UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

Published Date:	17-Jul-2026
Produced By:	Multi Type Usr Record For All Personnel
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Health and Wellbeing		
Course Code(s):	AH017H01UW	Full-time	3 Years
UCAS Code:	B951		
Course Title:	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Science with Honours Paramedic Science Bachelor of Science Prehospital Studies Diploma of Higher Education Prehospital Studies Certificate of Higher Education Prehospital Studies		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of first cohort:	14/Sep/2026		
Specification valid from:	2025/6		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Mr Alan Clarke
Head of Department:	Joanne Carruthers

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

Distinctive Features of the Course:

Throughout this course, our team of expert lecturers, practice partners, and service users are committed to providing a wide range of learning opportunities to support your development into a competent and compassionate paramedic.

Your learning journey is built on the principles of a spiral curriculum, where core concepts are revisited with increasing complexity over the three years. This approach promotes deeper understanding, knowledge retention, and the ability to apply theory to real-world practice. The curriculum has also been designed to reflect the views of students, service users and employers, and provides opportunities for you to realise your potential from day one to when you graduate.

You will be taught by a diverse team of health professionals, including experienced paramedics, midwives, and mental health practitioners, ensuring expert-led teaching. Additionally, there will be opportunities for you will engage in interprofessional education, learning alongside students from other health disciplines to broaden your understanding of collaborative, multiprofessional care.

A key focus of the course is making clear links between theory and practice. Through a constructivist approach to learning, you will develop essential skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and self-directed learning, qualities vital for delivering expert, evidence-based paramedic care and life-long learning. Student-directed learning will help you reflect on how theory informs practice and understand the reasoning behind your clinical decisions.

The university has strong partnerships with local NHS Trusts and other healthcare providers, ensuring excellent placement opportunities and support. During placements, you will gain hands-on experience with the West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust (WMAS), exposing you to a wide range of patients and the realities of out-of-hospital care. In years two and three, you will have the opportunity to experience how urgent/emergency care is delivered in non-ambulance settings, such as GP surgeries, maternity units, emergency departments, operating theatres, prisons, palliative care, and mental health services. Additional opportunities can include joint training exercises with prehospital care providers such as the Midlands Air Ambulance and West Midlands Care Team.

This innovative curriculum is designed to be engaging, supportive, inclusive, and challenging, underpinned by research and enhanced by technology. It will help you develop a strong professional identity and key employability skills, including independence, critical thinking, and problem-solving, qualities essential for delivering safe, evidence-based paramedic care and ensuring you are highly employable.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2025/6	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9535.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£15995.00
2026/7	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9790.00
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£17600.00

PSRB:

AH017H01UW (Full-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:
Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Accrediting Body:
"Health and Care Professions Council, the (HCPC)"

Accreditation Statement:
Approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) for the purpose of providing eligibility to apply for registration with the HCPC as a paramedic.

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
07/Jul/2016	29/Jan/2020		

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4AH056	Fundamental Patient Assessment and Management Skills in Simulation and Clinical Practice.	30	YEAR	Core
4AH055	Foundations of Physical, Life and Clinical Sciences for Paramedic Practice	30	YEAR	Core
4AH058	Succeeding at University in Paramedic Practice	30	SEM1	Core
4AH057	Professional and Social Perspectives in Pre-Hospital Care	30	SEM1	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5AH061	Developing Patient Assessment and Management Skills in Simulation and Clinical Practice	30	YEAR	Core
5AH062	Developing Physical, Life and Clinical Sciences for Paramedic Practice	30	YEAR	Core
5AH063	Legal, Ethical and Evidence-Based Practice in Paramedic Care	30	SEM1	Core
5AH064	Vulnerability, Inequality, & Crisis response in Paramedic Practice	30	SEM1	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6AH076	Consolidating Patient Assessment and Management Skills in Simulation and Clinical Practice	30	YEAR	Core
6AH077	Consolidating Physical, Life and Clinical Sciences for Paramedic Practice	30	YEAR	Core
6AH078	Independent Study Project	30	YEAR	Core
6AH079	Preparing for Professional Paramedic Practice	30	SEM1	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

Section 1.2.6 Exemption for delivery outside the standard University Academic Calendar, including Year Long modules, to enable students to complete the required hours for placements.

Section 1.2.8 The BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science and BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science (Professional Pathway) differ as the Professional Pathway is a closed apprenticeship course that students join at Level 5.

Section 4.6 Exemption in accordance with the standards of proficiency required by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). No compensation will be awarded on any modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Section 5.1.1 Due to the professional nature of these courses, students will ordinarily be required to pass 120 credits to progress. The Faculty may make individual exceptions where circumstances allow. For example, in placement modules where the student has been unable to complete their Practice Assessment Document due to external factors, but where there is evidence that they are on track to pass.

