



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Professional Doctorate in Sport, Exercise and Health Science

Quality Assurance, Academic Standards and Quality 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, Professional Doctorate in Sport, Exercise and Health Science Course Leader.

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	<i>Professional Doctorate in Sport, Exercise and Health Science</i>
Final Award	<i>Prof Doc</i>
Exit Awards	<i>Postgraduate certificate</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C2608P</i>
Mode of study	<i>Part time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus</i>
Normal length of course	<i>4 to 6 years</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>July 2022 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Science & Health</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Sport, Health and Exercise Science</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	https://www.port.ac.uk/research/research-areas/sports-and-exercise-science
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate-research/profdoc-sport-exercise-and-health-science
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>None</i>
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	<i>Level 8</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 global aims for this programme are to provide:

- Opportunities to explore professional roles and implement research investigations in order to improve one's contribution in a service delivery setting.
- Support for research and professional development learning so that graduates can make decisions relevant to their profession and generate new knowledge.
- An award of the highest academic level that is distinct from the PhD, and that is clearly relevant to the needs of the individual's professional working situation.
- Graduates with opportunities to enhance their practice through systematic enquiry and reflection on the relevance of their learning to their own professional context.
- Graduates with the cognitive, practical, professional and transferable skills to enable them to assume independent practitioner roles within their profession.
- Graduates with opportunities to disseminate their research and professional skills to a variety of audiences and via a range of forms.

The specific aims for this programme are to:

- Develop, implement and maintain personal and professional standards and ethical practice.
- Apply sports exercise and health science and related methods, concepts, models, theories, and knowledge derived from reproducible findings.
- Research and develop new and existing sport, exercise and health methods, concepts, models, theories and instruments.
- Communicate sport, exercise and health knowledge, principles, methods, needs, and policy requirements.

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	Models of evidence-based practice, evaluation and audit used to inform and innovate practice within their professional area.	Students will attend monthly sessions with their supervisor throughout the duration of the programme, which will have a specific learning and teaching themed towards evidenced based and informative practice and provide a supportive environment for reflective practice.	Coursework as critical reports and portfolios, development of a reflective practice portfolio together with a final thesis and commentary.
A2	The theory and practice of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies and techniques	During the 'taught' Part 1 element of the programme, students will partake in lectures, tutorials, workshops, and presentations on the theory and practice of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies and techniques appropriate to sport exercise and health	Coursework as critical reports and portfolios, oral presentation, together with a final thesis and commentary, report of analysis of data.

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	appropriate to sport exercise and health science.	science. Students will have access to online resources covering research methodologies and regular meetings with their supervisor to discuss the project specific analysis required.	
A3	The ethical and governance frameworks applicable to research within their chosen area of study.	During the 'taught' Part 1 element of the programme, students will partake in lectures, tutorials, workshops, and presentations on ethical and governance frameworks. Students will apply for the relevant ethics required for their chosen topic. Prior to submission students will receive critical appraisal from the supervisory team.	Coursework as critical reports and portfolios, development of a reflective practice portfolio together with a final thesis and commentary.
A4	Critical reflection for own learning and professional practise.	Students will use skills forge and attend monthly sessions with their supervisor throughout the duration of the programme, which will have a specific learning and teaching themed towards evidenced based and informative practice and provide a supportive environment for reflective practice.	Coursework as critical reports and portfolios, oral presentation, development of a reflective practice portfolio together with a final thesis and commentary.
A5	Styles of scientific writing and publication processes within the sport, exercise and health science and specifically within their own professional domain.	During the 'taught' Part 1 element of the programme, students will partake in lectures, tutorials, workshops, and presentations on styles of scientific writing and publication processes. Students will attend monthly sessions with their supervisor throughout the duration of the programme, which will have a specific learning and teaching themed towards evidenced based and informative practice and provide a supportive environment for reflective practice.	Coursework as critical reports and portfolios, review article or primary research publication, development of a reflective practice portfolio together with a final thesis and commentary.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Integrate knowledge of science and/or social theory to analyse problems or opportunities related to practice and justify strategies to inform practice.	Students will have quarterly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) to reflect on and develop research	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B2	Formulate questions, critically appraise, synthesise and evaluate evidence so as to transfer theoretical, research and professional understanding into areas of practice.	Students will have quarterly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) to reflect on and develop research	Reports of critical appraisal of primary or secondary research.
B3	Critically discuss the methodological, ethical and financial limitations of their proposed plan of investigation and be aware of the implications of such constraints.	Students will have quarterly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) to reflect on and develop research	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.
B4	Critically appraise the value of theoretical perspectives and research evidence collected and use it to effectively and logically challenge current concepts, thinking and approaches.	Students will have quarterly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) to reflect on and develop research	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Provide authoritative solutions when presented with practical, managerial, business, ethical and research problems within a professional context.	Students will have a monthly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) to reflect on and develop professional development and practice philosophy and values.	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.
C2			

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	Demonstrate the relevance and innovative approaches of research and professional development to the specific area of practice.	Students will have a monthly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) to reflect on and develop professional development and practice philosophy and values.	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.
C3	Attain critical and creative mastery of the latest available knowledge within the area of professional practice.	Work based practice	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.
C4	Take responsibility as a leading practitioner, innovator and manager of others in a community of practice and beyond.	Work based practice	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.
C5	Plan a research/professional development protocol and prepare an application for approval and demonstrate the likely relevance of the work to the area of practice.	Students will also have a quarterly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) to reflect on and develop professional development and practice philosophy and values. Students will also have a quarterly one-to-one tutorial with their supervisor(s) toward the communication of sports science knowledge	Individual research case studies pertinent to own area of professional practice; oral presentations; report of analysis of data, portfolio of evidence, together with a final thesis and commentary.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Prepare and present evidence in formal settings	Tutorials, workshops, and presentations.	A portfolio of coursework: practice log; case studies; reflections; oral presentation; ability to defend their work in a viva voce situation
D2	Manage information and data to provide feedback to clients	Tutorials, workshops, and presentations.	A portfolio of coursework: practice log; case studies; reflections; oral presentation; ability to defend their work in a viva voce situation
D3	Disseminate theoretical, research	Tutorials, workshops, and presentations.	A portfolio of coursework: the development of a research

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	and professional understanding and recommendations to critical communities using a variety of formats. Present articles for publication in a scientific or professional journal		protocol; presentation of research studies; oral presentation; ability to defend their work in a viva voce situation
D4	Interact and network within a multidisciplinary team to conduct research and develop professionally	Tutorials, workshops, and presentations.	A portfolio of coursework; oral presentation; ability to defend their work in a viva voce situation

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 Professional Doctorate in Sport, Exercise and Health Science 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](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for *Events, Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism*](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- University of Portsmouth Regulations for Professional Doctorates.

- The scholarship and research expertise of academic members of staff.
- Quality Assurance Agency Code of Practice for Research Degree Programmes.
- Quality Assurance Agency Doctoral Degree Characteristics.

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	Gemma Milligan and Martina Navarro
Date of production and version number	15/06/18 V1
Date of update and version number	24/07/2023 V5
Minimum student registration numbers	N/A