

## Programme Specification

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### Advanced Clinical Practice (2019-20)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Part-time
Duration in years	7
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Master of Science (MSc)
Name of award	MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Allied Health Practitioner) MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Critical Care Practitioner) MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner) MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Nurse Practitioner)
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Health Assessment and Prescribing Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Clinical Practice
FHEQ level of final award	Level 7
UCAS code	
Programme code	8347, (AHHP), 8348 (ACCP), 8349 (ANNP), 8350 (ANP)
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Master's Degree Characteristics 2016
Programme Lead	Helen Rushforth (her)

### Programme Overview

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#### Brief outline of the programme

This Masters in Advanced Clinical Practice degree provides an academic programme that enables those working at an advanced level, in or towards the role of Advanced Clinical Practitioner, to undertake a programme of study which will enable them to attain and demonstrate the capabilities i.e. knowledge, skills and behaviours required for this role. The programme is centred around the four pillars of advanced practice i.e. advanced clinical practice, leadership, education and research. The programme covers core learning in relation to research and evidence based practice, advanced health assessment, diagnosis, decision making and pharmacology/non-medical

prescribing, as well as exploring the place of advanced practice within contemporary healthcare and within your own future professional role. Your core modules and your contact hours will vary depending on your chosen pathway and your module/option choices where offered. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

### **Learning and teaching**

The School promotes a student-centred approach that will support you to learn, and also encourage the mastery of your skills in planning and managing your learning. Your learning will be supported by your personal academic tutor, module leaders and, where appropriate, mentor in practice. Teaching and learning methods include: lectures, seminar groups, action learning groups, work place based learning, facilitated clinical skills practice, and both supervised and self directed study.

These methods are designed to integrate theory and practice and to foster a spirit of enquiry. The programme emphasises inter-professional learning and teaching in order to encourage and promote collaborative working. Key skills are fostered via the learning and teaching activities throughout the programme.

### **Assessment**

Each module will be assessed according to the assessment guidelines within the module profile. The assessment methods are designed to help you integrate theory and practice, maximise your skills of critical thinking and analysis, and develop your understanding of advanced clinical practice. Assessment for the programme is by a combination of coursework (in the form of written academic assignments) along with a range of other modes of assessment which are likely to include unseen written examinations, practical examinations, oral examinations, practice assessments, case studies, a portfolio, presentations and a final dissertation. In addition, you may be required to attend a viva voce examination. The assessment methods enable you to demonstrate achievement of the programme learning outcomes as you progress through each module on your pathway, including evidencing the capabilities required of an Advanced Clinical Practitioner which are assessed at the end of the taught elements of the programme, prior to undertaking the dissertation.

## **Special Features of the programme**

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**Please note:** As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's [programme validation process](#) which is described in the University's [Quality handbook](#).

## **Educational Aims of the Programme**

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The aim of the programme is to prepare you to undertake the role of Advanced Clinical Practitioner within your chosen pathway and clinical speciality. On successful completion you will be equipped to assume the role of Advanced Clinical Practitioner or equivalent within your practice setting, having demonstrated the capabilities required of an Advanced Clinical Practitioner underpinned by the four pillars of advanced clinical practice, leadership, education and research.

## Programme Learning Outcomes

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### Knowledge and Understanding

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On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

- A1. Critically examine and apply the evidence base relating to your role as an advanced clinical practitioner within the context of your clinical speciality
- A2. Draw on a diverse range of knowledge to critically evaluate and justify the rationale for your assessment, diagnostic and therapeutic decisions within the context of your advanced clinical practice role, which take account of the importance of ethical practice and management of risk
- A3. Demonstrate the synthesis of theoretical knowledge and understanding in relation to the four pillars of advanced practice i.e. advanced clinical practice, leadership, education and research
- A4. Critically debate and articulate the concept of advanced practice, and appropriately define and justify its application to the scope and boundaries of your practice
- A5. Demonstrate leadership and communication skills as an advanced practitioner which enable you to work across professional, organisational and system boundaries
- A6. Demonstrate application of local and national policies, procedures and guidelines to ensure sound clinical governance, and the improvement of practice and health outcomes
- A7. Work individually and collaboratively to meet the educational and development needs of those in your own and other professions, taking account of organisational culture
- A8. Integrate your understanding of research methods, evidence based practice and advanced practice to carry out an in depth original piece of work critically exploring a discrete aspect of contemporary healthcare practice

### Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

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On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- B1. Make clinical judgements which take cognisance of research evidence, expert opinion, the legal/ethical dimensions of practice and the views of the people\* in your care.  
  
\* people refers to those individuals and their families relevant to the chosen pathway and specialist role of the individual practitioner.
- B2. Demonstrate a high level of autonomy in managing risk, complexity and uncertainty in your role as an Advanced Clinical Practitioner
- B3. Apply relevant in depth understanding from a wide body of knowledge in order to undertake discrete episodes of care delivery for people\* with differentiated and undifferentiated conditions
- B4. Demonstrate the application of assessment, diagnostic, therapeutic, problem-solving and decision-making skills within your area of advanced practice
- B5. Demonstrate clinical leadership in the creation, application and dissemination of new knowledge within your clinical speciality
- B6. Reflect critically and constructively on your professional role as an Advanced Clinical Practitioner, and

the scope and boundaries of your professional practice

- B7. Synthesise knowledge and understanding of the four pillars of advanced practice (advanced clinical practice, leadership, education and research) to demonstrate the capabilities i.e. knowledge, skills and behaviours required of an Advanced Clinical Practitioner
- B8. Apply the skills of academic study and enquiry to the conduct of an in depth original enquiry relevant to your sphere of practice

## Transferable and Generic Skills

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On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- C1. Communicate confidently both verbally and in writing with people and families in your care, and with members of the multi-professional team.
- C2. Use decision making and problem solving skills to work effectively both individually and as part of a team.
- C3. Take responsibility for your personal and professional learning and development.
- C4. Think critically and analytically, and apply these skills within your practice role.
- C5. Handle information effectively and present this in a succinct and logical manner.
- C6. Effectively manage yourself and others, drawing on skills of self-leadership
- C7. Manage risk and uncertainty in situations that are complex and unpredictable
- C8. Use evidence and information management/technologies to support learning, practice and research activities.
- C9. Demonstrate innovation in the application of knowledge to practice.
- C10. Manage an original project with due attention to time and resource management

## Programme Structure

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The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

The modular design of this award is designed to enable you to complete the full MSc award part time over a period of between two and five years. The award permits you to register for individual 10, 20 and 30 ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme) (20, 40 and 60 CATS credit modules) modules) of study at HEI (Higher Education Institution) Level 7 (Masters level). Most modules are 10 ECTS (20 CATS). All modules once selected are core. Up to 20 ECTS (40 CATS) may be studied 'stand alone' prior to programme enrolment. Transition to Advanced Practice and the Dissertation may not be studied 'stand alone'. Where choices are available you will select your modules in consultation with, and with the approval of, your Programme Leader or designated Pathway Leader.

For the award of Master of Science Advanced Clinical Practice (90 ECTS/180 CATS) you must have successfully completed:

- Research Methods for Evidence Based Practice (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- History Taking and Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan  
OR Assessment and Examination of the Newborn (10 ECTS/20 CATS)

- Diagnostic Assessment and Decision Making (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Pharmacology and Prescribing in Clinical Practice  
OR Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Advanced Critical Care Practice  
OR Advanced Neonatal Studies  
OR Option Module (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Transition to Advanced Practice (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Dissertation (30 ECTS/60 CATS)

You may choose to exit the award with the award of Post Graduate Certificate or Post Graduate Diploma following the criteria indicated below.

