

COMMUNITY HEALTH

continuing professional education
flexible undergraduate and postgraduate courses



University of Brighton

Continuing Professional Education



The continuing professional education (CPE) division of the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Brighton offers a wide range of contemporary courses, modules and pathways for nurses, midwives and other health professionals who wish to develop their professional practice and academic careers in community settings.

The School of Nursing and Midwifery is one of the largest in the university. An important provider of nursing and midwifery at all academic levels, we pride ourselves on creating a school environment that is supportive and enjoyable for all our students and teachers.

Why study with us?

We provide high quality teaching and research with a strong professional and applied focus for practitioners and researchers in health at every stage of their professional lives.

Our courses:

- are regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) where appropriate;
- develop your professional skills and effectiveness in a supportive learning environment;
- have an excellent record for producing skilful, well-educated practitioners;
- enhance your capacity to respond to health care requirements;
- encourage creativity in your career development;
- offer flexible routes including accreditation of prior and experiential learning, recognition of work-related learning and work-based learning;
- enable you to network with other health professionals;
- encourage you to explore research opportunities.



Career Opportunities

Our community health courses will enable you to develop your community practice. Specific preparation for a career in health visiting, school nursing, district nursing and general practice nursing is available.

Facilities in an outstanding location

Courses are predominately taught at the university's attractive Falmer campus, located on the edge of the South Downs National Park, on the outskirts of Brighton.

Staff and students have access to Falmer library, computer pool rooms, a media centre, a sports centre and sports facilities, a restaurant and two. The Students' Union run a shop and café.

Our state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Laboratory is used to teach physical assessment and other skills to specialist practitioners, and our new community flat includes two-way mirrors and observation rooms for students to practise scenarios in a community setting.

Careers, counselling, wellbeing and student advice, volunteering, disability and dyslexia, and chaplaincy services are available on campus.

Inter-professional Learning (IPL)

Our postgraduate community health courses are part of the Graduate Programme in Health and Social Sciences (GPHSS) which allows students to choose from modules in a wide range of healthcare and social science related disciplines. This gives professionals from different disciplines an opportunity to learn from and about each other in order to improve collaborative practice in the workplace.

The Community Health MSc is attractive to international students.

Specialist Community Public Health Nursing

BSc(Hons) and MSc / PG Dip

Course overview

These courses aim to prepare specialist community public health nurses who are responsive to the needs of various client groups across different settings for public health practice. The settings offered at the University of Brighton include the health visiting and school nursing fields of practice.

Public health roles are diverse and these courses allow you to gain appropriate knowledge and skills. Student and service need is considered and linked meaningfully with individual learning pathways. Use of a personal / professional development plan (PDP) from the initial interview, and throughout your course, helps to bring these elements together, providing links with the existing knowledge and skills framework (KSF) requirements, and providing evidence of employability on completion of your course.

An exciting variety of learning approaches is utilised, accommodating a wide range of preferred learning styles. A period of consolidation of practice at the end of your course allows further opportunity for integration of theory and practice and development of your role.

Course Structure

You are allocated a practice placement by your employing trust, and are assigned a practice teacher (and mentor where appropriate) to support your learning in practice. You will undertake a period of alternative practice when you spend a week in another context that is of demonstrable value to your role.

Mandatory modules within the courses cover public health, capacity building for early interventions and developing leadership skills to manage change.

The courses take an individualised approach to planning with each student through the Personal/Professional Development Plan (PDP) and learning contracts that are agreed between the student, university and employer. Modules will allow you to focus your practice assignment work on areas of value to your role.

You are required to be working in practice for 15 hours per week and there will also be weekly blocks of practice distributed throughout the programme.

Course Duration

Full-time: 1 year
Part-time: 2 years

Areas of study

A central feature of these courses is shared learning between the community nursing specialities so that the benefits of developing intra-professional collaboration can be enhanced. At masters level, learning is shared with students from other disciplines, and, where possible, other professions.

In addition to the core modules mentioned, you can choose from a wide choice of optional modules allowing you to study topics of personal and professional interest.

