

## Course Specification

Course Summary Information			
1	<b>Course Title</b>		Postgraduate Certificate: Fundamentals of General Practice
2	<b>BCU Course Code</b>	<b>UCAS Code</b>	PT1724 / PT1726
3	<b>Awarding Institution</b>		Birmingham City University
4	<b>Teaching Institution(s)</b> (if different from point 3)		
5	<b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</b> (if applicable)		n/a

6	Course Description
	<p>If you work in general practice this course will equip you for the role and provide a solid foundation on which to further develop your career.</p> <p>The course will develop your clinical, academic and research skills and prepare you develop as a practitioner leading the delivery of quality care. You will focus on the health needs of the general practice population alongside the core skills required to work as part of the team in a general practice setting. This 12-month course is delivered over 32 study days at the University, alongside online activities, and a minimum of 30 hours of supervised practice with a practice assessor.</p> <p>Core skills, for example immunisation, cervical screening, ear care, wound care, contraception, and sexual health are covered in the first 20 credit module, <b>Core Skills for Working in General Practice: Caring across the Lifespan</b>. A focus on consultation and communication skills will develop your confidence in building rapport with people seeking care across the lifespan. The second 20 credit module <b>Long Term Conditions and Population Health</b> provides a comprehensive introduction to epidemiology, population health and the care of people with long term conditions. You will explore the impact of health inequalities on health outcomes. You will have the opportunity to learn about and practice motivational interviewing to support people through behaviour change. The third and final 20 credit module <b>Professional Issues and Quality Improvement for General Practice Nurses</b> will enable you to explore the general practice nurse role in the context of UK general practice services and appreciate the impact of policy on quality and the ethos of general practice. All 3 modules must be successfully completed to achieve the award.</p> <p>General practice is a rewarding and compelling environment in which to work, you have the privilege of caring for people from ‘cradle to grave’. You will engage with the communities and families you care for getting to know them over several years through many life transitions. Understanding these transitions and the needs of people at various stages of their life are threaded throughout the course. Your role being the prevention of ill health as well as empowering people to manage and live well with ill health. Yet general practice today is also a demanding and high-pressured environment to work in general practice nurses can feel isolated at times in comparison to working in a hospital setting. You will be consulting with large numbers of people and be under considerable time pressure. Therefore, managing your own stress, work-life balance and wellbeing is essential. You will be supported in developing your own strategies throughout the course to manage this and to be able to support others in your team. Communication, consultation, and time management skills underpin everything you do and there is a focus on this throughout the course. As your</p>

confidence and capability grow you will develop leadership skills based on current theory and thinking.

The course is delivered over 12-months with the three core modules delivered online synchronously via MS Teams. This means you will interact in real time with your fellow students and lecturer's, except for the ½ day cervical screening practical session which is delivered on campus. The 3 modules equate to 32 study days in total and in addition you will require a minimum of 40 hours of supervised practice in the workplace with a practice assessor. We have experienced lecturers with a background in primary care nursing supported by subject specialist lecturers. You will learn through a variety of methods including simulation, role play, debate, and case study approaches. Teaching is delivered online via MS Teams synchronously which means you will interact in real time with your fellow students and lecturers. Options for on-campus tutorials and skills sessions are offered for those who wish to take this up, but equivalent sessions will also be offered online. Your learning will be supported by a practice assessor and supervisors within your work setting and is an integral part of the course. The course team will support you and your assessor to create opportunities for you to develop in your role and successfully graduate from the course. You will be supported by a personal tutor from the teaching team throughout the course.

Students undertaking the level 6 and 7 versions of this course are taught alongside each other enhancing peer learning and interaction. As a student enrolling on this level 7 option, you will be expected to meet the QAA level 7 descriptors and produce work that draws on depth and breadth of reading, critical thinking, analysis of issues and the synthesis of concepts to produce novel and creative application of knowledge.

<b>7</b>	<b>Course Awards</b>		
<b>7a</b>	<b>Name of Final Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credits Awarded</b>
	Postgraduate Certificate : Fundamentals of General Practice	7	60
<b>7b</b>	<b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>		
	Not applicable		