For the exit award of Post Graduate Diploma Advanced Clinical Practice (60 ECTS/120 CATS) you must have successfully completed all the module requirements of your chosen pathway with the exception of the Dissertation i.e.:

- Research Methods (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- History Taking and Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan  
OR Assessment and Examination of the Newborn (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Diagnostic Assessment and Decision Making (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Pharmacology and Prescribing in Clinical Practice  
OR Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Advanced Critical Care Practice  
OR Advanced Neonatal Studies  
OR Option Module (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Transition to Advanced Practice (10 ECTS/20 CATS)

If you fail to achieve a pass mark in the Dissertation (even after any permitted re-assessment) you may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma.

For the exit award of Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Health Assessment and Prescribing (30 ECTS/60 CATS) you must complete the following:

- History Taking and Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan  
OR Assessment and Examination of the Newborn (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Diagnostic Assessment and Decision Making (10 ECTS/20 CATS)
- Pharmacology and Prescribing in Clinical Practice (10 ECTS/20 CATS).

Students wishing to take a Post Graduate Certificate exit award comprising a different combination of 60 ECTS from any modules studied within the programme may do so by transfer to and exit out of the MSc Professional Practice in Health Sciences, achieving the exit award of Post Graduate Certificate Professional Practice in Health Sciences.

Students who elect to leave the programme with a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma may normally re-join the programme up to two years after the date of their exit with the Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma.

Within the part time MSc you can study one of four named pathways as detailed below. On successful completion the pathway title will appear in brackets after your award title e.g. MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Critical Care Practitioner). These bracketed titles will also appear after the PG Dip Award title (e.g. Post Graduate Diploma Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Critical Care Practitioner). There are no bracketed titles linked to the Post Graduate

Certificate.

Postgraduate master's programmes are constructed from modules, the majority of which are set at level 7. However, as described within the Programme Structure Section of this Programme Specification some study in the (Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Health Assessment and Prescribing) Programme may be undertaken at level 6. The module pass mark for students enrolled on this postgraduate programme, regardless of academic level is 50. Some modules may be marked only as Pass or Fail. When a mark is awarded it will contribute to the final degree classification.

Academic credit, up to a total of 10 ECTS (20 CATS), awarded from the successful completion of University of Southampton modules taken PRIOR to enrolling on this programme may be used towards the final award. Academic credit awarded from the successful completion of University of Southampton Level 7 modules taken PRIOR to enrolling on this programme may be used towards the final award. In this case the mark will contribute to the final degree classification.

Students may make a claim for the recognition of prior learning in accordance with University of Southampton regulations. RPL enables recognition of achievement from a range of activities using an appropriate assessment methodology. Provided that the assessment requirements of a given module or qualification have been met, the use of RPL is acceptable for accrediting a module or part of a programme through a process of credit transfer, within the limits specified in the University's Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme.

The MSc dissertation module offers students a choice of two options: 'a Literature Review' (modified systematic review) or a 'Service Evaluation/Audit. The dissertation can be commenced before completion of all the taught modules but you must have submitted all other assessments before submitting the dissertation.

## **Advanced Allied Health Practitioner**

### **Part I**

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Allied Health Practitioner) degree provides an academic underpinning that meets the contemporary challenges of advanced clinical practice. This pathway is suitable for you if you are a UK registered, experienced allied health practitioner (including pharmacists) who is in or working towards the role of Advanced Practitioner or similar, and has managerial support to do so. This pathway will enable you to practice with a high level of clinical autonomy in roles that require you to assess, diagnose, treat and manage the care of people with undifferentiated and/or complex clinical presentations. To access this pathway you must work in a suitable clinical environment and have access to appropriate experience and mentorship. This pathway will equip you with the skills, knowledge and expertise to assume a clinical role as an Advanced Practitioner or similar, and professional development at the interface between your own profession and medicine.

