Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science
2	**Course Code**	US1004
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	As above
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	Health and Care Professions Council

6	**Course Description** (Marketing text for website)
	The BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science degree will develop your theoretical knowledge and practical skills within both the university and clinical practice environment. To be a paramedic you must be able to overcome challenges, show initiative and demonstrate critical thinking. This course will equip you with the skills and knowledge required to rise to these challenges, whilst developing your communication skills and knowledge. All modules provide a balance between theory and practical application and provide the opportunity for you to reflect and apply context in clinical practice placements. This course is designed to be a catalyst for students to apply for registration with the HCPC and develop a successful career as a paramedic. **What's covered in this course?** To be a modern paramedic, you must overcome challenges, show initiative and demonstrate critically adaptive thinking, excellent communication skills and medical knowledge as the first point of contact in care provision for patients in stressful situations. Becoming a professional modern Paramedic you'll need to be able to think critically, react appropriately in challenging and stressful situations, have effective communication skills and also have the knowledge and skills to deliver health care across the life span. You need to be able to do all of this whilst demonstrating empathy and care towards your patients and ensure your values and professional behaviour meet those required of HCPC to become a modern paramedic. You will also become an effective member of the Paramedic profession by developing your medical and healthcare knowledge as well as clinical decision making skills and focusing on high quality patient centred health care. This will prepare you with the many possible career opportunities for the modern paramedic across settings such as clinical practice, education or research settings. **Where will I study?** You will study in our recently extended £71 million City South Campus, with access to cutting edge facilities and equipment that will enhance your skills learning. You will have access to advanced simulation facilities and environments that can re-create an emergency setting, allowing you to develop your hands-on skills right here on campus too. Our unique facilities are also useful to support you with any questions or queries before starting you real-life work placements.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Bachelor of Science with Honours in Paramedic Science	Level 6	360 +clinical placement
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Certificate of Higher Education Studies in Health Care	Level 4	120 credits
	Diploma of Higher Education Studies in Health Care	Level 5	240 credits
	Bachelor of Science Studies in Health Care	Level 6	300 credits
	Bachelor of Science with Honours in Health Care (where zero credit practice modules are not successfully completed)	Level 6	360 credits

8	Variation from the University 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**	**Code(s)**
Full time		City South Campus	3 years	US1004

10	Entry Requirements	
	Home:	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website
	EU:	
	International:	
	Access:	

11	Course Aims
	This course aims to modernise Paramedic Practice education and widen participation through inclusivity, giving the student the confidence to enter the pre-hospital care workforce with the knowledge, skills and behaviour required as an HCPC registered Paramedic to work in the Ambulance Service and many other healthcare settings.

12	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
1	Develop sound academic knowledge by becoming critical, rational and innovative thinkers
2	Recognise the need to be critically reflective utilising wide ranging contemporary knowledge which is evidence based
3	Ensure the need to practice in a non-discriminatory manner, understanding the impact of equality and diversity on practice

	Skills and other attributes
4	Be a competent and autonomous practitioner who is able to deliver high quality patient care that is evidence based to all patient groups
5	Possesses excellent communication, team working and leadership skills to promote multiprofessional working
6	Gain and apply skills, knowledge, behaviours, attitudes and attributes required for successful working in the prehospital and alternative working environments

13	**Level Learning Outcomes**
	Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, students will be able to:
1	Demonstrate the knowledge of underlying principles of professional and safe patient care
2	Demonstrate the understanding and ability to communicate with service users and colleagues to ensure safe and effective patient care
3	Demonstrate an understanding of the human body, it's functions and deviation from the norm
4	Demonstrate effective academic writing at level 4
	Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, students will be able to:
1	Understand the importance of evidence-based practice and utilize the evidence to support research planning
2	Explore the pathophysiology of a range of conditions and apply these principles to differing age and diverse service user groups
3	Demonstrate knowledge, skills and behaviour towards autonomous practice
4	Show critical thinking skills within academic writing
	Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelors Degree, students will be able to:
1	Demonstrate autonomous and safe clinical practice using critical thinking, decision making and alternative pathways
2	Analyse evidence underpinning leadership, management and paramedic practice
3	Undertake an independent substantial piece of academic work demonstrating analysis, argument and criticality of a chosen subject

