

Postgraduate Diploma/MSc Advanced Pharmacy Practice Programme Specification

Academic Year:	2024/25
Degree Awarding Body:	University of Bradford
Final and interim award(s):	[Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) level 7] MSc Advanced Pharmacy Practice Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Pharmacy Practice Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Pharmacy Practice
Programme duration:	3 years (part time)
Date last confirmed and/or minor modification approved by Faculty Board	April 2024

Please note: This programme specification has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

Introduction

The NHS is currently experiencing an unprecedented demand for services, with an increasing recognition of the need to provide personalised and seamless care. Pharmacists in every sector are in a position to play a key leadership role in addressing these challenges and innovating for the future.

This programme provides education and training for experienced pharmacists to develop advanced level knowledge and skills whilst working in practice. Working as part of a multidisciplinary team is key to the development of relationships and experience in any healthcare setting. The University of Bradford School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences is well positioned to ensure that multidisciplinary learning and working is at the forefront of the course design due to its close involvement with programmes for other allied health professionals including physician associates, nurses and paramedics.

As an experienced pharmacist you will be guided in the choice of modules available on this programme to best suit your intended direction of development and career progression in line with the RPS Advanced Pharmacy Framework which includes:

1. Expert Professional Practice
2. Collaborative Working Relationships
3. Leadership
4. Management
5. Education, Training and Development
6. Research and Evaluation

We have engaged with key stakeholders (including senior pharmacists, GPs, practice nurses, commissioners, service users and current students) as part of the programme development process to ensure that this programme is fit for purpose and develops experienced pharmacists into invaluable leaders in healthcare services.

There is an emphasis on self-directed learning and reflection, enabling students to identify and meet their own learning needs.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

Equip advanced level pharmacists with the knowledge, skills and behaviours required by the modern NHS, to lead the delivery of safe and effective person-centred care in partnership with the multi-disciplinary team.

Students will demonstrate:

- Confidence and ability to communicate effectively with patients and healthcare professionals including communicating complex, contentious or sensitive information.
- Ability to take a leadership role as a member of the healthcare team to provide safe, high quality person-centred care.
- Ability to work autonomously to solve complex problems and use sound reasoning and judgement in decision making.
- Behaviour befitting a role model and the ability to effectively lead and mentor others.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the award of Postgraduate Certificate at FHEQ level 7, students will be able to:

1. Confidently employ excellent professional communication skills, including those required to influence, negotiate with and educate patients, healthcare professionals and decision makers.
2. Demonstrate advanced practice using in-depth clinical knowledge and understanding of evidence-based healthcare.

3. Autonomously manage own caseload, making complex decisions and judgements to optimise person-centred care and medicines use.
4. Proactively work across health and social care organisations to enhance the quality of services, reduce health inequalities and ensure continuity of care, particularly at points of transfer.
5. Critically reflect on practice and relevant standards of competence in order to identify professional development needs of themselves and others and take appropriate action to ensure the required standard is met.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Postgraduate Diploma at FHEQ level 7, students will be able to:

6. Develop and implement systems and processes to investigate errors, minimise risk and optimise patient safety and quality of care.
7. Demonstrate the ability to work across boundaries as an integral member of the multidisciplinary team and signpost effectively.
8. Motivate self and lead others to achieve excellence in practice through professional development, education and training.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Degree of Master at FHEQ level 7, students will be able to:

9. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the quality and service improvement process by leading an in-depth project in an area relevant to local pharmacy practice.
10. Generate evidence of own impact on patient care and service provision demonstrating return on investment.

Curriculum

Postgraduate Certificate

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Core/ Option/ Elective	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
7	Advanced Synoptic 1	Core	0	S1+2 (ACYR)	PHA7076-Z
One Clinical and Patient-Facing option - 30 credits from the following:					
7	Advanced Communication Skills	Option	30	Sem 2	NUR7020-C
7	Advanced Therapeutics	Option	30	S1+2 (ACYR)	PHA7067-C
7	Prescribing for Pharmacists	Option	30	Sem 1 or 2	PRE7003-C
7	Advanced Physical Assessment and Clinical Decision Making	Option	30	NSYR	PRP7005-C

