DEVELOP YOUR NURSING CAREER WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
Welcome to Nursing at the University of Birmingham

We continuously develop our programmes to meet the current demands of the nursing profession, ensuring that students graduate with the skill set, experience and knowledge to become effective, patient-focused healthcare professionals of the future.

Here at Birmingham we are proud of our partnership with the local National Health Service trusts and our students benefit from the wide range of patient backgrounds they experience, in the UK’s largest healthcare region.

We offer a wide range of postgraduate programmes and professional development courses and we’re certain you will find a course to help you progress your career in this brochure.

‘Overall great week. Learnt loads. Made new friends. Great tutors and consultants.’

Student on Advanced Health Assessment and Clinical Decision Making course
CONTENTS

Postgraduate programmes in the School of Nursing
Advanced Practice in Healthcare (Global) MSc 4
Clinical Health Research MRes 5
Advanced Clinical Practice MSc 6
Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing 7
Postgraduate programmes in the wider University for nurses 8
Continuing Professional Development (short courses) 11
Postgraduate programmes in the School of Nursing

Advanced Practice in Healthcare (Global) MSc/PGDip/PGCert

Who is it for?
The MSc Advanced Practice in Healthcare (Global) is aimed at healthcare professionals from a variety of clinical backgrounds from across the globe who wish to develop research/leadership skills and clinical expertise.

Why should I do it?
This is a multi-professional programme designed to enable you to advance your practice and develop skills essential to the role of the advanced practitioner and clinical team leader. The opportunity to choose from a wide range of optional modules will allow you to explore and advance your specialist area of practice.

You will benefit from knowledge provided by experienced clinical academics and researchers with theoretical and practical sessions delivered in world-class learning facilities. We focus on developing the mind and encouraging you to exchange ideas in order to promote stimulating debate.

What does it include?
You will study core modules including:
- Creating and applying evidence
- Clinical health assessment
- Current issues in health
- Leadership in advanced clinical practice

Our optional modules offer a combination of academic theory and practical teaching on topics of global interest and relevance to healthcare employers including:
- Caring for cancer patients
- Introduction to leadership and management for health
- Healthcare evaluation and commissioning
- Health promotion
- Mixed methods research designs
- Epidemiology statistics and research methods
- Qualitative research methods
- Supportive and end-of-life care
- Systematic reviews and evidence synthesis

FACT FILE
Start date: September
Duration: 1 year, full-time
Entry requirements: We accept a range of qualifications to the equivalent of a UK 2:1
Clinical Health Research

MRes

Who is it for?
This programme provides a first step in research training for health professionals currently working in clinical areas who want to develop a health-related research component with their career. You will undertake a research project and gain confidence in using research methods, project management and research governance.

What support will I get?
You will work alongside existing research staff on established research projects. We are particularly interested in supporting applicants in the fields of nursing and midwifery who wish to research end-of-life care, child, maternal and family health and organisation and delivery of service.

You will be supported by your supervisory team to design your research question and project, research the evidence and conduct your project. Your supervisors will also challenge you to develop your writing and interrogate your assumptions and conclusions.

What will I gain from this?
Studying the MRes Clinical Health Research programme will give you research and project management skills that can be used in clinical research projects. You may be motivated to answer a clinical question, improve health, or be seeking to develop your research or academic career.

The combination of flexible learning, taught modules and the research project makes this a flexible and stimulating programme giving you skills, awareness and the intellectual discipline required to carry out rigorous, effective, patient-centred research.

The programme will provide you with support to acquire practical research skills, help you to develop your understanding of Good Clinical Practice in research, and explore various research methodologies and methods.

FACT FILE

Start date: September
Duration: 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time
Fees for 2017/18: £4,195 full-time, International – £19,710
Entry requirements: 2:1 Honours degree in a healthcare-related subject or postgraduate qualification and/or experience in a relevant health-related area

Find out more including fees and full module information: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/nursing](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/nursing)
Advanced Clinical Practice
MSc/PGDip/PGCert

Who is it for?
- Nurses
- Midwives
- AHPs

Why should I do it?
This programme offers you the opportunity to advance your practice through a selection of modules designed to enhance your ability to take on roles in advanced practice. Invaluable to your career progression it will enable you to lead and transform service delivery through research-informed clinical practice.

The MSc in Advanced Clinical Practice programme is approved and supported through Health Education West Midlands and the West Midlands Universities Advanced Practice Group. This multi-professional programme is delivered by expert clinicians, researchers and academics. You will also benefit from the excellent reputation and resources that the University of Birmingham can offer.

What does it include?
This programme includes a range of core modules that focus on clinical practice, leadership and research such as advanced health assessment and clinical decision making, project management and research governance. There are opportunities to include Independent Prescribing or specialist clinical modules such as supportive and end-of-life care, care of older adults with complex needs, health promotion and public health.