You will be required to undertake assessment of capability as part of your core Transition to Advanced Practice module. These capabilities are developed based on the nationally agreed elements of advanced practice published by the Health Education England in their document 'A Multi Professional Framework for Advanced Clinical Practice in England' (2017). These capabilities are also informed by other key competency frameworks for advanced practice, including those published by Institute for Apprenticeships/Skills for Health (2018), DH (2010), NLIAH (Wales) (2010) and the International Council of Nurses (2008). It is noted that guidance regarding such competency assessment changes rapidly, and that the programme and pathway leads may need to update these competencies annually to ensure that they are constantly reflective of current UK and international advanced practice policy. These competencies therefore underpin the learning outcomes above, and will be stipulated within the module handbook, but are not stipulated explicitly within the programme specification.

The programme structure table is below:

Note 1: Only one of the research modules should be completed, to select either Research Methods OR Research Methods (online).

Note 2: Only one of the Pharmacology modules should be completed, to select either Pharmacology & Prescribing in

Clinical Practice OR Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice.

### Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
HLTH6205	Diagnostic Assessment and Decision Making	10	Core
HLTH6207	History Taking and Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan Level 7	10	Core
HLTH6229	Transition to Advanced Practice (Advanced Nurse Practitioner and Advanced Allied Health Practitioner) 2019-20	10	Core
HLTH6193	Pharmacology & Prescribing in Clinical Practice OR	10	Optional/Core
HLTH6129	Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice.	10	Optional/Core
	Option module	10	Optional
HLTH6214	MSc Dissertation 10 month OR	30	Core
HLTH6213	MSc Dissertation 18 month		Optional/Core
HLTH6225	Research methods Evidence Based Practice (online)	10	Optional/core
HLTH6224	Research methods	10	Optional/Core

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

## Advanced Critical Care Practitioner

### Part I

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Critical Care Practitioner) degree provides an academic underpinning that meets the contemporary challenges of advanced clinical practice within a critical care environment. The aim of the programme is to support your ongoing development as a knowledgeable and skilful practitioner within the field of critical care. On successful completion of this award you will be enabled to assume an Advanced Critical Care Practitioner role in the provision of high quality, evidence based critical care which is underpinned by a robust and scientific theoretical knowledge base. For most participants there will be the opportunity to enrol on the programme under auspices of being an Advanced Critical Care Practitioner trainee with the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine (FICM), and on completion to apply for associate membership of FICM as an Advanced Critical Care Practitioner.

You will be required to undertake assessment of capability as part of your core Transition to Advanced Practice module. These capabilities are developed based on the nationally agreed elements of advanced practice published by

the Health Education England (2017) in their document 'A Multi Professional Framework for Advanced Clinical Practice in England, and by the Institute for Apprenticeships/Skills for Health (2018) in the agreed standard for the Advanced Clinical Practitioner apprenticeship. These capabilities are also informed by other key competency frameworks for advanced practice, including those published by DH (2010), NLIAH (Wales) (2010) and the International Council of Nurses (2008). These competencies are also underpinned by those required by the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine (FICM). It is noted that guidance regarding such competency assessment changes rapidly, and that the programme and pathway leads will need to update these competencies annually to ensure that they are constantly reflective of current UK and international advanced practice policy. These competencies therefore underpin the learning outcomes above, and will be stipulated within the relevant assessment documents, but are not stipulated explicitly within the programme specification.

If you are undertaking the programme and pathway under the auspices of status as an Advanced Critical Care Practitioner trainee with the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine (FICM) you will, subject to also having

- successfully completed the module, 'Pharmacology and Prescribing in Clinical Practice' and
- successfully completed all the additional competencies and sign off that FICM require (some of which sits out with the programme requirements)

be eligible to apply for Associate Membership of FICM. Full details of the eligibility criteria can be found at <http://www.ficm.ac.uk/membership/associate-membership>. You must note that successful completion of this programme does not guarantee associate membership; it is at the discretion of the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine.

The programme structure table is below:

Note 1: Only one of the research modules should be completed, to select either Research Methods OR Research Methods (online).

