Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Nursing		
Course Code(s):	NH133P31UM	Part-time	1 Years
Course Title:	PGCert Non-Medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals (V300)		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Postgraduate Certificate Non-Medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	15/Jan/2024		
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:	2023/4		
Course Specification valid to:	2028/9		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Alison Rushworth
Head of Department:	Robert Corbett

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	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

Entry requirements ensure compliance with PSRB prescribing regulations. To access the Postgraduate Certificate in Non-Medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals you must:

- Be a registered nurse, midwife or allied health professional with at least one years' post-registration experience.
- Be working in a clinical area that requires autonomy in performing physical assessment of patients and prescribing medication.
- Provide evidence of degree level study or the ability to study at academic level 7*.
- Provide a signed declaration of good health and character from your employer or sponsoring organisation.
- Provide evidence of support from employer/manager and the organisation's Prescribing Lead confirming that your role includes the requirement to independently prescribe medication and that you have access to a prescribing budget.
- You will also be required to provide details of a named practice assessor who must be a registered healthcare professional with a recognised prescribing qualification. You practice assessor will mentor you and assess your prescribing practice supporting your completion of at least 90 hours prescribing practice.

Please note: You must provide information to satisfy all of the above criteria on application for the course. If you cannot provide this information, your application will not be processed.

*2023-24 academic year only:

Due to the changes made to the independent prescribing offer we will accept module 6NH047 as evidence of ability to study and completion of a suitable health assessment module giving you direct access to module 7NH094 Non-medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals. Please note that although successful completion of the prescribing module will lead to an annotation on your professional register as a prescriber, you will not be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate. You will still be required to meet the entry criteria stated above for access to the prescribing module.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This course brings together the core requirements for prescribing practice to offer a named post-graduate qualification. This replaces the stand-alone nature of the previous offer and provides reward for study which can then be credited to one of our MSc pathways in the School of Nursing.

All of the key components of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Competence Framework for All Prescribers are addressed ensuring that you have a thorough grounding in history taking and physical assessment which is related to pharmacology and prescribing practice.

Positioning the course at academic level 7 acknowledges the role of independent prescriber as an advanced clinical role

Educational Aims of the Course:

The aims of the Postgraduate Certificate in Non-medical prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals are:

- To ensure you are a safe and effective independent prescriber with a detailed knowledge of health assessment and prescribing practice to support your clinical role.
- To ensure that you are able to meet the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Competence Framework for All Prescribers.

To ensure that you are compliant with your Professional and Statutory Regulatory Body's Standards for Prescribing Practice.

Intakes:

January

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
2021/2	H	Part Time	£2600.00
2022/3	H	Part Time	£2665.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7NH035	Developing History Taking and Physical Assessment Skills for the Adult Patient / Client	20	INYR	Core
7NH094	Non-Medical Prescribing for Nurses Midwives and Allied Health Professionals	40	CRYRA	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

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Section 1.2.3 - The course will be delivered via a revised academic calendar to support progression through and between academic years.

Approved by Academic Frameworks and Regulations Sub Committee on 9 March 2023

Section 2.3.6 - Recognition of Prior learning up to a maximum of 20-credits will be permitted at the discretion of the course lead. Any prior certificated learning must have been completed within the last five years and any RPL claim will be subject to approval from the course RPL committtee.

Approved by Academic Framework and Regulations Sub Committee on 2nd May 2024

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act (2010)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2021) Competence Framework for All Prescribers - https://www.rpharms.com/resources/frameworks/prescribing-competency-framework/competency-framework

Health and Care Professions Council Standards for Prescribing - https://www.hcpc-uk.org/employers/using-our-standards/

Nursing and Midwifery Council Standards for Prescribers - https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/standards-for-post-registration/

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
PGCERT01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.	
PGCERT02 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.	
PGCERT03 Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.	
PGCERT04 Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	
PGCERT05 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	
PGCERT06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations. - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.	

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Teaching, learning and assessment will be focuses around the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Competence Framework for All Prescribers. In this Framework prescribing practice is based on two domains:

- The Consultation
- Prescribing Governance

Module 7NH035 Developing History Taking and Physical Assessment Skills for the Adult Patient/Client links directly to the Consultation domain and will develop the key skills required to support a thorough patient consultation. You will develop observational and communication skills in learning strategies for taking an effective medical and social history from your patient and will be encouraged to synthesise this information to conduct an appropriate physical assessment. This module will draw on your existing knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology which will be applied to a range of physical assessment techniques.

Learning materials will be provided via Canvas and you will engage in pre-session activities which will be linked to taught sessions where theory will be applied to practice in skills lab-based sessions. Working in the skills lab will provide formative development which supports your module assessment.

Module assessment is by presentation of a case study where you will be required to critically appraise the methods of history taking and approaches to physical assessment for an anonymised patient with a named condition.

Module 7NH094 Non-medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals addresses both the Consultation and Prescribing Governance domains. You will build on the information from the Advanced Health Assessment module to learning about pharmacology and the legislative framework and

professional regulations underpinning safe and effective prescribing practice. The module is delivered on a workshop basis where pre-session will be applied to prescribing practice using a case-based approach.