14	**Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy**
	The learning, teaching and assessment methods have been designed to respect the diversity of the student, enable participation and encourage engagement throughout the course to enhance the student's experience and employability. **Learning and teaching** A variety of learning and teaching methods will be utilised across all 3 years to allow the student to fulfil their potential and learn theoretical aspects of paramedic practice alongside developing decision making skills. This will include blended learning of formal lectures, simulations and scenario-based experiences, clinical workshops, keynote lectures, case study learning, inquiry based learning and self-directed study. Teaching and learning is also supported by BCU's VLE (Moodle) as well as secure online communication platforms such as Microsoft Teams. **Assessment** Assessments have been designed to be inclusive and varied to enable the students to engage and achieve. Work will be assessed using a mix of methods such as written exams, oral presentations, written assignments and clinical skills assessments. The range of assessment methods is chosen to not only indicate a level of achievement but also develop and demonstrate

a range of skills transferable to the modern healthcare environment. This includes reflection, oral and written communication, confidence and competence in care delivery and the ability to research, appraise and evaluate evidence.
Formative learning allows for feedback as part of a continuous process and the learner will be provided with opportunities for formative learning. Examples of formative learning is Moodle quizzes, draft written work, practice of practical assessments and assessment plans.

Assessment

Students will have the opportunity to attend a range of clinical placements to meet the Standards of Proficiency required by the HCPC upon registration. The core placement will be with West Midlands Ambulance Service, with alternative placements used to support and strengthen learning. Alternative placements may include:

- Care homes
- Hospice care
- Prisons
- A&E
- Theatres
- GP surgeries

The student will have the opportunity to learn with and from other professional colleagues and will be allocated the relevant level of supervision aligned to the year group. In the first year, the learner will receive guided participation under direct supervision moving to achieve participation with minimal guidance in the second year. In the final year, the learner will practice independently with minimal supervision. The clinical practice assessment will be undertaken by practice educators.

15	**Course Requirements**

15a **Level 4:**

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PAR4033	Introduction to assessment and management of the emergency patient	40
PAR4034	Introduction to prehospital care	20
PAR4036	Principles of Human Anatomy and Physiology	20
PAR4037	Professional standards for student paramedics	20
PAR4035	Person centred approach to patient care	20
PAR4032	Clinical practice placement (1)	0

Level 5:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value

PAR5033	Clinical progression in paramedic practice	40
PAR5036	Human Body Systems Homeostasis, Dysfunction, and Clinical Application	20
PAR5034	Compassion across the life course	20
PAR5037	Integrating evidence into practice	20
PAR5035	Health Inclusion in Paramedic Practice	20
PAR5032	Clinical Practice placement (2)	0

Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PAR6030	Self-directed research study	40
PAR6025	Advanced clinical assessment and decision making	20
PAR6026	Applied pathophysiology and pharmacology in paramedic practice	20
PAR6028	Effective Leadership and management	20
PAR6029	Paediatric and Maternity Care in Paramedic Practice	20
PAR6027	Clinical Practice Placement 3	0

15b	Structure Diagram

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
PAR4034: Introduction to prehospital care (20 credits) PAR4036: Principles of Human Anatomy and Physiology (20 credits)	PAR4037: Professional standards for student paramedics PAR4035: Person centred approach to patient care
PAR4033 Introduction to assessment and management of the emergency patient (40 credits) PAR4032: Clinical Practice placement (1)	

Level 5

PAR5034: Compassion across the life course (20 credits) PAR5036: Human Body Systems Homeostasis, Dysfunction, and Clinical Application (20 credits)	PAR5037: Integrating evidence into practice (20 credits) PAR5035: Health inclusion in paramedic practice (20 credits)
PAR5033 Clinical progression in paramedic practice (40 credits) PAR5032: Clinical Practice placement (2)	

Level 6

Core PAR6026: Applied pathophysiology and pharmacology in paramedic practice (20 credits) PAR6025: Advanced clinical assessment and decision making (20 credits)	Core PAR6028: Effective Leadership and management (20 credits) PAR6029: Paediatric and maternity care in paramedic practice (20 credits)
PAR6030: Self-directed research study (40 credits) PAR6027: Clinical Practice placement (3)	

16	Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Level 4

Workload

13% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	152
Directed Learning	582
Private Study	466
Total Hours	1,200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	50%
Exam	17%
In-Person	33%

Plus clinical practice documentation

Level 5

Workload

12% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	146
Directed Learning	464
Private Study	590
Total Hours	1,200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	33%
Exam	33%
In-Person	34%

Level 6

Workload

9% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	108
Directed Learning	222

Private Study	870
Total Hours	1,200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	20%
Exam	40%
In-Person	40%