



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Post Graduate Certificate in Conscious Sedation for Dentistry

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

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Course Title | <i>Postgraduate Certificate in Conscious Sedation for Dentistry</i> |
| Final Award | <i>PG Cert Conscious Sedation for Dentistry</i> |
| Exit Awards | <i>None</i> |
| Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable) | <i>P3269PTC</i> |
| Mode of study | <i>Part time</i> |
| Mode of delivery | <i>Blended (Online, onsite + placement)</i> |
| Normal length of course | <i>1 year</i> |
| Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies | <i>From September 2022 intake onwards</i> |
| Entry Requirements | <i>GDC registered Dentist with an active NHS performer number</i> |
| Awarding Body | <i>University of Portsmouth</i> |
| Teaching Institution | <i>University of Portsmouth</i> |
| Faculty | <i>Science and Health</i> |
| School/Department/Subject Group | <i>Dental Academy</i> |
| School/Department/Subject Group webpage | https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/our-academic-structure/faculty-of-science-and-health/dental-academy |
| Course webpage including entry criteria | https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/pgcert-conscious-sedation-for-dentistry |
| Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations | <i>None</i> |
| Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level | <i>level 7</i> |

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

The course aims to:

- Provide dental practitioners with the knowledge and clinical skills to enable them to confidently use basic conscious sedation techniques for the safe practice of dentistry.
- Provide a setting in which students may develop a critical understanding of various clinical techniques relevant to contemporary sedation practice within dentistry.
- Provide an opportunity for students to develop skills in observation and self-reflection.
- Facilitate group learning and co-operation.
- Demonstrate a critical awareness and understanding of medical sciences relevant to conscious sedation.
- Formulate an understanding of the assessment, treatment planning and communication skills relating to managing anxious and phobic dental patients.
- Critically evaluate current research.
- Provide an understanding of the importance of non-pharmacological behaviour management techniques.
- Provide the opportunity to develop clinical skills relating to the safe and effective administration of a range of conscious sedation techniques.
- Ensure the principles and values that guide how the National Health Service should act and make decisions, are met.

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 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 | Develop the necessary professional attributes to fulfil the requirements of an effective sedationist utilising the principles of evidence-based practice and continuing professional development to engage as part of a team delivering conscious sedation in the clinical dental setting. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |
| A2 | Develop an understanding of the principles of good clinical record keeping. Understand the elements of clinical governance that underpin the provision of conscious sedation including the use of audit, risk assessment and the roles of the governing bodies. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |
| A3 | | | |

| LO number | Learning outcome | Learning and Teaching methods | Assessment Methods |
|-----------|--|---|--|
| | Develop an understanding of the unique relationship between professional and patient. Explore the principles of consent and the relevance of capacity, confidentiality and other legal issues related to the practice and delivery of basic conscious sedation techniques. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |
| A4 | Develop an understanding of the concepts of pain and anxiety. The anatomy and physiology relevant to the use of conscious sedation, along with the associated pharmacology. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |
| A5 | Develop an understanding of patient assessment, appropriate drug selection and patient management including the relevant medico-legal implications of the provision of conscious sedation. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |

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

| LO number | Learning outcome | Learning and Teaching methods | Assessment Methods |
|-----------|--|---|--|
| B1 | Appraise and maximise learning opportunities for all members of the team providing basic conscious sedation, monitor own performance through audit and feedback. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |
| B2 | Demonstrate an ability to critically evaluate and apply guidelines applicable to the practice and delivery of basic conscious sedation techniques. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, | Single best answer examinations |

| LO number | Learning outcome | Learning and Teaching methods | Assessment Methods |
|-----------|--|---|--|
| | | both onsite and online. | and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |
| B3 | Demonstrate an ability to apply knowledge of anatomical structures, physiological responses and pharmacological techniques in planning and providing conscious sedation. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations and Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion |

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

| LO number | Learning outcome | Learning and Teaching methods | Assessment Methods |
|-----------|--|---|---|
| C1 | Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the practical aspects of patient assessment including recognising the cause, signs and symptoms of dental anxiety. | Supervised clinical experience during a clinical attachment | Workplace-based assessments using Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) and a record of experience |
| C2 | Demonstrate a proficiency of practical skills involved in the provision of dental sedation and the care of the patient throughout the procedure. | Supervised clinical experience during a clinical attachment | Workplace-based assessments using Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) and a record of experience |
| C3 | Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the regulatory framework, governance and medico-legal implications of providing dental sedation. | Supervised clinical experience during a clinical attachment | Workplace-based assessments using Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) and a record of experience |

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

| LO number | Learning outcome | Learning and Teaching methods | Assessment Methods |
|-----------|--|---|---|
| D1 | Apply the principles and techniques of conscious sedation for dentistry to day-to-day clinical practice. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations, Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion Workplace-based assessments using Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) and a record of experience |
| D2 | Be an independent learner and demonstrate collaborative skills in working with associated dental care professionals & other specialities in order to provide holistic care to the patient. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations, Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion Workplace-based assessments using Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) and a record of experience |
| D3 | Meet deadlines and manage time effectively in the treatment planning and also provision of conscious sedation for dentistry for the patient. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations, Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion Workplace-based assessments using Direct Observation of |

| LO number | Learning outcome | Learning and Teaching methods | Assessment Methods |
|-----------|--|---|---|
| | | | Procedural Skills (DOPS) and a record of experience |
| D4 | Communicate effectively and confidently with the patients with respect to the provision of conscious sedation for dentistry. | Live & recorded lectures, demonstrations and workshops, both onsite and online. | Single best answer examinations, Structured Reflective Clinical Case Study /Case Based Discussion Workplace-based assessments using Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) and a record of experience |

Academic Regulations

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

Examination and Assessment Regulations 2019: 10. Compensation. The course has exemption from this academic regulation for patient safety reasons and therefore does not allow compensation.

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 this University of Portsmouth will provide library facilities for access to journal articles for the recommended reading to support the module learning content.

All equipment and materials will be provided for students to use and complete the practical aspects of the course.

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](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- The Intercollegiate Advisory Committee for Sedation in Dentistry (IACSD) "[Standards for Conscious Sedation in the Provision of Dental Care" \(2020\)](#)
- [NHS Constitution](#)

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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| Template Date | July 2019 |
| Author | Robert Seath |
| Date of production and version number | March 2021 v1 |
| Date of update and version number | July 2021 v2 July 2022 v3 June 2023 v4 |
| Minimum student registration numbers | 6 |