

Faculty of
Health



BIRMINGHAM CITY
University

Discover

*Foundation Degree -
Health and Social Care*

Information Booklet



Foundation Degree - Health and Social Care

Welcome to Birmingham City University's Faculty of Health, and thank you for your enquiry regarding studying on the Foundation Degree Health and Social Care programme. This full-time work based learning programme is aimed at people who are currently working in a health or social care setting. While the programme is aimed at developing healthcare support workers, it can be an alternative entry route onto a related degree level healthcare professional programme. For example, students who successfully complete the foundation degree can apply to enter the BSc (Hons) Nursing programme in year 2. Each applicant is considered on an individual basis.

The Foundation Degree Health and Social Care programme has pathways in:

- Acute Care
- Children
- Diagnostic Radiography
- End of Life Care
- Mental Health
- Long Term Conditions
- Mammography
- Radiotherapy

Entry Requirements

All applicants must have the following:

GCSE at grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics. Equivalent qualifications such as Key Skills level 2, Adult Numeracy level 2, Adult Literacy level 2, CSE grade 1 and functional skills in English and Maths will be accepted. Irish Leaving Certificate - Maths and English Ordinary level passes at grade B3 or above.

Scottish qualifications - Maths and English passes at Intermediate Standard 2 or above.

In addition to the above you will be required to have:

GCE A level

Minimum of one A2 level pass at grade D or above. General studies and critical thinking excluded.

OR

GCE AS level

Minimum of two AS level passes at grade D or above. General studies and critical thinking excluded.

OR

GCE double award

AVCE double award minimum pass at grade DD. General studies and critical thinking excluded.

OR

BTEC National Award

Minimum pass grade M required.

OR

BTEC National Certificate

Minimum pass grade PP required.

OR

BTEC National Diploma

Minimum pass grade PPP required.

International Baccalaureate Diploma

Minimum pass grade 24 required.

OR

Access to HE Diploma in Health and Social Care

Full award (60 credits) must include 12 level 2 maths credits + 12 level 2 English credits if not already achieved at GCSE or equivalent.

OR

NVQ Level 3

Full award, plus GCSE Maths at grade C or above or equivalent.

OR

NVQ Level 2

Full award plus a written paper - details of the content will be provided by the admissions tutor post application.

OR

14 -19 Progression Diploma in Society, Health and Development

Full award.

OR

14-19 Advanced Diploma in Society, Health and Development

Full award.

OR

Cache Award, Certificate or Diploma

Full award

Portfolio route

A Portfolio route has been devised for those applicants who are already working in a health or social care setting and who do not meet the formal entry requirements. To follow this route you are still expected to possess GCSE Maths or equivalent.

The Portfolio should include:

- Two written testimonies (one of which must be from your employer) supporting your application.
- One reflective piece that draws on your current practice (1,500 words)
- All pieces of work should be endorsed by your line manager.

The portfolio should be submitted within 4 weeks post application, following discussion with the Admissions Tutor.

In addition:

All applicants will be invited to attend one of two applicant's days to be held at the university. Applicants seconded from local Trusts may also be required to attend an interview as part of their Trust's selection process.



Applicants must be employed in a Health or Social care support worker role (or equivalent) and have support from their Line Manager in order to apply for this course.

Places are subject to the confirmation of a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and registration with the Independent Safeguarding Authority.

Applicants should be aware that qualifications, personal statement, interview, references, written exercise and where appropriate portfolio all form part of the selection criteria for this programme.

Hours of Attendance in University

Each student will require one day protected learning time per week, which will include University attendance, group tutorials, individual tutorials or directed study time.

Programme Structure

Students studying the Foundation Degree will study the equivalent of 16 modules throughout the programme. The full-time programme is offered over two years.

(NB Competency in Mammography can be achieved after one year (eight modules equivalent) leading to a Certificate of Higher Education. Students have the option of continuing to the second year

of study, but this decision is taken in conjunction with the student's line manager).

The programme will be delivered via work based learning.

Students will be required to study towards the completion of module (topic) workbooks which will include online learning through Moodle forums and postings, building a portfolio and preparing students for the relevant assessment strategies.

Directed Study

Students will be introduced to each module (or topic of study) by the module coordinator. Each module has a series of classroom sessions and other activities designed to help students gain all the information and skills needed to successfully complete their studies. Students are expected to undertake some of these activities in their own time or in their own organisation. Students are given advice on managing their study time and will be strongly directed by module coordinators to complete activities on time. Prospective students must be aware of the commitment required to complete a

programme such as the Foundation Degree. Whilst all students are strongly supported and advised during their studies, there is a requirement to undertake personal study in their own time.

