



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Certificate of Higher Education in Paramedic Practice

**Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration**

March 2018

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the [Course Specification Guidance Notes](#) for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	Certificate of Higher Education in Paramedic Practice
Final Award	Certificate of Higher Education
Exit Awards	<i>CertHE</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C2606F</i>
Mode of study	<i>Full Time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Work based Learning</i>
Normal length of course	<i>10 months with placement</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>September 2019 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>Usually University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Faculty	<i>Science Faculty & Health</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Health and Care Professions</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	http://www.port.ac.uk/school-of-health-sciences-and-social-work/
Course webpage including entry criteria	http://www.port.ac.uk/school-of-health-sciences-and-social-work/short-courses-and-cpd/cert-he-paramedic-practice.html
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>Health and Care Professions Council</i>
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	4

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Module Web Search](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

- Provide students with the opportunity to build upon their previous professional and educational experience enabling them to apply to register as a paramedic.
- Provide a learning environment that allows all students to reach their potential
- Provide an environment that encourages students to make the link between theory and practice via supervised work-based clinical practice
- Encourage independent thought and study
- The application of a scientific and evidence-based approach to patient care through the development of research skills.
- The acquisition of a sound theoretical base and improved patient assessment skills leading to enhanced diagnostic and clinical decision making abilities
- Provide an understanding of the complexities of patient care within the pre-hospital environment
- To develop a reflective practitioner
- To develop the notion of the team and encourage inter-professional education
- Promote the need for continuous professional development as a registered clinician

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The course learning outcomes are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	The key theoretical and practical concepts of paramedic practice, integrating these concepts into clinical practice via high quality patient centred care.	Whole group/small group, individual tutorials, discussions, lectures, simulation and practical placement learning	Essays, small group presentations, written examinations, OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
A2	The application of best practice and current knowledge and research to paramedic practice across the health and social care spectrum whilst recognising the contributions made by other health care professionals through partnership working.	Simulation and practical placement learning, small group, individual tutorials, discussions, lectures, simulation	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
A3	Evidence based practice and research that contribute to the development of pre-hospital care.	Whole group/small group, individual tutorials, discussions, lectures	Coursework, including literature review
A4	The role of lifelong learning, reflection, continued professional development, peer support and multi professional working.	Whole group/small group, individual tutorials, discussions, lectures	group presentations, written examinations, portfolio

A5	A variety of approaches to patient assessment and therapeutic interventions.	Simulation and practical placement learning	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
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B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between practice and theory	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed study, reflective journals/logs and clinical placements	OSCE and clinical competencies within practice outcomes will assess knowledge by demonstration of psychomotor skills
B2	Solve problems in the practice setting.	Reflective journals/logs and clinical placements	OSCE and clinical competencies within practice outcomes will assess knowledge by demonstration of psychomotor skills
B3	Assess, prioritise and plan care required by patients in the pre-hospital care environment	Reflective journals/logs and clinical placements	Practice outcomes demonstrate that theory has been applied to practice in real time situations.
B4	Apply evidence based approaches to decision making	Literature review, reflective journals/logs and clinical placements	Essays, written examinations, poster presentations
B5	Analyse, evaluate, interpret and integrate data from a variety of sources in pre-hospital care.	Literature review, discussions, seminars, reflective journals/logs and clinical placements	Essays and written examinations, poster presentations

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Communicate effectively in a range of settings.	Simulation and clinical placements	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
C2	Demonstrate best practice, professional and subject specific skills at threshold level for registration as a Paramedic.	Simulation and clinical placements	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes

C3	Provide appropriate safe and effective care for patients in the pre-hospital care environment, support families and significant others whilst being able to reflect on practice.	Simulation and clinical placements	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
C4	Undertake appropriate clinical decision making and respond effectively to patients changing needs within their scope of practice.	Simulation and clinical placements	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
C5	Support colleagues and other health care professionals in their clinical practice and demonstrate clinical leadership qualities in the prehospital care setting.	Simulation and clinical placements	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Communicate ideas by written, oral and visual means.	Group work, seminars and tutorials	poster presentations, individual/group presentations, essays and online VLE collaborations
D2	Be competent in the use of Information Technology (word processing, databases, spreadsheets, electronic mail & internet).	Use of VLE, library seminars, research methodology introduction	essays, literature review, online tests and practice placement outcomes
D3	Approach problem solving in a systematic way and demonstrate the values required for health and social care	Multi professional learning in clinical practice	OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
D4	Show an awareness of contextual and interpersonal factors in groups and teams and be able to work independently and as part of a team, recognising the need to assess one's own skills and to harness them for future learning.	Group work, seminars, problem solving and project management skills, independent working,	Portfolio, OSCE, portfolios of evidence and practice outcomes
D5	Undertake self-directed study in a supportive environment.	Tutorials and seminars with personal tutors and project supervisors	written coursework and written examinations

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides...

- Work-based mentors are assigned to each student in clinical placement

- Dedicated co-ordinator from the ambulance service to manage student placements and allocation of mentors
- Simulation of Practice teaching and assessment facilities
- Clinical link tutors from the course team
- Support prior to and during placements
- Open door and timetabled tutorial system
- Mentor Hotline (dedicated phone line for mentors available 365 days with voicemail between midnight – 0600 hrs direct to one of the course team)

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

Insert additional reference points or delete as required

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- HCPC Standards of Proficiency Paramedics (2014)
- HCPC Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics (2016)
- HCPC Guidance on Conduct and Ethics for Students (2016)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- College of Paramedics Paramedic Curriculum Guidance (4TH Ed) (2017)
- SHSSW Education Quality Committee
- SHSSW Placement Committee
- HCPC Annual Monitoring

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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