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act 2010: guidance - GOV.UK

Apprenticeship Standard

QAA Benchmark Statement (Paramedics): Subject Benchmark Statement: Paramedics

HCPC Standards of Proficiency: Paramedics | The HCPC

HCPC Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics: Standards of conduct, performance and ethics | The HCPC

HCPC Standards of Education and Training: Standards of education and training | The HCPC

Royal College of Paramedics Curriculum Framework: 6th ED CURRICULUM APRIL 2024 v1.2 acknowledgements.pdf

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts, theories and principles associated with your area(s) of study. (Knowing)	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE02 Evaluate, interpret and apply data, to develop ideas and discussion in your subject(s) of study. (Knowing)	
CERTHE03 Use different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study (Doing)	
CERTHE04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments (Doing)	
CERTHE05 Identify and undertake further training and develop new skills to support your learning (Being)	
CERTHE06 Identify personal qualities and transferable skills necessary for further study and/or employment (Being)	
DIPHE01 Demonstrate knowledge and application of the concepts and principles of your area(s) of study. (Knowing)	
DIPHE02 Demonstrate the application of those principles in an employability and/or professional practice context. (Knowing)	
DIPHE03 Identify and use methods of enquiry in the subject(s) and evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in study. (Doing)	
DIPHE04 Use a range of new and established techniques to explore and critique data and sources of information, to solve problems within your subject (Doing)	
DIPHE05 Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences. (Being)	
DIPHE06 Show personal responsibility and decision-making to developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to reach your employability goals. (Being)	
BHONS01 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of how paramedic principles are expressed through a range of different assessment and management approaches. (Knowing)	
BHONS02 Understand the importance of appropriate care and safeguarding in a range of complex situations which may impact self and others within the wider context of society. (Knowing)	
BHONS03 Apply appropriate knowledge to provide tailored care to a diverse range of individual patients, reflecting an ethical level of care consistent with appropriate evidence-based practice. (Doing)	
BHONS04 Apply critical problem-solving skills, interpreting clinical and operational data, to inform effective clinical reasoning and inclusive decision making in complex and unpredictable contexts. (Doing)	
BHONS05 Reflect on your own professional practice and that of others within the changing context in which paramedic practice is delivered and in accordance with professional standards. (Being)	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
BHONS06 Practise safely, competently and effectively in accordance with the law and professional scope of practice to implement sound clinical judgement for the benefit of patients. (Being)	

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

The course is designed around the principles of a spiral curriculum, meaning that the core knowledge and skills introduced in Year 1 are developed, and enhanced as you progress through Years 2 and 3. Each module builds on previous learning, and the content is highly integrated across the programme. For example, your understanding of anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology will support your ability to assess and manage patients both in university-based learning and clinical placements.

In your first year, the emphasis is on easing your transition into university life while developing confidence in essential paramedic skills and subject knowledge. During Semester 2, you will begin your first clinical placement with the ambulance service, applying newly acquired skills and knowledge to real-world patient encounters. After this, theory and practice alternate in blocks, giving a balanced mix of academic study and hands-on real-world learning. Years 2 and 3 follow a similar pattern, enabling you to advance your knowledge and refine clinical skills before applying them in practice. Each year concludes with an extended placement designed to consolidate learning and build confidence through immersive clinical experience.

We offer a flexible and inclusive approach to learning through a blend of in-person and online activities. Our virtual learning environment, Canvas, hosts a wide range of resources to complement classroom teaching, including pre-recorded lectures, reading materials, quizzes and video demonstrations. In-class activities include interactive lectures, seminars, group working, and practical skills sessions.

The variety of learning and assessment methods helps you develop academic and digital skills, including writing, revision, and presenting complex information using digital media. Alongside Canvas, digital tools such as Panopto and Vevox support interactive learning. Peer Assisted Study Support (PASS) sessions, led by experienced students, provide additional help with revision, discussion, and practical skills—especially valuable before assessments.

You will spend time in our clinical skills labs, where you can learn and practice clinical skills in a safe environment using high-fidelity equipment and immersive simulation technology. Service users and carers also contribute to teaching and assessment, acting as simulated patients to enhance your learning and ensure you develop person-centred care skills. This approach is widely recognised for preparing future professionals who are fit for practice and committed to acting in the best interests of patients and their families.

