



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

MSc Sports Performance

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

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	MSc Sport Performance
Final Award	MSc
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE.
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P1894FTC_PTC
Mode of study	Full time, Part time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	12 months (FT), 24 months (PT)
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	September 2023 and January 2024 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Science & Health
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Sport, Health and Exercise Science
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	https://www.port.ac.uk/school-of-sport-health-and-exercise-science
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate-taught/msc-sports-performance
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	None
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	Level 7

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 [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

- To provide a multi-disciplinary applied approach to enhancing and maintaining sports performance
- To provide a challenging and stimulating study environment.
- To provide a framework allowing students to follow a flexible coherent programme of study.
- To develop technical and work specific skills underpinned by academic learning.
- To provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximise career opportunities within the field of sports performance.

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 document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Sport science from an applied and multi-disciplinary perspective	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars and group-work. These learning and teaching methods will enable students to develop a critical and reflective knowledge of applied sport and exercise science by working independently and as a group. These teaching methods will enhance students' ability to be proactive in recognising and addressing personal development needs, and be able to make informed career decisions. Students will be encouraged to be intellectually curious, embrace challenges and seize opportunities for development by locating and accessing information, using current and emerging digital technologies contributing to the development of a range of employability skills.	Essay, report, presentation, case study. Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements. This programme is designed to provide expertise in sport and exercise science methodologies. Assessments therefore require a mixture of problem-based learning, understanding of applied practice, and literature research and evaluation skills thereby encouraging students' to be critical and apply fundamental theories.
A2	Applied theoretical research-based knowledge across	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a	Essay, report, presentation, case study. Assessments consist of both formative and summative

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	sport science sub-disciplines.	<p>predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars and group-work.</p> <p>These learning and teaching methods will enable students to develop a critical and reflective knowledge of applied sport science by working independently and as a group.</p> <p>These teaching methods will enhance students' ability to be proactive in recognising and addressing personal development needs, and be able to make informed career decisions.</p> <p>Students will be encouraged to be intellectually curious, embrace challenges and seize opportunities for development by locating and accessing information, using current and emerging digital technologies contributing to the development of a range of employability skills.</p>	<p>elements.</p> <p>This programme is designed to provide understanding of applied practice, hands-on expertise in sport and exercise sciences methodologies. Assessments therefore require a mixture of problem-based learning, understanding of applied practice, and literature research and evaluation skills thereby encouraging students' to be critical and apply fundamental theories.</p>
A3	Ethical implications within sport science research and support.	<p>A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars and group-work.</p> <p>Although relevant to all modules containing applied practice, attention to ethical considerations and health and safety issues are promoted specifically in Research Methods and Project modules. Students will be encouraged to be proactive in identifying ethical considerations and to develop their problem-solving skills via the design of their research protocol thereby contributing to the development of relevant employability skills.</p>	<p>Report, presentation.</p> <p>Formative assessment of a research proposal and ethical application will be facilitated primarily via individual tutorials leading to the eventual summative assessment of the research project.</p>
A4	Problem solving approaches to formulate solutions to a variety of	<p>A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars,</p>	<p>Essay, presentation, report, case study.</p> <p>Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements. This course is designed to provide</p>

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	problems in the sporting context.	simulation and group-work. As well as promoting independent study skills, group/practical work will aid students' ability to work proactively with others. Simulation may also be used to present students with applied scenarios thereby requiring students to adopt a problem-based learning approach. The latter approach will be supported via the research specific element of the course and will contribute to the development of problem-solving specific employability skills.	understanding of applied practice, and hands-on expertise in sports and exercise methodologies. Assessments therefore require a mixture of problem-based learning, understanding of applied practice, and literature research and evaluation skills thereby encouraging students' to be critical and apply fundamental theories.
A5	Comprehensive techniques/ methodologies applicable to individual projects that are theory or research based.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars and group-work. These learning and teaching methods will enable students to develop critical and reflective knowledge of comprehensive techniques and methodologies that can be applied to sport and exercise science by working independently and proactively as a group. Students will be encouraged to be intellectually curious, embrace challenges and seize opportunities for development by locating and accessing information, using current and emerging digital technologies contributing to the development of a range of employability skills. Additionally, these teaching methods will enhance students' ability to be proactive in recognising and addressing personal development needs, and be able to make informed career decisions.	Report, presentation. Formative and summative assessment of the research proposal and related ethical considerations, research project, and applied practice assessment skills will encourage students to apply relevant knowledge to practical and theoretical situations.

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment
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LO number	Learning outcome		methods
B1	Recognise and critically analyse existing methodologies used within sport science support.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, workshops and group-work. Cognitive elements are integral components of each of the modules within the programme and these each require specific methodological research and analysis strategies unique to the domain involved. At the same time, they also encourage students to synthesise the available methods supporting sports performance change. The learning and teaching methods will enable students to think independently, analytically, and engage with new areas of investigation becoming informed citizens and developing a sense of responsibility and commitment to ethical practice thereby contributing to the development of employability skills.	Essay, report, presentation, case study. Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements. The sport and exercise methodological focus of this course means assessments require a mixture of problem-based learning, understanding of applied practice, and literature research and evaluation skills thereby encouraging students to apply relevant knowledge to practical and theoretical situations.
B2	Formulate appropriate research questions within the realm of sport science.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials. The Research Development and Practice module specifically allows students to develop appropriate research questions and apply the theoretical and applied practice knowledge developed via the study of core modules in developing pertinent research questions. This will provide students with an avenue for independent and autonomous research contributing to the development of employability skills.	Essay, report, presentation, case study. Formative and summative assessment of the research proposal and related ethical considerations, research project, and applied practice scenarios will encourage students to apply relevant knowledge to practical and theoretical situations. Additionally, formative assessment of a research proposal will be facilitated primarily via small group and individual tutorials.
B3	Select and apply scientific principles to the implementation	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a	Essay, report, presentation, case study. Assessments consist of both formative and summative

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	of performance enhancing and evaluative techniques.	predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and simulation. Each module requires the application of relevant scientific principles to the domain involved. At the same time the subject discipline promotes the exchange of good scientific principles and understanding of applied practice across topic domains and population groups. Collectively, the various modules encourage students to synthesise the available methods supporting sport or exercise performance change, with the Research Methods and Practice module providing students with a more in-depth opportunity to demonstrate and implement these principles thereby providing students with an avenue for independent and autonomous research enhancing their employability skills.	elements. As this programme is designed to develop understanding of applied practice, in sport and exercise science methodologies, assessments require a mixture of problem-based learning, understanding of practical skills, and literature research and evaluation skills thereby encouraging students' to be critical and apply fundamental theories.
B4	Use problem solving principles and supporting theory to solve performance related dilemmas and challenges.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, tutorials and simulations. A range of methods will be used to encourage students to identify relevant sport and exercise science issues as well as ways of addressing these issues. To support this, tutorials and independent study and group and practical work will be facilitated and students' will be encouraged to work proactively with others. Simulation may also be used to present students with scenarios thereby requiring students to adopt a problem-based learning approach. The latter approach will be particularly emphasised in the research specific element of the course and will contribute to the development of employability skills.	Essay, presentation, report, case study. Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements. This programme is designed to develop understanding of applied practice, in sport and exercise science domains. Assessments therefore require a mixture of putting problem-based learning and knowledge synthesis into action, whether via written or applied practice assessment thereby encouraging students' to be critical and apply fundamental theories.
B5			

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	Design research protocols to collect data that can subsequently be evaluated, interpreted, integrated and disseminated into relevant formats.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials. Although relevant to all modules containing a data collection component, attention to protocol design, data collection and interpretation are promoted specifically in the Research Development and Practice module. The application of the theoretical knowledge leading to collection, interpretation and dissemination will be supported through study of core modules. Additionally, the module itself will lead to the synthesis of, or contribute to, the creation of new knowledge. Students' will be encouraged to develop their problem solving, data management and organisational skills contributing to the development of employability skills.	Report, presentation, case study. Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements. Formative and summative assessment of a research proposal and related ethical considerations, research project, and applied practice skills will encourage students to apply relevant knowledge to the design, implementation and collection of data. Furthermore, the target audience for the dissemination of the collected material may be either academic or non-academic (e.g., clients).

