

## Programme Specification

MSc/PGDip/PGCert Advancing Healthcare Practice

ADHOCPLS

MSc Advancing Healthcare Practice  
PGDip Advancing Healthcare Practice  
PGCert Advancing Healthcare Practice

PPTZADVHCPFM  
PPTZADVHCPFD  
PPTZADVHCPFC

**For students entering in September 2018**

**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	Up to 72 months
Accreditation	n/a
Programme Start Dates	September

### Programme information and content

The aim of the Advancing Healthcare Practice programme is to equip healthcare practitioners with the core skills they require to provide patient care in a practice setting. The majority of modules within the programme are mapped to relevant competency frameworks which provide students with a means of demonstrating workplace based competence.

The programme is based on a philosophy of student led, practitioner centred, workplace based learning. Practitioners are expected to take responsibility for managing their learning and achieving the programme objectives. The ethos and culture of the programme is to enhance and develop self-reliance and an independent approach to learning in support of continuing professional development.

The programme is formed of a flexible, modular approach, allowing students to determine the specific curriculum that they require to meet the programme aims.

### Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

#### Compulsory Modules for Masters:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PMM1RM	Research methods	20	7
PMM2RP	Research project	40	7
PMM3PP	Professional practice portfolio	0	7

**Compulsory text:**

The remaining credits will be taken from the list of optional modules from a list available from the CIPPET programme administrator, subject to agreement by the Programme Director. Students will not be permitted to use academic credits from modules with substantially similar content to count towards a single qualification.

**Part-time or flexible modular arrangements**

The programme is delivered as a part-time modular programme to deliver a total of 180 credits for the Masters award. One academic credit represents 10 hours of participant effort spent on learning activities, which includes all forms of study, taught contact time, preparation of assignments, revision and assessment. The taught and research components of the programme are intended to fit within the participant's existing workload with additional study as required. The programme is delivered in a part-time modular approach integrated into the practitioners' existing employment. From an HEI perspective they are only required to attend facilitated learning sets, tutorials and/or assessments as determined by the module descriptor

**Additional costs of the programme**

This programme requires students to accumulate 120 taught credits in addition to completing the compulsory Research Methods and Research Project. The current fees for modules delivered by the University of Reading are stated on the CIPPET website. In addition, students may RPL credits from other institutions subject to the guidance provided on the CIPPET website.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2018.

**Optional modules:**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

**Placement opportunities**

Participants will be able to undertake the project module at any approved training centre, dependent on appropriate supervisory arrangements being in place. Each student will have a Project Learning Needs Assessment, any placement out with the student's normal workplace will need approval by the Programme Director.

**Teaching and learning delivery:**

The teaching is organised in taught modules, portfolios and a workplace based research project module. Taught modules may involve a combination of lectures, tutorials, workshops, seminars, practical sessions, delivered as blended learning including face-to-face teaching and distance learning where appropriate to learning outcomes. Students will have appropriate one to one support from a supervisor during the MSc research project.

Total study hours for the taught element of your programme will be 180 hours. The contact hours for this element will depend upon your module combination. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description

**Accreditation details**

Not applicable

**Assessment**

Assessment methods used will be according those stated in the module descriptors to align to the learning outcomes. These may include coursework assignments, essays, case studies, oral presentations, written examinations, clinical examinations (including OSCEs) and oral examination (including presentations and viva voce). Most modules will be underpinned by maintenance of a portfolio of evidence which will enable students, and academic tutors, to monitor their progress across the programme as a whole.

**Progression**

Students may study for modules and certificates of completion where they do not complete sufficient academic credits to gain an exit award. Students will normally study all modules at the University of Reading, however, students who have obtained academic credits at another institution can apply for recognition of prior learning (RPL) for contribution towards the programme. Students who return to complete the programme outside the six year timeframe can apply for RPL to present their reasons why they think their previous work is still valid to be counted towards a higher award. Students who wish to apply for recognition of prior experiential learning (RPEL) should discuss this with the Programme Director.

**Postgraduate Diploma in Advancing Healthcare Practice**

To progress to the Postgraduate Diploma students need to obtain a total of 40 academic credits at level 7, and a total of 20 credits at level 6 or level 7 from the programme content modules, with no module mark below 50%. Alternatively students can transfer to the Postgraduate Diploma if they have achieved a pass in the Postgraduate Certificate in Pharmacy Practice or Postgraduate Certificate in Independent Prescribing for Nurses and Pharmacists. Students who have passed the

Graduate Certificate in Independent Prescribing for Nurses can only count 20 credits of this programme towards this award.

### Masters in Advancing Healthcare Practice

To progress to the Masters students need to obtain a total of 90 academic credits at level 7, and a total of 30 credits at level 6 or 7 from the programme content modules, with no mark below 50%. Students can include academic credits from the Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma in Pharmacy Practice, Postgraduate Diploma in Physician Associate and the Postgraduate Certificate in Independent Prescribing for Nurses and Pharmacists within the progression requirements. Students who have passed the Graduate Certificate in Independent Prescribing for Nurses can only count 30 credits of this programme towards this award.

### **Classification**

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

#### **Mark Interpretation**

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

#### **Failing categories:**

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

### For PG Certificate in Advancing Healthcare Practice

To qualify for the award of Postgraduate Certificate, students must achieve an overall weighted average of at least 50% or more in 40 credits (level 7) and 20 credits (level 6 or 7), with no module mark below 50%. The Postgraduate Certificate is awarded on a Pass / Fail basis only.

### For PG Diploma in Advancing Healthcare Practice

To qualify for the award of Postgraduate Diploma, students must achieve an overall weighted average of at least 50% or more in 90 credits (level 7) and 30 credits (level 6 or 7), with no module mark below 50%. Students who gain a weighted average of 70% or more will be eligible for the award of a Distinction. Students who gain a weighted average of 60% or more will be eligible for a Merit.

### For Masters in Advancing Healthcare Practice

To pass the Masters students must gain a mark of at least 50% for 120 credits of qualifying modules, of which at least 90 credits are at level 7, and at least 50% in modules PMM2RP and PMM1RM. Students who gain a weighted average of 70% or more over 180 credits, and a mark of 60% or more for the research project, will be eligible for the award of a Distinction. Students who gain a weighted average of 60% or more over 180 credits, and a mark of 50% or more for the research project, will be eligible for a Merit.

### Alternative exit awards

The title of the final MSc award may depend on the entry route.

Students who have a PG Diploma in Physician Associate and who meet the requirements for award of the Masters in Advancing Healthcare Practice, may choose to be awarded a Masters in Physician Associate studies.

Students who have a PG Certificate in Foundation Pharmacy Practice and a PG Certificate in Independent and Supplementary prescribing for Pharmacists may choose to be awarded a PG Diploma in Pharmacy Practice (prescribing).

Students who have a PG Diploma in Foundation Pharmacy Practice, or who have a PG Diploma in Pharmacy Practice (prescribing), may choose to be awarded a Masters in Pharmacy Practice.