I'm busy – can I fit it in?
This programme allows you the flexibility to complete modules within a three-year timescale. The modules generally run in one- or two-week blocks making travelling and self-study time more straightforward to fit in. We also offer a distance-learning module.

FACT FILE
Start date: September
Duration: 3 years flexible
Fees for 2017/18: £6,075
Entry requirements: Honours degree in relevant area. Completion of a course leading to professional registration in the UK

PLEASE NOTE
This programme is only open to UK-based nurses. If you are an international nurse please explore our MSc Advanced Practice in Healthcare (Global) programme (see page 4)
Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing (40-credit course)

Who is this course for?
The course equips nurses, pharmacists, midwives, physiotherapists and podiatrists with the skills required to manage and prescribe for patients safely and effectively.

What will I learn?
The course is designed around the core principles of safe and effective prescribing practice for application across therapeutic areas and clinical specialities in a variety of settings. On successful completion, you will be awarded the Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing.

How will I learn?
You will take part in interactive face-to-face teaching activities that will include the use of real-life and simulated scenarios with case studies to develop competence in prescribing practice. You will develop clinical management plans and consider the care of the patient as part of a multidisciplinary team.

You will experience role-play scenarios using expert patient actors to facilitate development of the strong communication and clinical skills that are vital for positive interaction with patients and fellow healthcare professions.

Your further learning and development of prescribing competencies will be supported through lectures and distance learning via a virtual learning environment.

FACT FILE

Start date: September, March
Duration: 6 months, part-time
Fees for 2017/18: £1,750

PLEASE NOTE
This programme is only open to UK based midwives, nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists and podiatrists.

Find out more including fees and full module information: www.birmingham.ac.uk/nursing
Postgraduate programmes in the wider University for nurses

The following programmes take place across the University and also welcome nurses. All are available as a Masters or Postgraduate Diploma and many modules can be taken as stand-alone modules:

**Clinical Oncology MSc/PGDip**

**Full-time programme**

Observe clinical practice whilst building your understanding of the causes and treatment of cancer. This innovative programme offers a unique opportunity for you to observe clinical practice and research implementation in clinical/medical/surgical oncology in UK hospitals.

You will learn from world leaders, both at one of the prestigious University affiliated hospitals and within the Cancer Centre at Birmingham; an internationally renowned centre for translational cancer research, combining high-quality basic science and trials infrastructure with the largest clinical referral base in Europe.

**Part-time programme**

Further your professional knowledge in oncology to an academic qualification. You can either study our modules which are available as short CPD courses, or increase your knowledge and understanding up to Masters level. You will be taught alongside other professionals working in the field of oncology including medical and clinical oncology CT2 trainees, pharmacists, radiographers, vets, clinical trial co-ordinators, dieticians and many more.

Patients are increasingly surviving cancer so need survivorship strategies and support throughout the cancer journey. Modules that are particularly relevant include: Caring for cancer patients, Haematology-oncology, Palliative care and the cancer patient, Surgical oncology and perioperative management.

**Clinical Neuropsychiatry MSc/PGDip/PGCert**

A springboard to greater professional or academic expertise in the field. The MSc in Clinical Neuropsychiatry is perfect for developing the clinical skills of nurses working in the field of neurology and psychiatry.

You will learn about the interplay between physical and mental symptoms in patients with brain disorders as well as ethics, the law, basic neurosciences and management of common conditions.

**Clinical Primary and Community Care MSc/PGDip/PGCert**

Develop your skills and academic requirements for specialist clinical practice. This programme is designed for community and practice-based nurses, experienced doctors, doctors in training, pharmacists and other health care professionals looking to acquire specialised skills and qualifications in this area.

The course offers both academic and clinical teaching with mentoring and assessment in your own place of work and within specialist clinics.

**Health Research Methods MSc/PGDip/PGCert**

Our most reliable information about health, disease and its management comes from high quality research. As a nurse, you will develop in-depth knowledge and practical experience of the methods and analyses that underpin what we know about health.

You will also gain the skills you need to undertake and/or interpret research in a global healthcare context.
Health Economics and Health Policy  
MSc/PGDip  
Develop your skills and knowledge to enhance your health services career or research. Around the world, healthcare systems are being challenged to meet seemingly unlimited patient needs with constrained and limited resources. This programme gives nursing professionals a greater understanding of, and skills in, health economics enabling you to enhance your role and career.

The MSc in Health Economics and Health Policy will equip you with the analytical skills needed to inform healthcare decision making and policy formation. This course is suitable for those who do not have prior experience in economics, but have a good first degree and a thorough understanding of the healthcare sector.

Musculoskeletal Ageing and Health  
MSc/PGDip  
Play an essential role in keeping adults in good physical and mental health in old age. Ageing of the musculoskeletal system (muscle, bone, joints) is a major contributor to frailty and quality of life in old age, and impacts on the recovery from illness of injury.

On this programme you will explore the biological basis of musculoskeletal decline with age and associated pathologies such as osteoarthritis, osteoporosis and rheumatoid arthritis. The programme includes patient-focused modules such as maintaining mobility, fitness and function with age as well as optional modules in advanced musculoskeletal physiotherapy.

This programme appeals to health professionals working with the elderly in a clinical context. Nurses that have joined our course have typically been physiotherapist nurses working in rehabilitation with older adults with mobility difficulties such as inpatients with osteoarthritis.

Occupational Health  
MSc/PGDip/PGCert  
Broaden your thinking and improve your practice through expert teaching, workplace visits and practical sessions. Nurses are now major players in the provision of occupational health services both in the private and public sector.

If you are interested in working in an area which helps to support people at work and prevent work-related diseases then you should consider a postgraduate qualification in occupational health. This programme has been running for over 20 years and been completed by over 300 nurses, doctors, scientists and physiotherapists from over 15 different countries.

It is designed for individuals who wish to work in a multidisciplinary occupational health team. Modules combine the academic and practical aspects of occupational health, allowing you to assess and manage work-related diseases and injuries and deliver effective occupational health services for employees.

Find out more including fees and full module information:  
www.birmingham.ac.uk/nursing
Physician Associate
PGDip
Take advantage of a new and rapidly growing healthcare role in the UK. Physician Associates support doctors in the diagnosis and management of patients, and are trained to perform a number of roles including: taking medical histories, performing examinations, analysing test results and diagnosing illnesses under supervision.

It is a new and rapidly growing role in the UK that offers starting salaries of £30-40k, and an excellent opportunity to build your career and make a valuable contribution to the nation’s health. This course offers the opportunity for nurses to diversify their career and take it in a new direction.

Public Health
MPH/PGDip/PGCert
Develop essential skills for disease prevention, health protection, health promotion and planning, managing and evaluating health services. Our public health programmes are designed to equip you for a career in a wide range of professional settings, both in and out of the fields of public health and epidemiology.

Delivered by academic staff and external specialists who are all experts in their particular fields, we are pleased to welcome students from the UK and overseas with diverse professional backgrounds. Our students range from experienced health professionals with years of experience in healthcare delivery or management to new graduates and PhD students.

Trauma Science
MSc
Develop the medical and scientific skills to become a specialist in trauma science and its management. The incidence of trauma continues to rise and WHO estimate that by 2020 trauma will become the leading cause of death worldwide due to the ageing population, increasing road use and conflict.

The MSc in Trauma Science programme at the University of Birmingham is the only face-to-face Trauma Science course in the UK dedicated to evidenced-based learning in the management of trauma afflicted patients. The course is delivered by frontline experts in both civilian and military clinical trauma centres and is perfect for those wishing to choose a rewarding, fast growing and highly sought-after speciality. Our course can be tailored to individual needs and currently accommodates nurses, doctors and biomedical scientists.
Continuing Professional Development (short courses)

Many of our modules can be taken as short courses either with no academic accreditation or with accreditation that can be counted at a later date. Below are examples of the modules available.

**Advanced Health Assessment and Clinical Decision Making**
Taught by clinical experts, this module aims to develop your knowledge and skills in relation to the physical health assessment of patients specific to your specialist area of clinical practice.

At the end of the module you will have advanced your practice in performing a problem-focused, age appropriate health assessment. Undertaking this 40-credit module in conjunction with a further 20 credits can lead to a PGCert in Advanced Health Assessment and Clinical Decision Making.

**Current Issues in Health**
This module examines current issues in health and health care identified by you in relation to current challenges to health, the organisation of health services or in professional practice.

The module provides an awareness and understanding of current issues facing the health of modern society and will enable you to critically reflect upon the impact of new initiatives on health and health care practice within your own area of practice or interest.

**Mixed Methods Research Designs**
This module will give you the skills to critically evaluate the key concepts involved in mixed methods research design. You will learn to appraise and interpret the different methods and techniques of mixed methods research.

You will explore the essential research skills in mixed methods research for research projects designed for a health and social sciences population. You will also critically consider the challenges in both the presentation and dissemination of mixed methods research in relation to reliability, validity and ethical consideration area of practice or interest.

**Supportive and End-of-Life Care**
In direct response to the government’s manifesto to improve end-of-life care in England, this course has been designed for healthcare professionals caring for patients who are near the end of life or those who are recently bereaved.

The module will prepare healthcare professionals to manage the complex decision-making, communication, therapeutic care and issues around emotional labour, ethics and leadership in regards to end-of-life care.

Find out more including fees and full module information: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/nursing](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/nursing)
This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and structures of study some courses may be discontinued and new ones offered in their place.