To complete this module Professional and Statutory Regulatory Body (PSRB) standards must be met:

- Drug calculations – the on-line package Safe Medicate is used to develop and assess calculation skills. You will be guided on the use of the package and will complete learning modules independently. You will be assessed through this package and will be able to practice assessment-style questions on a regular basis to prepare for your assessment.
- Pharmacology – you will learn about the pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of drugs on a body systems basis (e.g. drugs acting on the cardiovascular system). Teaching will be based on equipping you with the skills you need to access information on drugs to support your prescribing practice. You will be assessed by online examination and will be prepared for this by working an example questions as post-session work.
- Prescribing practice – your learning in University will be supported by practice-based learning supported by your Practice Assessor and Academic Assessor. You will complete clinical competences which will include accurate completion of prescriptions and the development of clinical management plans for your patients. You will also be asked to record a minimum of 90-hours supervised prescribing practice.

The final part of assessment is a written piece of work where you will reflect on the requirements for safe and effective prescribing practice

Module development and teaching, learning and assessment strategies have been informed by the University's Inclusive Framework: Curriculum Design and Delivery (see Inclusive Framework: principles and sub-principles (wlv.ac.uk))

You will receive feedback on your progress throughout your course. Feedback on formative (developmental work) will be provided through peer review, verbal feedback on skills performance and group/individual presentations and, in some instances written feedback will be provided. Feedback on summative assessments will be provided in written form.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

General University Support:

The University Library is the key source of academic information for students. The Library provides access to a wide range of online information sources, including e-books, e-journals and subject databases as well as printed material. Study spaces are available in each of our libraries, including social, quiet and silent areas. In addition to our day to day 'on campus' support, please use our 24/7 online chat service Library Assist.

The University Library also provides students with academic skills support via the Skills for Learning programme. Students can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help with topics such as academic writing and referencing. This support is available both on campus and online from Skills for Learning.

The University also has a host of other services to support you, please take a look at the Student Support website: www.wlv.ac.uk/current-students/student-support/. If you have any questions, need help or advice then ASK@WLV is there for you: www.wlv.ac.uk/current-students/askwlv/.

Working in partnership with you

The pathway towards achieving your degree is one with highs, lows and everything in between. However, you are not alone! Obtaining a degree is a partnership between the University and you. This student charter sets out what you are expected to give and what you gain by involving yourself in as much as possible. All of our support mechanisms are enshrined in the Student Charter:-https://www.wlv.ac.uk/about-us/student-charter/.

Course Specific Support

Personal Tutors

You will be allocated a personal tutor at the start of your course with whom you will build and develop a relationship to help you work towards achieving the course learning outcomes. Your personal tutor will meet with you on a regular basis (at least three times per academic year) in order to offer support, identify if you are making satisfactory progress and to offer support if you are at risk of withdrawal. Your personal tutor will assist you in your personal and academic development, planning and progression as well as helping you liaise with other staff and support facilities in their Faculty and the wider University. You can find out who your personal tutor is by visiting e:Vision.

Module leaders

Your module leaders are your first point of contact for everything module related whether that's help with a particular part of the module or advice on how to complete the assessment. Module leaders will usually be able to schedule a meeting with you via phone, WebEx or Skype. A list of module leaders is available in your Course Guides, along with their contact details.

Course leaders

The course leader has overall responsibility for your course and the enrolled students. They monitor the quality of the course through course committees which collect feedback from staff and students. They manage the academic programme of study and are responsible for reporting any issues raised and examples of good practice.

Student Enabling Tutors

The Faculty Student Enabling Tutor (FSET) liaises with the Student Support and Wellbeing (SSW) department regarding provision for specific disabilities and disseminates information from the SSW on any identified learning needs. The FSET monitors requests for, and provision of, specific examination and assessment arrangements. The FSET takes a pro-active role in monitoring the welfare and academic progress of disabled students within the school.

Practice Assessor

Your prescribing practice will be supported by a work-based Practice Assessor. This person must be a registered healthcare professional who holds an appropriate prescribing qualification. They must be identified as part of the application process for the course and will serve as a point of contact for your Academic Assessor.

Academic Assessor

The Academic Assessor is a member of University staff who holds the V300 qualification. They will support

your practice development by offering guidance and support for you and your Practice Assessor.

Employability in the Curriculum:

This course has been developed in conjunction with practice partners and service users in order to reflect the increasing and rapidly changing complex environment in which health care takes place. The educational philosophy of the course aims to develop and demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- The exercise of initiative and personal responsibility
- Decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations
- The independent learning ability required for continuing professional development

Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to develop and demonstrate a number of key skills to enhance your current and future employability, some of these are listed below:

- Working effectively as part of a group and being involved in inter-professional working practices and educational opportunities.
- Demonstrate teamwork, leadership skills and be able to manage and resolve conflict.
- Be independent and self-directing in your own learning.
- Develop effective communication skills both written (via reports etc.) and oral (through formal presentations).
- Problem-solve and make sound judgements and complex decisions.
- Develop IT skills (which include use of virtual learning environments etc.)
- Time management and show the ability to be able to prioritise.
- Manage change and seek out innovative opportunities in order to enhance practice and service delivery.

This reflects the graduate characteristics detailed in the University's Graduate Attributes Framework (see Graduate Attributes Framework)

Completion of module 7NH094 Non-medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals enhances employability and service delivery in producing a practitioner that meets the competence framework for prescribers (Royal Pharmaceutical Society 2021). The completion of this module will by recorded against your registration with the NMC or HCPC.