

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MSc Advanced Clinical Practice
2	Course Code	PT1408
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	N/A
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	N/A

6	Course Description
	Advanced clinical practitioners are experienced registered healthcare professionals who demonstrate a level of practice characterised by a high degree of autonomy and designated responsibility for complex decision making” (NHS England, 2025). Advanced practitioners demonstrate advanced clinical skills, critical thinking and analysis, problem solving, and management of risk and complexity. Working at an advanced level of practice enables healthcare professionals to meet the changing needs of patients through the development of new, accessible approaches to care and service delivery. Through evolving professional roles, practitioners are increasingly encouraged to develop advanced clinical skills, critical thinking and problem solving which enables them to meet the changing needs of patients through the development of new, accessible approaches to care and service delivery. This innovative course is designed to inform, enhance and develop practitioners’ advancing clinical roles, incorporating the four pillars of advanced practice; <i>clinical practice; leadership and management; education and research</i> (HEE, 2017). You will be supported within the University setting as well as your own organisation to build on existing professional skills, knowledge and experience in order to develop the advanced skill set required of an autonomous practitioner, whilst meeting the complexity of modern healthcare challenges. Provision of opportunities to investigate, critically appraise and understand the evidence base for practice will develop your critical awareness, in order to further improve and advance practice through strategic development, leadership, education and innovation. You will be required to identify a clinical supervisor who will be able to support you throughout the course. We are committed to providing excellent, innovative, learning, teaching and assessment experiences. We use technology to enhance your learning, through lectures, seminars, skills, simulation and virtual learning. Engagement of practice partners and service users in all areas of learning, teaching and assessment is integral to our approach. Our evidence-based curriculum will empower you to develop and maintain high quality, safe and effective interdisciplinary advanced clinical practice provision. Completion of this Master’s course and successful integration of the advanced practice capabilities into the workplace provides you with the foundation for further career and academic development and progression, such as the attainment of Consultant Practitioner status and further doctoral studies.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	MSc Advanced Clinical Practice	7	180
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Certificate – Studies in Healthcare	7	60
	Postgraduate Diploma – Advancing Clinical Practice	7	120

8	Variations from the University Academic Regulations
	This course has approved variations to the University's Academic Regulations. These can be accessed via the student contract page: https://www.bcu.ac.uk/student-info/student-contract .

9	Delivery Patterns		
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study
	Part-Time	City South	3 years
			Code
			PT1408

