practice by gaining a degree that is recognised internationally. It provides them with an understanding of contemporary nursing challenges and prepares students to take leadership roles in their field. Additionally, the programe lays a strong foundation for those who wish to pursue further academic study following honours, such as a master's degree.

Subjects Covered
Students will explore a wide range of subjects that are critical to contemporary nursing practice. These include:
Clinical Skills
Leadership and Management in Nursing
Applying evidence to Nursing Practice
Management of the Adult Patient
Public Health

Graduate Destinations
Upon completion of the programme, graduates are well-prepared for a variety of career paths within the global nursing sector. While the programme does not lead directly to registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) in the UK, it is designed to prepare candidates

for the NMC's Test of Competence, which is required for registration. Students who successfully complete the BSc or BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies degree, may be eligible to progress to Masters level study.

Typical Delivery Method

Students will enrol in six modules across two terms of the academic year, Term 1 (Sept - Dec) and Term 2 (Jan - March). Term 3 (May-August) is designated as a holiday period.

During each of the first two terms, students will be enrolled in three modules, making a total of six modules for the year. Classes for each module are delivered weekly over a period of 7 to 12 weeks, depending on the module.

On average, students should expect to complete approximately two hours of pre-reading or related activities before each class, which typically lasts for three hours.

Any additional costs

None

Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

The programme is designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and professional competencies that are essential for a successful career in nursing, while also fostering the broader graduate attributes outlined in the "I am UWS" framework: Universal, Work-Ready, and Successful.

Universal

The programme prepares students to be Universal graduates, meaning they will develop globally relevant skills and behaviours. The curriculum has an international perspective, exposing students to diverse healthcare practices and policies. By studying topics such as leadership, management, and evidence-based practice in nursing, students acquire abilities that are applicable across various cultural and socio-economic contexts. These universally relevant competencies ensure that graduates can effectively contribute to healthcare systems worldwide, making them valuable assets in the global nursing workforce.

Work-Ready

Graduates of this programme will be Work-Ready, equipped to navigate and thrive in complex, ever-changing healthcare environments. The programme emphasises the development of dynamic skills, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and adaptability. Through hands-on learning experiences, such as simulation and role play, students build resilience and a readiness for lifelong learning—key attributes to succeed in nursing roles that demand continuous adaptation to new technologies, advances in research, and patient needs. This preparedness ensures that UWS graduates can quickly transition from academic settings to professional environments, making them attractive candidates for employers.

Successful

As Successful UWS graduates, students will have a strong foundation upon which to continue their personal and professional growth. The programme not only provides the academic knowledge necessary for nursing practice but also instills the confidence and ambition to pursue further education or advanced career opportunities. Honours graduates will be well-prepared for postgraduate study, such as a master's degree, or for specialized roles within nursing, including leadership positions. This solid educational base empowers graduates to realise their full potential across various contexts, ensuring ongoing success.

Academic Progression and Employment Opportunities
Upon successful completion of level 9 of the programme, students have the option to progress to honours study, which can serve as a gateway to master's-level education and advanced professional qualifications. For those entering the workforce, the programme's comprehensive training prepares graduates for a wide range of roles in healthcare, both in their home countries, the UK and internationally. Although the programme does not directly qualify graduates for registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) in the UK, it equips them with the necessary knowledge and skills to undertake the NMC Test of Competence, a crucial step for those seeking UK registration.

Work Based Learning/Placement Details
None

Attendance and Engagement
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are attending and participating in all timetabled programme activities including on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, placement, work-based elements, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

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

Students are expected to attend all timetabled classes and scheduled meetings with academic staff. International students must comply with UK Home Office Visa and Immigration (UKVI) requirements for on-campus activities.

Attendance at every class or meeting is recorded and forms part of the student's attendance monitoring record. Failure to meet the attendance requirements as outlined by UKVI may affect the status of a student's visa. A lack of engagement could lead to the loss of visa sponsorship.

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

This programme is committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment that upholds the principles of equality, diversity, and human rights. We recognise the diverse backgrounds and experiences that our students bring, and we are dedicated to providing tailored support to meet their individual needs.

This programme is appropriate for all students. 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. 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 appropriate.

Inclusivity in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment
Our teaching, learning, and assessment practices are designed to be inclusive and equitable. We strive to accommodate diverse learning styles and needs through a variety of pedagogical approaches, including interactive lectures, group work, and practical simulations.
Assessment methods are varied to allow all students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills effectively, catering to different strengths and learning preferences.
Reasonable adjustments with assessments are made to support students who require additional assistance due to disabilities or other learning needs.

Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support, and adjustment to assessment practice will be provided in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical learning or assessment, alternative formats and/or roles will be provided for students with physical disabilities which impact participation.

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

Learning Outcomes

SCQF LEVEL 7 Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	
A2	
A3	
A4	
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	
B2	
B3	
B4	
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	
C2	
C3	
C4	
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	
D2	
D3	
D4	
D5	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	
E2	
E3	
E4	
E5	

Level 7 Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Level 7 Modules

OPTION

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

Level 7 **Criteria for Progression and Award** *Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework for related regulations*

SCQF LEVEL 8 Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	
A2	
A3	
A4	
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	
B2	
B3	
B4	
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	
C2	
C3	
C4	
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	
D2	
D3	
D4	
D5	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	
E2	
E3	
E4	
E5	

Level 8 Modules

CORE

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

				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Level 8 Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credit**	**Term**			**Footnotes**
				1	**2**	**3**	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							

Level 8 **Criteria for Progression and Award** *Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework for related regulations*

SCQF LEVEL 9 Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Acquire a deeper appreciation of the social, scientific and human dimensions of health issues through using relevant theoretical and conceptual knowledge.
A2	Demonstrate critical understanding of contemporary health care issues and their location within broader social, political, legal and economic contexts.
A3	Analyse leadership theory and quality improvement methodologies, demonstrating an understanding of their application in the context of nursing and multidisciplinary healthcare teams.
A4	Critically evaluate the theoretical concepts underpinning nursing practice and contemporary healthcare issues, integrating these concepts into the delivery of person-centred care.
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Adapt and improve practice within a dynamic evidence based framework.
B2	Determine the health care needs of patients/clients/residents and their wider support network using professional and validated assessment methods.
B3	Apply a range of appropriate clinical skills to the care of patients/clients/residents and their wider support network.
B4	Evaluate the impact of health care on patients/clients/residents and their wider support network.
B5	Design, implement, and evaluate care plans, demonstrating the ability to critically apply nursing practice within a variety of clinical settings.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Consolidate effective communication skills evidenced in oral and written presentations.
C2	Demonstrate proficiency in interpreting and evaluating numerical and clinical data to inform nursing assessments, clinical decision-making, and the monitoring of patient outcomes.
C3	Analyse and report on health and social related care and its outcomes effectively.
C4	Effectively evaluate communication with patients, carers, other health care professionals.
C5	Use advanced communication skills to critically reflect on personal values, ethical considerations, and professional conduct in both clinical and academic settings, ensuring respectful, compassionate, and effective interactions.
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Critically analyse complex nursing problems, evaluating clinical data, evidence, and ethical considerations to inform decision-making and develop evidence-based interventions.
D2	Identify and analyse issues within own workplace and have the ability to influence change.
D3	Critically analyse and develop best practice through clinical governance strategies.

D4	Develop and refine self-management in the planning and execution of study and research exercises.
D5	Evaluate the effectiveness of nursing interventions, applying critical thinking to identify barriers to implementation and devise strategies to overcome challenges in diverse healthcare environments.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Reflect on, and in, action to ensure that all health care given reflects current best practice and is of the highest possible standard.
E2	Apply the principles of clinical governance to ensure the maintenance of clinical standards of care;
E3	Acquire multi-disciplinary perspectives on health related issues through the study of academic disciplines drawn from the natural and the social sciences.
E4	Demonstrate leadership in the application of up-to-date clinical skills and the prioritisation of care with junior staff and other health professionals.
E5	Take responsibility for continuous professional development, engaging in reflective practice, seeking feedback, and applying learning to enhance personal and team performance in the delivery of care.

Level 9 Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
9	NURS09225	Skills for Holistic Healthcare Practice	20	☐	☒	☐	
9	NURS09224	Healthcare Practice: Leadership and Managemen	20	☐	☒	☐	
9	NURS09226	The Principles of Quality Healthcare Practice	20	☒	☐	☐	
9	NURS09218	Critical Appraisal of Care	20	☒	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Level 9 Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
9	NURS09249	Nursing and Public Health	20	☐	☒	☐	
9	NURS09248	Evidence-Informed Nursing Practice	20	☒	☐	☐	
9		In consultation with programme leader: appropriate option from	20	☒	☒	☐	

		L9 T1/T2 module within existing HLS portfolio.					
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							

Level 9
Criteria for Progression and Award
Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework for related regulations

Criteria for Award

Students who successfully complete 120 credits (all 4 core modules and 2 optional modules outlined above) along with 240 credits from prior learning are eligible for the BSc Nursing Studies exit award.