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Proficient understanding of how equipment should be used in a safe, confident and reliable manner.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, simulations and seminars. The format of the course will enable students to develop an understanding of a range of laboratory-based skills and contribute to the development of discipline specific employability skills through the use of applied scenarios and work-based environments. It will also facilitate students' ability to communicate with clients/patients,	Report, practical assessment. Students will be given formative assessments/practice prior to demonstrating their knowledge of how to undertake sport and exercise science assessments. This will include attention to ethical considerations and health and safety issues, which are also promoted within modules and within the production of reports. Students are also expected to work within time constraints and pressures

		adopting a professional and approachable style, thereby developing pertinent employability skills.	associated with professional sport and exercise science professions.
C2	Produce critical scientific reports and training programmes in an appropriate format for application within a sporting environment.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, tutorials, simulations and group-work. Each module requires the application of relevant scientific principles to the domain involved and these skills are transferable across modules. The format of the course will facilitate students to communicate with clients/patients, adopting a professional and approachable style as well as scholarly communication methods thereby developing employability skills.	Essay, case study, report, presentation. Formative and summative assessment will encourage students to apply relevant knowledge when critically reviewing the topical literature and designing tests/experiments to address specific problems. Students' will also be required to format assessed work with either academic or non-academic audiences in mind.
C3	Confidently use a variety of valid and reliable tests in the measurement of sports performance and analysis.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, simulations, workshops and group-work. The format of the course will enable students to develop an understanding of a range of laboratory-based skills, field skills and techniques, as well as the ability to examine the collected data and communicate with clients/patients, adopting a professional and approachable style thereby developing employability skills.	Report, presentation, practical assessment. As well as practical skill and theoretical knowledge assessment, attention to ethical considerations and health and safety issues are also promoted within modules and within the production of assessed work. Students are also expected to work within time constraints and pressures associated with professional sport and exercise science professions.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Communicate effectively and confidently, using a range of media.	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, simulations, workshops and group-	Essay, report, presentation, case study, practical assessment. Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements and will consist of a mixture of written and oral

		<p>work.</p> <p>Students will build upon their scientific and professional skills developed during their undergraduate studies. This will include communicating methodologies, techniques, and results and applying them to research or support in sport and exercise science.</p>	<p>assessment modes.</p>
D2	<p>Apply both quantitative and qualitative skills used within sports performance support.</p>	<p>A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, simulations and group-work. Students' will be required to use a range of quantitative and qualitative skills during the course. Students are required to research and complete assignments as well as qualitative and quantitative analyses to interpret collected data. This will enhance students' employability skills.</p>	<p>Essay, report, presentation, case study.</p> <p>Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements and will consist of a mixture of qualitative and quantitative research methods.</p>
D3	<p>Illustrate competence in the use of IT and specialist software.</p>	<p>A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars and group-work. Students' will be required to use a range of IT packages during the course. This will include IT packages to research and complete assignments. This will enhance students' employability skills.</p>	<p>Essay, report, presentation, case study.</p> <p>Assessments consist of both formative and summative elements and will consist of a mixture of written, and oral assessment modes which require a range of IT packages and knowledge.</p>
D4	<p>Be an independent learner and demonstrate collaborative skills.</p>	<p>A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, simulations and group-work. Students will be encouraged to solve problems and demonstrate sound judgement in decision making throughout the course. This will require a mixture of independent learning and group work, thereby facilitating the development of these employability skills.</p>	<p>Essay, report, presentation, case study.</p> <p>Assessments will require students to undertake relevant research into the topics being assessed and will include formative as well as summative assessment. Students' may choose to do this independently or in groups.</p>

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D5	Identify and use appropriate resources to enable the successful completion of a task and meet deadlines and manage time effectively	A blended approach will be adopted to teaching. Online learning provision e.g. drop in tutorials, flipped classrooms or extra material, will support a predominantly in-person approach to learning via lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and group-work. Students will be encouraged to undertake research to facilitate their learning using a variety of resources ranging from journal articles to equipment manuals. Students' will be encouraged to work independently as well as in groups and to be intellectually curious, embracing challenges and seizing opportunities for development by locating and accessing information, using current and emerging digital technologies contributing to the development of a range of employability skills. Students will be encouraged to complete preparatory material/work and assessed work in an appropriate time frame ensuring deadlines are met. This will require students to manage and plan their time effectively and do so for multiple modules simultaneously. This will enhance students' time management and organisation skills, which are critical employability skills.	Essay, report, presentation, case study, practical assessment. Assessments will require students to undertake relevant research into the topics being assessed and will include formative as well as summative assessment. Students' may choose to do this independently or in groups embracing a wide range of digital and non-digital resources. Students' will be required to submit work on time or be penalised (excluding a valid ECF).

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

- Extensive induction programme introduces the student to the University and the MSc Sports Performance course.
- Each student has a personal tutor, responsible for pastoral support and guidance.

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:

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards
- The British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) Accreditation Guidelines

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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Document details

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