Clinical practice placements in the ambulance service, and other prehospital settings, provide invaluable opportunities to apply theory in real-world settings under supervision of qualified paramedic mentors. Your mentors will play a key role in guiding and facilitating your learning in the clinical practice setting and providing you with feedback on your progress. Your named mentor will also be responsible for assessing and confirming your proficiency, providing assurance of your achievements and competence.

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

All the assessments we offer will help you to develop and demonstrate intellectual skills such as critical thinking, problem solving and building evidence-based arguments, and all are linked to contemporary topics related to real-world paramedic practice.

We use a range of assessment types within the course to reflect the different ways that students prefer to learn and be assessed and also enhance employability/graduate attributes. We use assessments such as exams, written assignments, presentations, and Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) to develop and support your learning across the range of subjects that you will study on the course. Assessments take place at the end of semester one and two and are balanced to ensure a manageable workload.

Each summative (formal) assessment is supported by an assessment guide that will outline the assessment requirements and help you by providing a framework on which to develop your work. You will also have assignment unpacking sessions within each module, and access to tutorial support to discuss your assignment work with a tutor. You will have access to a range of support services from the university Skills for Learning team to help you prepare your assignments; these include workshops and individual tuition on skills such as academic writing, referencing, revising for exams, developing your presentation skills and working with numbers and statistics. Some of our students also arrange activities for fellow students to take part in such as revision sessions and study groups, as part of the university's Peer Assisted Study Support (PASS) scheme. These are valuable in developing confidence in your subject knowledge and promoting a community of study.

In each year of the course, your clinical placement is assessed by the achievement of clinical competencies, and you will be involved in collecting evidence of these skills within a clinical practice assessment document. You will receive regular feedback on your performance from your mentor, who will also provide the final confirmation that you have met the required standard to pass the module each year.

Further Information for Student:

Transition Support

In year one, our welcome week and induction period will allow you to settle into university and adapt to academic life. During this time, you will have the opportunity to be introduced to and/or develop academic study skills and meet with your Personal Tutor and Success Coach, who will both play a part in supporting your transition into university life and study, and supporting you over the coming year. We will also familiarise you with university services such as the library, skills for learning and Mental Health and Wellbeing support and our digital systems such as Canvas, the university's virtual learning platform.

To prepare you for your transition into clinical placement, you will be involved in a series of online and in person training including manual handling skills, conflict resolution, safeguarding and infection prevention and control. Our placement team will work closely with you and our placement partner, West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust (WMAS), to allocate you to a hub, and you will have a formal placement induction to let you know what to expect and provide you with some practical advice to make sure everything goes smoothly on your first day.

As you continue through the course into years two and three, there will be an opportunity at the start of each year for you reflect on your progress on the course and identify where we can help support you, either personally or academically; this ensures that you start each academic year 'ready to study'. You will have continued access to your personal tutor and can participate in study support sessions offered by our Peer Assisted Study Support (PASS) leaders; experienced paramedic science students who volunteer to run regular drop-in sessions for revision, discussion and help with practical skills development. These sessions have proved to enhance student confidence and build a community of study and are particularly useful in the run up to assessment periods.

Each module on the course will include an opportunity to receive formative feedback on how you are doing. These activities are varied, and some will be linked to the module assignment; all are designed to help build your confidence in your knowledge and skills, ensure that you are familiar with the final assessment task and are prepared for submission.

Student feedback is essential to us, and we actively seek it through a variety of channels. For example, we hold regular meetings with students and course representatives to understand what is working well and identify areas for improvement within the course or individual modules. Your feedback helps us shape the course so that it meets your expectations and remains relevant and responsive to your needs wherever possible.

Student Support

The University provides a wide range of academic and pastoral support to help you succeed in your studies and personal development. This includes access to the Library and Skills for Learning service, students success coaching for students in their early stages, and tailored advice from the Careers and Enterprise teams. You can also benefit from 24/7 wellbeing support through WLV Student Life Connect, pastoral care via the Multi-faith Chaplaincy, and assistance from the Mental Health and Wellbeing team. If you are living in university accommodation, you will have additional access to Residential Life support, and all students can engage with the Students' Union for advocacy, societies, and further peer-led services.

Currency:

This course content is constantly being reviewed and updated, so that content that you study reflects the most up-to-date information regarding paramedic practice from organisations such as the Health and Care Professions Council, the Royal College of Paramedics, Resuscitation Council UK, as well as peer-reviewed research.

As a paramedic science student, critical thinking will become a core skill for you to adopt, both from an academic perspective as well as in your day-to-day clinical practice. You will engage with various sources of evidence in all academic modules, so that discussion and argument is based around contemporary research. You will be able to gain theory-based knowledge and apply it to practical situations demonstrating that you are an evidence-based practitioner.

The course will prepare you to think creatively and critically about a range of legal, ethical and professional issues/challenges that relate to paramedic practice via simulated scenarios and written case studies. This includes things like the responsible use of social media and artificial intelligence, and how to maintain standards of proficiency and conduct in different clinical scenarios. As a student working towards professional registration, the standards apply to the manner you should be conducting yourself in, from the moment you start the course.

The course is aligned to the University's Graduate Attribute Framework so that you can develop qualities that will prepare you for employment as a paramedic; for example, being analytical, reflective, confident, creative and self-aware. Furthermore, the course is accredited by the Health and Care Professions Council as meeting their standards and criteria for registration as a paramedic on gaining the BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science award.

During the course, you will engage in activities with students from other healthcare programmes, such as physiotherapy, podiatry, occupational therapy and midwifery. It is important to gain an understanding of interprofessional collaborative working as you will be making referrals for patients to all kinds of clinical specialities in practice, to ensure they receive the right care at the right time, in the right place. We also provide insights into key career areas, including some that will require further academic development in due course. This is done through specialist placements with healthcare providers in the primary care setting, as well as other settings that offer employment opportunities for paramedics after graduation.

Personalisation Opportunities:

Many students choose a career in paramedicine because of a real passion and drive to help people, or because they want to give something back to the community following personal, lived experiences of paramedic care. Whatever your interest in paramedicine, there are opportunities within the course to tailor your learning to your own interests. For example, in years two and three, you will be able to choose from a range of specialist placement areas outside of the ambulance service, such as emergency departments, operating theatres, GP surgeries, prison healthcare, mental health teams, to experience how care is delivered in other clinical settings and gain valuable experience of how paramedics work within the wider multidisciplinary healthcare team. Furthermore, our Independent Study module studied in year three, will give you an opportunity to choose a topic related to paramedic practice that interests you, and explore it in more detail.

At the University of Wolverhampton, we are proud of the diversity we have within our cohorts. This diversity is reflective of the community we have here in the West Midlands and that you will interact with when on placement. It is important that this comes across within the programme and so you will explore topics such as health and wellbeing, illness and disease processes from the viewpoints of a diverse range of patient groups within society and across the age range.

Part of the university's responsibility is to provide you with the tools, knowledge and understanding to succeed as adult and lifelong learners. Your learning journey will extend beyond university into professional paramedic practice and will be influenced by your career goals and aspirations. Your time at university will be the beginning of this period of and we will help you to become reflective clinicians, recognising your own learning needs and accessing appropriate training and support to achieve this. Key employability skills are embedded throughout the course and in your final year include things like CV writing, completing job applications and interview skills, to prepare you for gaining employment at the end of the course.

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

Your time at university, will be the beginning of the life-long learning you will need to adopt in your career as a paramedic. You will need to become a reflective clinician, practicing Continuous Professional Development from day 1 as it will form part of your continued registration with the HCPC.

During the programme, you will have various placement opportunities, providing you with the chance to experience paramedic skills in different settings. This will show the diversity of the role – working within the ambulance setting, working in other health care settings and with other healthcare professionals – and gain an understanding of additional areas you could consider working, as well as how you are learning transferrable skills as you progress to registration.

Through your time at university, you will develop your own identity as a clinician as your scope of practice increases – the knowledge, skills and understanding you learn from modules. You will then practice this, when you go on placement. You will see how registered Paramedics apply this knowledge in a real-world setting. Everyone will do things slightly differently, and so will you as your competence and confidence increases. You will not be exactly the same as all your fellow students, in the way you think and practice, and will gain your own professional identity as time passes. One method of developing this whilst at university would be for you to become a PASS (Peer assisted Study Support) leader and help other students in developing their knowledge and skills, in student-led learning sessions.

The professional standards, legal and ethical principles you will need to adopt and work towards, are embedded across the whole curriculum. These will be covered in theory sessions and then transfer to skills sessions and clinical scenarios you partake in, as well as in practice. These factors will form part of your assessments in written or practical form, as well as being assessed when you are on placement, forming a competency within your Practice Assessment Document (PAD)

You will be introduced to concepts and ideas relating to employment during your first year. These will be enhanced further in the final year where the process of applying for graduate employment opportunities form part of the curriculum, as well as extra-curricular activities to further support this, such as mock-interviews, application form completion, employer engagement events.

All of the modules you study are compulsory and structured towards you meeting the HCPC requirements for registration at the end of the programme. However, as mentioned earlier, you will be able to select from the elective placements we provide, allowing you to experience working as a Paramedic in other settings, including areas where there are already employment opportunities appearing