



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

MSc (Top Up) Advanced Restorative Dental Therapy

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

Copyright

The contents of this document are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	MSc (Top Up) Advanced Restorative Dental Therapy
Final Award	MSc
Exit Awards	None
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P3303PTD
Mode of study	Part time
Mode of delivery	Distance Learning
Normal length of course	1 year
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	From September 2024 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Science and Health
School/Department/Subject Group	University of Portsmouth Dental Academy
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/postgraduate-taught/msc-advanced-restorative-dental-therapy-top-up
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	N/A
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 challenging and stimulating study environment where opportunities exist for students to develop academic, research, and communication skills necessary for a patient centred approach to care and the use of evidence to inform practice.
- To provide a framework allowing the student to follow a coherent programme of study that produces a dental therapist able to engage in research who is capable of working as part of the dental team to identify and investigate real world problems in the provision of dental care.
- Develop the knowledge and transferable skills required for a career as a proficient and confident individual who is able to effectively engage in evidence-based patient centred care.
- To produce an individual who can demonstrate that they have met the outcomes required for this programme and have the necessary skills to progress in their career within either postgraduate education or evidence-based patient care.
- To encourage ongoing critical, evaluative and strategic ways of thinking in all areas and recognise the importance of the clinical practice-education relationship.
- Ensure the principles and values that guide how the National Health Service should act and make decisions are met. To achieve this we ensure the values outlined in the [NHS Constitution](#) are embedded throughout the course, to include the teaching and support experienced once the course begins.

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	Critically evaluate the published literature to derive a coherent scientific rationale for an MSc research project.	Developed in seminars and through supported independent study.	Assessed by research proposal and dissertation
A2	Critique the theory and practice of research methods in healthcare.		

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Bring together appropriate data and synthesize this to produce a critical piece of work.	Developed in discussion-based seminars and through independent research for the Dissertation	Assessed by coursework, culminating in the 60 credit Dissertation
B2	Critically evaluate research findings to derive justifiable research conclusions.		
B3	Review key ethical considerations as they relate to the design of an MSc project.		

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Analyse a realistic healthcare related problem and develop creative solutions, whilst exploring the underpinning theory.	Case studies are used throughout the course to deliver key concepts. Project proposal is introduced early in the module to aid development towards the Dissertation	Coursework artefacts are based on realistic healthcare problems. Coursework assignments include project proposal and Dissertation
C2	Manage a research project successfully to a conclusion and recommendations.		

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Produce a clear, well-written project that addresses the brief given.	Presentation skills and writing skills are developed throughout the course, mostly in seminars and tutorials	Assessed by appropriate coursework assignments – research proposal leading into Dissertation
D2	Reflect on own practice to examine and critique the boundaries of own subject knowledge and practice.		
D3	Select and follow independent lines of investigation within dentistry.		
D4	Generate new ideas and solutions to patient related challenges and problems.		
D5	Communicate clearly and effectively, both written and orally to different audiences relevant to one's own subject area.		
D6	Respond positively to new situations by being aware, flexible, adaptable and realistic in expectations.		

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.

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 Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [NHS Constitution](#)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff

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.

Copyright

The contents of this Course Specification are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

Document details

Template Date	July 2021
Author	Leanna Wynne

Date of production and version number	January 2022 v1
Date of update and version number	June 2023 v3
Minimum student registration numbers	3