Note 2: Only one of the Pharmacology modules should be completed, to select either Pharmacology & Prescribing in Clinical Practice OR Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice. If you wish to apply for membership with FICM you must successfully complete the Pharmacology and Prescribing in Clinical Practice module.

### Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
HLTH6232	Advanced Critical Care Practice	10	Core
HLTH6204	Diagnostic Assessment and Decision Making (Advanced Critical Care Practitioner)	10	Core
HLTH6207	History Taking and Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan Level 7	10	Core
HLTH6227	Transition to Advanced Practice (Advanced Critical Care Practitioner)	10	Core
HLTH6219	Pharmacology & Prescribing in Clinical Practice OR	10	Optional/Core
HLTH6193	Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice.	10	Optional/Core
HLTH6214	MSc Dissertation 10 month OR	30	Optional/Core



HLTH6213	MSc Dissertation 18 month	30	Optional/Core
HLTH6225	Research methods for Evidence Based Practice (online) OR	20	Optional/Core
HLTH6224	Research methods for Evidence Based Practice	20	Optional/Core

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

## Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

### Part I

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner) degree provides an academic underpinning that meets the contemporary challenges of advanced neonatal clinical practice. This pathway is suitable for you if you are a UK registered, experienced neonatal nurse who wishes to undertake an advanced role in neonatal care as an Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, and you have the managerial support to do so. It will enable you to build on your existing clinical experience, skills and competencies while providing the educational knowledge needed for roles that require greater autonomy, responsibility and diagnostic decision making. To access this pathway you must work in a suitable clinical environment and have access to appropriate experience and mentorship. This pathway will equip you with the capabilities to assume a lead role in neonatal clinical practice and to further develop your professional leadership at the interface between nursing and medicine.

You will be required to undertake assessment of capability as part of your core Transition to Advanced Practice module. These capabilities are developed based on the nationally agreed elements of advanced practice published by the Health Education England (2017) in their document 'A Multi Professional Framework for Advanced Clinical Practice in England, and by the Institute for Apprenticeships/Skills for Health (2018) in the agreed standard for the Advanced Clinical Practitioner apprenticeship. These capabilities are also informed by other key competency frameworks for advanced practice, including those published by DH (2010), NLIAH (Wales) (2010) and the International Council of Nurses (2008). These are further augmented and adapted to ensure practitioners meet the required competencies in a neonatal context. It is noted that guidance regarding such competency assessment changes rapidly, and that the programme and pathway leads will need to update these competencies annually to ensure that they are constantly reflective of current UK and international advanced practice policy. These competencies therefore underpin the learning outcomes above, and will be stipulated within the module handbook, but are not stipulated explicitly within the programme specification.

The programme structure table is below:

Note 1: Only one of the research modules should be completed, to select either Research Methods OR Research Methods (online).

### Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
HLTH6235	Advanced Neonatal Studies 2019-20	10	Core

HLTH6195	Assessment and Examination of the Newborn 2019-20	10	Core
HLTH6203	Diagnostic and Decision Making for Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner) 2019-20	10	Core
HLTH6228	Transition to Advanced Practice (Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner ) 2019-20	10	Core
HTH6220	Pharmacology & Prescribing in Clinical Practice (Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner)	10	Core
HLTH6214	MSc Dissertation 10 month OR	30	Optional/Core
HLTH6213	MSc Dissertation 18 month	30	Optional/Core
HLTH6224	Research methods (online) 2019-20 OR	10	Optional/Core
HLTH66225	Research methods 2019-20	10	Optional/Core

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

## Advanced Nurse Practitioner

### Part I

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Advanced Nurse Practitioner) degree provides an academic underpinning that meets the contemporary challenges of advanced clinical practice. This pathway is suitable for you if you are a UK registered, experienced nurse who is in or working towards the role of Advanced Nurse Practitioner or similar, and has managerial support to do so. This pathway will enable you to practice with a high level of clinical autonomy in roles that require you to assess, diagnose, treat and manage the care of people with undifferentiated and/or complex clinical presentations. To access this pathway you must work in a suitable clinical environment and have access to appropriate experience and mentorship. This pathway will equip you with the skills, knowledge and expertise to assume a clinical role as an Advanced Nurse Practitioner or similar, and professional development at the interface between your own profession and medicine.

