

Programme Specification

PGCert Pharmacy Practice (part-time)

PPTZPHAPRAHC

For students entering in 2022/23

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

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|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Awarding Institution | University of Reading |
| Teaching Institution | University of Reading |
| Length of Programme | PGCert Pharmacy Practice (part-time) - 18 months |
| Accreditation | Royal Pharmaceutical Society |
| Programme Start Dates | PGCert: November and PGDip: May and November |

Programme information and content

The aim of this programme is to equip practitioners with the core skills and competencies they require to provide pharmaceutical care in a practice setting.

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 has a strong practice focus and will emphasise and develop practitioner's skills in communication with patients and other healthcare professionals, medicines management and clinical decision making. The programme uses the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Foundation Pharmacy Framework to underpin practitioner development throughout the programme with the emphasis placed on students working within their level of competence.

The programme is formed of compulsory and optional modules as detailed below. Students can discuss opportunities to transfer their learning to the MSc in Advancing Healthcare Practice programme for a more flexible learning pathway for the PGDip award.

Module information

The programme comprises of up to 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules

Compulsory modules

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|--------|------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|
| PMMFP2 | Introduction to Postgraduate Pharmacy Practice | 60 | M |

Optional modules

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|
| PMMDP1 | Introduction to evidence-based medicine | 20 | 7 |
| PMMDP2 | Introduction to audit, service evaluation and quality improvement | 20 | 7 |
| PMMDP3 | Introduction to change management in healthcare | 20 | 7 |
| PMMP1 | Preparing to prescribe for pharmacists | 20 | 7 |
| PMMIP2 | Independent and Supplementary Prescribing for Pharmacists | 40 | 7 |

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme is delivered as a part-time approach to deliver a total of 60 credits for the PGCert and 120 credits for the PGDip. 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 integrated into the practitioners' existing employment. Students may need to study PMMP1 and PMMIP2 concurrently, even if this means being awarded more than the 120 credits required for the award.

Additional costs of the programme

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost of £0.05 per page.

As part of ensuring the safety of students, patients and the public, some students will be required to undergo police (Disclosure & Barring Service). The initial DBS check costs approximately £50-55.

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 2021.

Optional modules

In the second part of the programme student can choose to study from three modules aimed to develop practice based leadership and management skills focused around using evidence, monitoring services and managing change.

There is the option to include the prescribing qualification in the second part of the programme, subject to meeting admissions criteria. Students may need to study PMMP1 and PMMIP2 concurrently, even if this means being awarded more than the 120 credits required for the award, but they can discuss opportunities to transfer their learning to the MSc/PGDip/PGCert in Advancing Healthcare Practice which is a flexible modular programme allowing individualised learning pathways using a mixture of optional and compulsory modules.

Placement opportunities

To study on this programme students need to be in existing healthcare employment. There are no HEI organised opportunities for study abroad or placements.

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Teaching and learning delivery

The 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 support in their workplace from workplace based supervisors, including practice supervisors, educational supervisors, educational programme directors, and where completing the prescribing qualification their Designated Prescribing Practitioner.

The contact hours for this programme are stated in the relevant module description. 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

This programme is accredited by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. As registered healthcare professionals with the General Pharmaceutical Council, students are expected to maintain behaviours associated with their professional code of conduct (Standards for Pharmacy Professionals) and must abide by University regulations, including the Fitness to Practice policy. Deviation from these standards may lead to the instigation of University Academic Misconduct and/or Fitness to Practice processes. Students are required to inform the Programme Director of any change in circumstances that may affect their ability, or suitability, to continue their studies.

Assessment

Assessment methods used will be according those stated in the module descriptions to align to the learning outcomes. These may include a professional portfolio, essays, case studies, oral presentations, written examinations, clinical examinations (including OSCEs), oral examinations (including presentations and viva voce), and supervised learning in practice.

Progression

Students must complete PMMFP1 to be able to progress to the other modules. Students who transfer their learning to credit bearing modules via the MSc in Advancing Healthcare Practice programme may be required to meet conditions for enrolment.

Classification

The following provide a classification guide for each module with the final degree classification being determined in accordance with the procedures of the University of Reading which can be found in full at:

<http://www.reading.ac.uk/web/FILES/exams/PGclassification-post-2008.pdf>.

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 Pharmacy Practice

PMMFP2

To qualify for the award of Postgraduate Certificate, students must achieve a pass in each assessment component marked as pass/fail, and at least 50% in each assessment component marked at level 7, for a total of 60 credits. The Postgraduate Certificate is awarded on a pass/fail basis only.

For PG Diploma in Pharmacy Practice

PMMFP2

Plus three from PMMDP1, PMMDP2, PMMDP3 or PMMPP1

To qualify for the award of Postgraduate Diploma, students must achieve a pass in each assessment component marked as pass/fail, and at least 50% in each assessment component marked at level 7, for a total of 120 credits. To qualify for a Distinction, students must gain an overall average of 70% or more over 120 credits; to qualify for Merit, students must gain an overall average of 60% or more over 120 credits.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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12 August 2021

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