Student Support

Students will have support from a Personal Tutor (member of BCU staff) and mentor / assessor or clinical learning facilitator (someone from their own organisation) whilst undertaking the programme. Students may also access support services to meet their learning needs during their time in University.

Personal Tutor

A member of the University staff will act as a Personal Tutor and advise students regarding their individual learning needs, providing or referring them to the additional support mechanisms as required. Personal Tutors may also provide all sorts of other support and advice where appropriate, helping students adjust to University life and supporting them in their studies. In addition Personal Tutors will provide as a link between the University and the work place, making regular contact with students and their work-based mentors. Personal Tutors, where feasible, will make regular visits to the work place.

Where this is not feasible, specific arrangements will be made in consultation with the student, their work based mentor and organisation in order to provide the individual support required.

Mentor / Assessor or Clinical Learning Facilitator

An appropriate member of staff from the student's organisation will be identified and be responsible for organising and assessing learning in the work place. They will have been provided with updates on the programme of study and relevant discipline specific pathway. They will provide and arrange clinical learning and assessment opportunities monitor student's progress through module workbooks and liaise closely with the Personal Tutor and / or Programme Director.

Titles and Awards

Successful completion of the full learning programme will lead to the award Foundation Degree Health and Social Care (pathway specific).

Competency in Mammography can be achieved after one year (eight modules equivalent) leading to a Certificate of Higher Education.



Course Philosophy

The Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care is designed to provide its students with the knowledge and skills required to support their individual work roles and thus benefit their service users. Work-based learning is a key feature of the programme, enabling students to apply the newly acquired knowledge to their practice effectively and in a timely manner. Many students will have no experience of higher education, and one of the key philosophies of the programme is to support the academic and personal development of the student, enabling them to achieve their individual potential. In turn, this will facilitate the delivery of a responsive, informed and quality service within organisations. Collaboration between the University and work-based partners will aim to ensure students receive the support they need to engage with the unfamiliar, and the programme team are committed

to providing the support and encouragement required to achieve their individual goals. The Programme is committed to developing workers who will be productive members of inter-professional teams, whilst responding to the changing needs and priorities of the services they support.

Content

Programme content is informed by the various professional groups supported by the programme. National Occupational Standards have been used as reference points where appropriate as well as detailed consultation with employers.

Modules of Study

The flowcharts overleaf identify the modules you will be undertaking.

Progression

The Foundation degree programme can also be used as a pathway of entry to other BSc health programmes. Please contact the Admissions Tutor for further information - Mark Wareing

We hope you have found this booklet useful and if you require any further information please contact the Admissions Tutor - Mark Wareing. mark.wareing@bcu.ac.uk



**Flowchart showing Core and Role Related Modules
Level 4 Flowchart YEAR 1**

Moving into Higher Education
30 credits
CORE module

Anatomy and Physiology - Part One 15 credits CORE module	A further Anatomy and Physiology module may be chosen dependent on work area requirements	Anatomy and Physiology - Part Two 15 credits Option module
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Knowledge and Skills for Practice 30 credits CORE module, with content specific to work area	Specific content relating to following pathways: Acute Care Children Mental Health Diagnostic Radiography Mammography Radiotherapy Long Term Conditions End of Life Care
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Responsibility and Accountability of the Paraprofessional
15 credits
CORE module

Plus ONE of the following modules if both Anatomy and Physiology modules chosen;
TWO of the following modules if one Anatomy and Physiology module chosen.

Principles of Radiation Science for Assistant Practice 15 credits	Common Mental Health Issues 15 credits	Principles and Theory of Phlebotomy 15 credits	Common Medical conditions 15 credits	Child Development 15 credits	Loss and Bereavement 15 credits
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**120 Credits - Level 4
Cert HE Studies in Health Care**

**Flowchart showing Core and Role Related Modules
Level 5 Flowchart YEAR 2**

Moving on in Higher Education
30 credits
CORE module

Professional Aspects of Healthcare
15 credits
CORE module

**Advanced Knowledge and Skills
for Practice**
30 credits
CORE module, with content
specific to work area

**Specific content relating to
following pathways:**
Acute Care
Children
Mental Health
Diagnostic Radiography
Mammography
Radiotherapy
Long Term Conditions
End of Life Care

Practice Debate
30 credits
CORE module

Plus ONE of the following (all 15 credit modules)

Autism	Tissue Viability	Palliative Care	Autonomous Workplace Development or Practice modules	Palliative Care	Acquired Brain Injury
The Client Journey in Imaging	Imaging in Radiotherapy	Population Screening	Transition to Studies in Healthcare	Complex Service User Needs	Mental Health in Acute Care

**120 Credits - Level 5
AWARD: FdSc Health and Social Care (240 Credits)**