You will be required to undertake assessment of capability as part of your core Transition to Advanced Practice module. These capabilities are developed based on the nationally agreed elements of advanced practice published by the Health Education England in their document 'A Multi Professional Framework for Advanced Clinical Practice in England' (2017) and by the Institute for Apprenticeships/Skills for Health (2018) in the agreed standard for the Advanced Clinical Practitioner apprenticeship. These capabilities are also informed by other key competency frameworks for advanced practice, including those published by DH (2010), NLIAH (Wales) (2010) and the International Council of Nurses (2008). It is noted that guidance regarding such competency assessment changes rapidly, and that the programme and pathway leads will need to update these competencies annually to ensure that they are constantly reflective of current UK and international advanced practice policy. These competencies therefore underpin the learning outcomes above, and will be stipulated within the module handbook, but are not stipulated explicitly within the programme specification.

The programme structure table is below:

Note 1: Only one of the research modules should be completed, to select either Research Methods OR Research Methods (online).

Note 2: Only one of the Pharmacology modules should be completed, to select either Pharmacology & Prescribing in Clinical Practice OR Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice.

### Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
HLTH6205	Diagnostic Assessment and Decision Making	10	Core
HLTH6207	History Taking and Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan Level 7	10	Core
HLTH6229	Transition to Advanced Practice (Advanced Nurse Practitioner and Advanced Allied Health Practitioner)	10	Core
HLTH6219	Pharmacology & Prescribing in Clinical Practice OR	10	Optional/Core
HLTH6193	Applied Pharmacology for Clinical Practice.	10	Optional/Core
	Option module	10	Optional
HLTH6214	MSc Dissertation 10 month OR	30	Optional/Core
HLTH6213	MSc Dissertation 18 month	30	Optional/Core
HLTH6224	Research methods (online)	10	Optional/Core
HLTH6225	Research methods	10	Optional/Core

### Progression Requirements

The programme will follow the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Standalone Masters Programmes* as set out in the General Academic Regulations in the University Calendar: <http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html>

## Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular School or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

The School provides:

- An induction day consisting of sessions relating to study skills, information technology and library facilities
- SUSSED, which is the University portal (at [www.sused.soton.ac.uk](http://www.sused.soton.ac.uk)). This portal will enable you to gain information about the University and available learning resources.
- Blackboard, which is a web based learning environment. This will be used to support your learning in all modules and also contains a specific section dedicated to the MSc Advanced Clinical Practice. Access is via SUSSED or via [www.blackboard.soton.ac.uk](http://www.blackboard.soton.ac.uk)
- Academic staff: your module leaders, your pathway leader, your programme leader and your dissertation supervisor
- The Student Office within the School of Health Sciences (Building 67).
- The University Library facilities. You are encouraged to approach any of the Faculty of Health Sciences academic liaison team for help and support. For more information see [www.southampton.ac.uk/library/](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/library/)
- University student counselling service [www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/counselling/](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/counselling/) or, if you are not sure who to approach an excellent first point of contact is 'First Support' - more information regarding the services they provide can be found at [www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/firstsupport/](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/firstsupport/)
- Programme and module handbooks
- Learning Differences Centre - The University is committed to equal opportunities and provides a range of support via the Learning Differences Centre. This centre has staff who can support students with dyslexia and

specific learning difficulties. More information can be found at [www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/)

· Study skills support. On line study skills support can be accessed from [www.studyskills.soton.ac.uk](http://www.studyskills.soton.ac.uk)  
Your academic tutor may refer you for additional support with academic writing if he/she feels it would be of benefit.

## Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

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You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme via module surveys which are sent via email at the end of each module of study. You may also be elected by your peers to act as a post-graduate student representative to attend relevant committees that include student representation; you can also give feedback via one of the student representatives. Further opportunities to give written feedback on your programme of study will also be made available.

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- External examiners, who see a selection of work from every module studied and produce an annual report
- Annual module review
- Annual Programme Review prepared by the Programme Leader and considered by relevant School and Faculty committees
- Quinquennial review and revalidation involving external panel members
- Peer observation of teaching (undertaken by academic colleagues).
- Ongoing review of subject/professional benchmarking standards
- For the Advanced Critical Care Pathway the approval of this programme as suitable for students seeking FICM Association Membership on programme completion is at the discretion of FICM.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the [Quality Handbook](#).

## Career Opportunities

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Development within clinical practice roles to higher bandings (UK) or international equivalent. Promotion to advanced/specialised roles such as Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Advanced Practitioner, Advanced Critical Care Practitioner, Clinical Specialist, Consultant Practitioner.

## External Examiner(s) for the programme

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Name: tbc (Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Advanced Allied Health Practitioner, Advanced Critical Care Practitioner)

Name: Dr Maha Mansour - Singleton Hospital Swansea University (Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner)

Name: tbc (Non medical prescribing)

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff:

Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

**Please note:** This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

## Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

### Additional Costs

Type	Details
Parking costs (including on placements at hospitals)	Students will be expected to meet their own parking costs for attendance at University. These costs will vary depending on the location of the teaching session - current University Main Campus visiting car parking costs are £1.10 per hour. Limited free parking may be available in nearby streets but is at the students own risk.
IT	Use of IT equipment is essential within this course. All students will have access to University based computer suites but most students will prefer to have access to their own computer (laptop or desktop). Access to a suitable wordprocessing package (e.g. Microsoft word), teaching materials package (e.g. Powerpoint) and spreadsheet package (e.g. Excel) will be required. If University computers are used these will be available on the University machines, but students will require memory sticks for saving downloaded materials and storage backup.
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source.  Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Placements (including Study Abroad Programmes)	In most cases students undertaking practical components within the course will be working within a healthcare setting and thus required uniform will be available to them. Exceptionally students may have a placement made available to them as part of the course which is out with their usual place of work, and in these instances students or their sponsors will be responsible for the cost of travel to and from the placement and in some cases accommodation near the placement setting. Such placements would require

	indemnity insurance, vaccinations and DBS clearance - the cost of this may be covered within course fees, or may be passed on to the student. Which is the case will be made clear to students/sponsors at the time such placements are agreed - well before programme commencement.
Approved Calculators	Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers. The University approved models are Casio FX-570 and Casio FX-85GT Plus. These may be purchased from any source and no longer need to carry the University logo.
Optional Visits (e.g. museums, galleries)	Some modules may include optional visits to exhibitions, professional study days, professional body events (e.g. events hosted by the Nursing and Midwifery Council or Health Professions Council). You will normally be expected to cover the cost of travel and admission, unless otherwise specified in the module profile.
Uniforms	In most cases students undertaking practical components within the course will be working within a healthcare setting and thus required uniform will be available to them. Occasionally students may have a placement made available to them as part of the course, and in these instances students may be responsible for purchasing their own uniform including suitable footwear. This will need to be to a design stipulated by the host placement.
Medical Equipment and Materials: Fobwatch; stethoscopes;	In most cases students undertaking practical components within the course will be working within a healthcare setting and thus required equipment will be available to them. However some modules may require equipment not routinely available; the most frequently needed equipment is a good quality stethoscope.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	Most written assignments will be submitted on line. On occasions students may be asked to provide a printed copy of some or all elements of an assignment submission – particularly in the case of portfolios of learning. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: <a href="http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/services/copying_for_students_and_visitors/faq.php#594">http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/services/copying_for_students_and_visitors/faq.php#594</a>

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at [www.calendar.soton.ac.uk](http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk).