



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Centre for
Health & Social Care Studies
And
Service Development.

Postgraduate Diploma In Nursing Studies.

Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Studies



This innovative and challenging two-year full-time programme gives graduates the opportunity to qualify as an Adult Nurse. The programme is 50 per cent theory and 50 per cent practice and students can negotiate their own learning package within a multi-disciplinary environment. The course will develop you as a professional and competent practitioner, and you will learn clinical and health care management skills and gain a critical understanding of policy, theory and the health care evidence base.

Why Choose Nursing?

Nursing offers one of the most rewarding of careers in the public sector. Newly qualified nurses earn a competitive salary (around £20,000 pa) and benefit from a career structure that can lead to high levels of responsibility and remuneration. For example, you could earn nearly £33,000 pa as a Nurse Team Leader, and £64,000 as a Nurse Consultant. Nursing also offers one of the best possible final salary pension schemes available with a tax-free lump sum and a pension based on your salary at retirement. Graduate nurses are well placed to secure employment and gain promotion, and as a registered adult nurse, you would be able to work in areas such as acute and critical care, public health and primary care, rehabilitation, continuing care with older people as well as medical and surgical environments.



The School of Nursing and Midwifery

The School of Nursing and Midwifery is one of five schools within the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health and this course is well positioned to offer shared learning and development alongside students in different health care professions. The School has a long and successful history in the delivery of both pre-registration and postgraduate programmes and is rated among the top four nursing schools in the UK for research. The School has well established links with local health providers and a successful track record in co-ordinating high quality practice placements for students. We also offer an extensive range of postgraduate and continuing professional development courses to support the career progression of qualified nurses, including a programme which allows you to top up your diploma to a masters degree. This is currently fully funded if you work for the NHS in Yorkshire and the Humber or East Midlands.

The Course

Theory Component

The programme is built around four units of study, with each Unit organised around four key themes:

Units of study

1. Foundations of nursing
2. Patients with acute needs
3. Patients with long-term care needs
4. Transitions to practice

Key themes



The box below summarises some of the topics you would cover:

Year 1

- The nursing process
- Medicines administration
- Normal and abnormal physiology
- Microbiology
- Pharmacology
- Inequalities in health
- Culture, beliefs and values
- Primary Health Care
- Care pathways
- Communication
- Partnership working, user and carer perspectives and inclusion
- Reflective practice

Year 2

- Meeting health needs in diverse populations
- Disability and long term conditions
- Death, dignity and dying well
- Theories of care
- Physiological process of chronic illness
- Risk assessment
- Patient safety
- Organisations and leadership
- Infection management
- Supervisory skills and mentorship
- Service improvement

Teaching methodology

The programme uses a **problem based learning (PBL)** approach which encourages meaningful learning and team working. You will also be able to access on line learning resources through the University's virtual learning environment where students engage in a range of on line collaborative activities and discussions. Throughout the course, you will experience inter-professional learning alongside medical students.

Practice component

You will spend 50 per cent of your time in a clinical practice setting, (with particular emphasis on primary care) and each unit of study includes a practice placement within a local NHS Trust. You will experience one placement in each of the following environments: surgical; medical; community; long term and continuing care. Practice placements will provide you with the opportunity to relate theory to practice and to develop your skills, knowledge and attitudes. All students are allocated a personal tutor, clinical programme mentor and a placement assessor. You will meet each of these staff on a regular basis at pre-arranged times, providing an opportunity to discuss your academic and clinical progress.





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Entry Requirements

- A first degree of at least 2:2 classification or above in a cognate academic discipline. These would normally include social, behavioural and human sciences and health and social care related degrees. Graduates from other back grounds and will be considered, accounting for their individual knowledge, skills and previous work and life experience. Experience of education or study within the last 5 years is preferred.
- GCSE English, Mathematics, also Science at grades A*-C.
- Numeracy at level 2 in the National Qualifications Framework.

As well as GCSEs, we also accept:

- Open College Network GCSE mathematics equivalence
- Key Skills level 2 application of number
- Evidence of studying access credits in mathematics or numeracy at level 2 or above
- The National Test in Numeracy, level 2
- Satisfactory Occupational Health and Criminal Record checks
- Insight into the nature of nursing and health care provision and the role of the nurse.

Fees and bursary

The fees for this programme are paid by the government and you can apply for a bursary for the duration of the course.



Contact Details

For more information about the course, our Open Days or how to apply, please contact:

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