<b>8</b>	<b>Derogation from the University Regulations</b>
	Not applicable

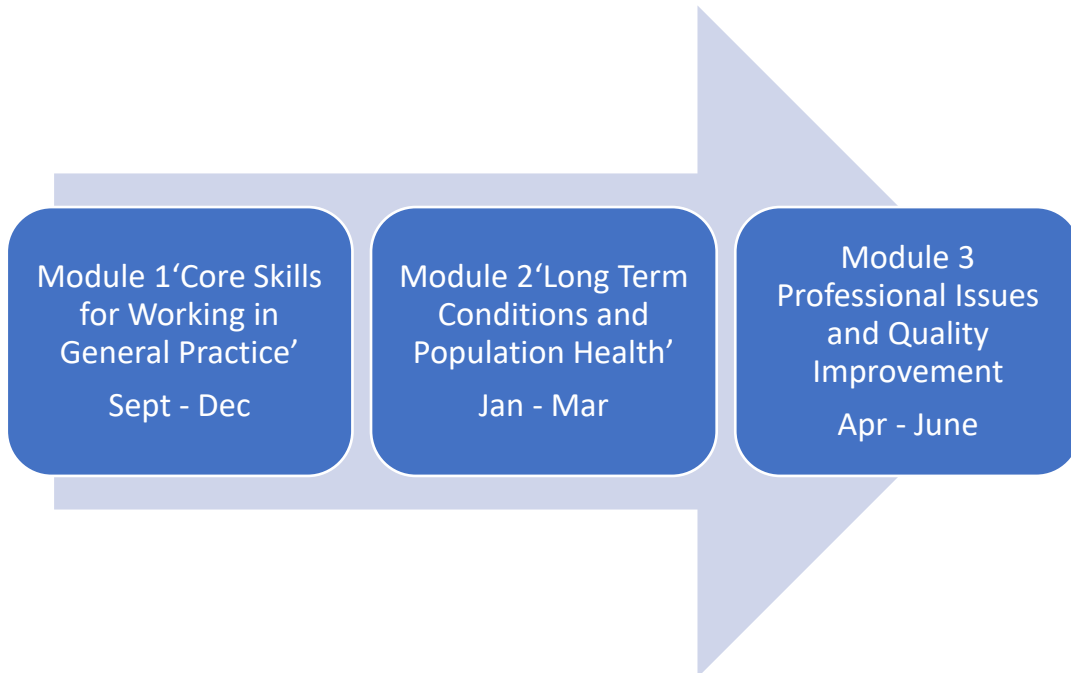
<b>9</b>	<b>Delivery Patterns</b>			
	<b>Mode(s) of Study</b>	<b>Location(s) of Study</b>	<b>Duration of Study</b>	<b>Code(s)</b>
	Blended	City South	1 year	PT1724 (Fee paying)
	Blended	City South	1 year	PT1726 (Contract)

<b>10</b>	<b>Entry Requirements</b>
<p>The admission requirements for this course are that the applicant must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be employed in the general practice setting for a minimum of 20 hours per week</li> <li>• Be a registered nurse with current NMC registration</li> <li>• Have a first degree or evidence of study at level 6 (to be discussed at application stage)</li> <li>• Have support from your employing practice</li> </ul>	

<b>11 Course Learning Outcomes</b>	
	Knowledge and Understanding
<b>1</b>	Apply an authoritative, conceptual awareness of the importance and purpose of primary care and its positioning within the wider NHS (National Health Service), demonstrating critical consideration of the impact and implementation of policy at local and national level.
<b>2</b>	To inform practice and produce solutions to complex practice issues through the interpretation and synthesis of research, identifying gaps in knowledge.
<b>3</b>	To make sound judgments regarding issues of equality, diversity, inclusivity, and safeguarding, in the delivery of care
<b>4</b>	Creatively apply clinical judgment using psychological theories, and enhanced communication skills to enable and empower people to improve, maintain or recover their health and wellbeing.
<b>5</b>	Critique quality improvement theory in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of access and continuity of effective person-centred care
<b>6</b>	Lead the innovative delivery of services through conceptual understanding of leadership and change management theory.
	Skills and other attributes
<b>7</b>	To apply enhanced communication and consultation strategies to creatively deliver effective person-centred care for physical and mental health problems across the lifespan.
<b>8</b>	Engage with and lead the interdisciplinary team in collaborative working with individuals, carers, families, community, and voluntary organisations to influence delivery of care.
<b>9</b>	Evaluate own learning and development needs and demonstrate insight into own performance as well as acting as a role model for others.
<b>10</b>	To exercise initiative and personal responsibility for the management of stress and maintain personal wellbeing.

<b>12</b>	<b>Course Requirements</b>		
<b>12a</b>	<b>Level 7:</b>  <i>To complete this course a student must successfully complete all the CORE modules (totling 60 credits):</i>		
	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Name</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>
	TBC	Core Skills for Working in General Practice: Caring for People across the Lifespan	20
	TBC	Long Term Conditions and Population Health	20
	TBC	Professional Issues and Quality Improvement for General Practice Nurses	20

## 12b Structure Diagram



## 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
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- *Private Study* includes preparation for exam

### Workload

#### Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours	Percentage
Scheduled Learning	192	32%
Directed Learning	128	21%
Private Study	280	47%
<b>Total Hours</b>	600	100

The balance of assessment by mode of assessment is shown below.

**Balance of Assessment**

<b>Assessment Mode</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	