10	Entry Requirements
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ .

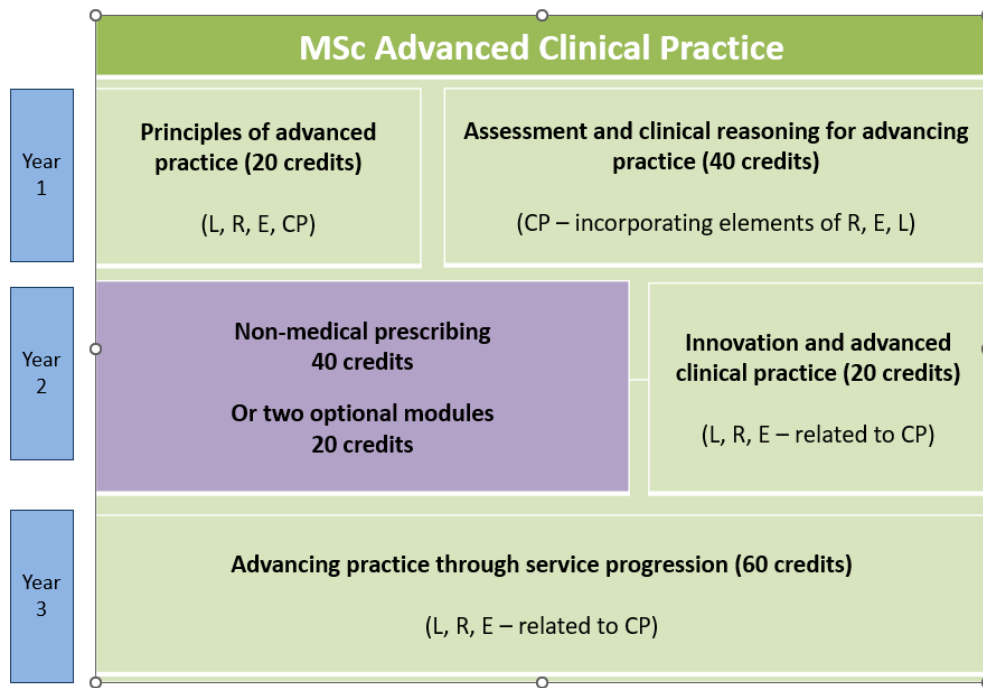
11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:
1	Critically appraise the advanced level role in line with professional, statutory and regulatory body requirements.
2	Critically analyse the theories and frameworks that support advanced critical thinking, problem solving, complex clinical reasoning and decision making, reflecting on their own developing role.
3	Demonstrate strategic awareness and responsiveness to the wider health and social care agenda and policy and drivers at a local, regional and national level.
4	Critically appraise strategies for auditing and evaluating service delivery and initiate improvement strategies to enhance safety, quality and effectiveness of service delivery.
5	Systematically apply research and enquiry techniques in order to integrate these within own practice.
6	Critically review a range of theories and develop practical skills in order to deliver safe and effective clinical practice within your advanced practice role.
7	Critically appraise the impact of the advanced clinical practice role within the organisation in relation to education, leadership and the enhancement of interprofessional working.
8	Innovate service delivery through the appreciation of demographic, social, professional and political developments to ensure sustainability and continuous quality improvement of care.
9	Critically apply the legal, ethical and professional considerations to the advanced clinical practice role when caring for service users and the wider community.

10	Critically reflect upon your advanced practice role in order to continually develop knowledge and clinical skills in relation to the four pillars.
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12	Course Requirements																															
12a	Level 7: <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 140 credits):</i> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>LBR7608</td><td>Principles of Advanced Practice</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LBR7606</td><td>Assessment and Clinical Reasoning for Advancing Practice</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>LBR7607</td><td>Innovation and Advanced Clinical Practice</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LBR7753</td><td>Advancing Practice Through Service Progression</td><td>60</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.</i> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>LBR7630</td><td>Independent/ supplementary prescribing for nurses, midwives and Specialist Community Public Health Nurses (SCPHNs) – V300</td><td rowspan="3">40</td></tr><tr><td>LBR7296</td><td>OR Independent/ supplementary prescribing for allied health professionals</td></tr><tr><td>LBR7613</td><td>OR Supplementary prescribing for allied health professionals</td></tr><tr><td>Various</td><td>2 x L7 modules from Professional Practice or other HELS MSc course (to be agreed with the Course Lead in advance)</td><td>2 x 20</td></tr></table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LBR7608	Principles of Advanced Practice	20	LBR7606	Assessment and Clinical Reasoning for Advancing Practice	40	LBR7607	Innovation and Advanced Clinical Practice	20	LBR7753	Advancing Practice Through Service Progression	60				Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LBR7630	Independent/ supplementary prescribing for nurses, midwives and Specialist Community Public Health Nurses (SCPHNs) – V300	40	LBR7296	OR Independent/ supplementary prescribing for allied health professionals	LBR7613	OR Supplementary prescribing for allied health professionals	Various	2 x L7 modules from Professional Practice or other HELS MSc course (to be agreed with the Course Lead in advance)	2 x 20
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12b Structure Diagram

Level 7



Leadership; Research; Education; Clinical Practice

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

Workload

Core modules:

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	186
Directed Learning	182
Private Study	1032
Total Hours	1400

Non-medical prescribing modules:

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	169
Directed Learning	116
Private Study	115
Total Hours	400

Optional modules:

The module specifications for these will indicate the teaching and learning activities. There will be 200 hours of teaching and learning activity for each 20-credit optional module taken, if applicable.

A total of 1800 hours will be spent across the across the course.

Balance of Assessment

Core modules

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	75
Exam	0
In-person	25

There will be varied assessments required for the optional modules. The module specifications for these will indicate these assessments.