If a student fails a core module and exhausts all permitted attempts, they may take an alternative 20-credit optional module (at their own cost) from the HLS Level 9 portfolio, subject to programme leader approval and timetabling constraints. Completion of this module would allow the student to exit with a BSc Combined Studies instead.

If a student fails an optional module and exhausts all permitted attempts, they may take an alternative optional module (at their own cost) from the HLS Level 9 portfolio, subject to programme leader approval, suitability to the nursing discipline, and timetabling constraints. Successful completion of this module, along with all core modules and an additional 20-credit optional module, would allow the student to exit with a BSc Nursing Studies.

Progression to Honours study

Students may progress to honours study if they have achieved 100 credits at SCQF level 9.

A distinction will be awarded in line with the university regulatory framework 3.25.

SCQF LEVEL 10 Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate an advanced and integrated knowledge and understanding that encompasses the principal areas, features, boundaries, terminology and conventions of health and social care.
A2	Display an advanced critical understanding of the key theories, concepts and principles within Health and Social Care.
A3	Show detailed knowledge and understanding of one or more specialisms in Health and Social Care.
A4	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the ways in which Health and Social Care practices are developed.
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Exhibit competency in identifying, selecting and utilising all of the key skills and associated with Health and Social Care and apply these to one's own sphere of practice.
B2	Use a range of skills, practices and theories which are specialised to the student's field of practice.
B3	Execute a defined project of applying the theories from an extended literature review to practice.
B4	Practice in a range of professional situations that include a degree of unpredictability and/or specialism.
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Convey informally or formally newly gained knowledge to a range of professionals within own team and other agencies.
C2	Communicate with peers, senior colleagues and specialists at a professional level.
C3	Make use of range of ICT application in the pursuit of learning that can enhance the overall outcomes of care.
C4	Interpret, use and evaluate a wide range of data to achieve identified goals.
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Illustrate some originality and creativity in dealing with professional level issues.
D2	Offer professional insights, interpretations and solutions to problems and issues.
D3	Critically review and consolidate knowledge, skills and practices and thinking in relation to Health and Social Care.
D4	Make judgments related to practice where data/information is limited and thinking in the area comes from a range of sources.
D5	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Exercise autonomy and initiative in professional activities.
E2	Practice in ways that show awareness of own and other's roles and responsibilities.

E3	Work with others to bring about change, developments and/or new thinking.
E4	Deal with complex ethical and professional issues in accordance with current professional and ethical practices.
E5	

Level 10 Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
10	HLTH10003	Improving Population Health	20	☐	☒	☐	
10	HLTH10007	The Honours Dissertation NEW	40	☒	☒	☐	
10	HLTH10004	Leadership in Health and Social Care NEW	20	☒	☐	☐	
10	NURS10019	Nursing Issues and Trends	20	☒	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	

Footnotes for Core Modules

The Honours Dissertation is a long thin module delivered over 2 terms. It can be started in T1 or T2.

Leadership in Health and Social Care is delivered and assessed in 1 term but delivered in term 1 and 2 to accommodate students in September and January intakes.

Level 10 Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
10	HLTH10001	Effective Teaching in Practice NEW	20	☐	☒	☐	
10	NURS10011	Assessment from a Distance	20	☐	☒	☐	
9	HLTH09004	Critical Research Appraisal NEW	20	☒	☒	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	

Footnotes for Option Modules

Students who do not have a level 9 20 credit research methods module must undertake the 'Critical Research Appraisal' module. It is delivered and assessed in term 1 and term 2 to accommodate students in September and January intakes.

Level 10
Criteria for Award
Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework for related regulations

Criteria for Award

Students are eligible for the BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies exit award if they have achieved:

• 240 prior learning credits,

• 120 SCQF Level 9 credits, and

• 120 additional credits (including core modules), all passed at grade C or above.

The total requirement is 480 credits.

Regulations of Assessment

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the University Regulatory Framework.

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

There may be instances where a student has been unsuccessful in meeting the award criteria for the named award and for other more generic named awards existing within the School. 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 BA, BAcc, or BD awards the award will be BA Combined Studies.

For students studying BEng or BSc awards, the award will be BSc Combined Studies.

Version no: 1

Change/Version Control

What	When	Who
Updates core and optional modules Level 9; Revised programme learning outcomes level 9	January 2025	L Jackson