AND one Leadership and Development option - 30 credits from the following:					
7	Health and Social Care Leadership	Option	30	Sem 1	LEM7031-C
7	Managing People in Health and Social Care	Option	30	Sem 2	LEM7032-C
7	Understanding Health and Social Care through Policy and Strategy	Option	30	Sem 1	LEM7033-C
7	Leading Change and Service Improvement in Health and Social Care*	Option	30	Sem 2	LEM7034-C
7	Applied Research for Pharmacy Practice	Option	30	Sem 1	PHA7086-C
7	Clinical Education and Training	Option	30	Sem 2	PHA7087-C

Students will be eligible to exit with the award of Postgraduate Certificate if they have successfully completed 60 credits, passed the zero credit Advanced Synoptic 1 module, and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Postgraduate Diploma

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Core/Option/Elective	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
7	Advanced Synoptic 2	Core	0	S1+2 (ACYR)	PHA7083-Z
7	AND any combination of 60 credits from the PGCert modules above or PHA7042-C (below). NB: Module LEM7034-C is core if completing to MSc				
7	Aseptics In Practice	Option	30	Sem 2	PHA7042-C

Students will be eligible to exit with the award of Postgraduate Diploma if they have successfully completed at least 120 credits, passed the zero credit Advanced Synoptic 1 and Advanced Synoptic 2 modules, and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Degree of Master

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Core/Option/Elective	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
7	Quality and Service Improvement Project (Advanced)	Core	60	ACYR	PHA7070-E

Students will be eligible for the award of Degree of Master if they have successfully completed at least 180 credits, passed the zero credit Advanced Synoptic 1 and Advanced Synoptic 2 modules, and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Learning and Teaching Strategy

Students choose one 'Clinical and Patient-Facing' and one 'Leadership and Development' module in their first year and any other two modules in their second year (if progressing to MSc one of these modules must be LEM7034-C). The programme uses a blended and flexible approach to learning, which allows students to choose the most appropriate route for them. The learning and teaching strategy includes on campus or virtual attendance at study days, eLearning, role play, webinars and work-based learning. Students will also produce an eportfolio each year to demonstrate their progression along the Advanced Pharmacy Framework (APF), the professional benchmark at this level.

There is optionality for students throughout the programme, both in their choice of modules and in their choice of assignments to provide a personalised learning experience which suits each student's personal development needs. Most optional modules will include interprofessional learning with other healthcare professionals, giving students the opportunity to learn with, and about, others.

Assessment Strategy

The programme is designed to provide students with continuous formative and summative assessment and feedback to enable them to develop and demonstrate their knowledge of the topics as well as their work-based skills.

Students will work on their (synoptic) eportfolio throughout the programme. This includes collecting evidence from practice to demonstrate their progress on the Advanced Pharmacy Framework (APF). Students will identify their own development needs (with the support of their personal academic tutor and/or practice tutor) to ensure they cover the entire framework. A pass in the Advanced Synoptic 1 module is a requirement for the award of Postgraduate Certificate. A pass in Advanced Synoptic 1 and Advanced Synoptic 2 is a requirement for the award of Postgraduate Diploma and MSc.

To develop the communication skills that pharmacist leaders in practice need, there are a variety of summative assessments including written assignments, objective structured clinical exams (OSCEs), presentations and work-based assessments.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Assessment Regulations which are available at:

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/regulations/>

However, there is one exception to these regulations as listed below:

For module PHA7067-C (Advanced Therapeutics), students must pass all specified individual components at 40% as outlined in the module descriptor.

Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience. The most important factor when deciding to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate's potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this particular programme.

The standard entry requirements for the programme are as follows:

In addition to fulfilling the University's general entrance requirements students will also need to fulfil the following specific requirements:

The student must have a degree in pharmacy, have been registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) for at least TWO years and have access to practice/clinical experience through employment in pharmacy within the UK.

Students who have not been taught in English must have an IELTS (International English Language Testing System) overall band score of at least 7.0 in each of the four subsets (speaking, listening, reading and writing).

Recognition of Prior Learning

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.

Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval (Faculty Board)
1	Updated January starts	December 2020
2	Specification reformatted and made accessible	February 2021
3	Update to delivery periods to revert to Sept start for 2021-22	June 2021
4	Annual update for 2021 academic year	August 2021
5	Inclusion of two more optional modules	March 2023
6	Annual update for 2024 academic year	April 2024