Core modules

BSc(Hons)	MSc / PG Dip
Capacity building for early intervention	A critical approach to capacity building for early intervention
Practising public health	Critical approach to practising public health
Developing practice: the challenges of change	Transforming practice: the challenges of change
Work-based learning project	Research methods Using research evidence in practice
Safeguarding module or optional module	
BSc achieved	PG Dip achieved
	Dissertation – leads to full MSc upon successful completion

Professional accreditation

Successful completion of these courses means that graduates are enabled to meet the ten key areas of public health practice required for second level registration as a Specialist Community Public Health Nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

Career and progression opportunities

Most graduates work within the NHS in health visiting or school nursing teams. The context of public health practice both within and outside the NHS is constantly changing and opportunities for innovative approaches to service provision exist.

Entry Requirements

Requirements are:

- active registration as a nurse or midwife with the Nursing and Midwifery Council
- normally, evidence of study in the last five years

For BSc

- evidence of ability to study at level 6

For MSc / PG diploma

- a first degree in a health related subject is required, normally at 2:1 or above

Applicants are short-listed and subsequently interviewed jointly by academic staff and employers.

Community Specialist Practice

BSc(Hons) and MSc



Course overview

The aim of these courses is to prepare community specialist nurses who are responsive to the healthcare needs of various client groups across different settings. They will be equipped to meet the four broad areas of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Standards for Specialist Education and Practice (2002), with the ability to assess and solve problems collaboratively and to promote social inclusion within changing healthcare environments.

The pathways offered at the University of Brighton include:

- General Practice Nursing
- Nursing in the Home / District Nursing.

An exciting variety of learning and teaching strategies are utilised including action learning sets and work-based learning. You need to be highly motivated and be prepared to actively engage with all aspects of your learning.

Community Specialist Practice provides the opportunity to gain both a professional qualification and an academic award at undergraduate degree or masters level.

Core modules

BSc(Hons)	MSc / PG Dip
Developing practice: the challenges of change	Transforming practice: the challenges of change
Work-based learning project	Research methods Using research evidence in practice
Nurse prescribing from the Community Nurse Prescribers Formulary (DNs only)	
Optional Modules	
120 level 6 credits to achieve BSc	120 level 7 credits to achieve PGDip
	Dissertation – leads to full MSc upon successful completion

Course structure

You are allocated a practice placement by your employing trust, and are assigned a practice teacher (and mentor where appropriate) to support your learning in practice. You can undertake a period of alternative practice and spend a week in another context that is of value to your role.

A central mandatory module within these courses relates to developing and leading practice – an essential skill for specialist practitioners.

An individualised approach to planning the course is taken with each student through the Personal/Professional Development Plan (PDP) and learning contracts that are agreed between the student, university and employer. Modules will allow you to focus your practice assignment work on areas of value to your role.

Course Duration

Full-time: 1 year

Part-time: 2–5 years

Areas of study

A central feature of these courses is to ensure shared learning between the community nursing specialities so that the benefits of developing intra-professional collaboration can be enhanced. Learning is shared with students from other disciplines and, where possible, other professions.

Optional Modules

You can choose from a wide choice of optional modules allowing you to study topics of personal and professional interest.

Professional accreditation

On successful completion of this course you will have your professional pathway award recorded by the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Career and progression opportunities

Most graduates work within the NHS in a variety of community nursing and primary care settings. The context of practice both within and outside the NHS is constantly changing and opportunities for innovative approaches to service provision exist.

Entry Requirements

Requirements are:

- active registration as a nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Council
- normally, evidence of study in the last five years

For BSc

- evidence of ability to study at level 6
- a minimum of 6 months experience is required

For MSc/PG diploma

- a first degree in a health related subject is required, normally at 2:1 or above and a minimum of six months post-registration experience.

Applicants are short-listed and subsequently interviewed jointly by academic staff and employers.

How to apply

- Specialist Community Public Health Nursing BSc(Hons) and MSc
- Community Specialist Practice BSc(Hons) and MSc

Applying for a course

Selection for these courses is undertaken jointly by the university and the NHS Trust you would like to sponsor you. You will need to fill in two application forms

1. The application to the NHS Trust will be available through the NHS jobs website www.jobs.nhs.uk usually in January or September each year.
2. The application to the university will be available through the School of Nursing and Midwifery website www.brighton.ac.uk/snm at the same time.

Applying for a single module

For BSc(Hons)/level 6 modules, visit www.brighton.ac.uk/snm/courses/post-reg/apply and follow the single module application process.

For MSc/level 7 modules, visit www.brighton.ac.uk/gphss and complete the single enrolment application form.



Fees and funding information for the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing BSc(Hons) and MSc, and Community Specialist Practice BSc(Hons) and MSc courses can be found on page 07.



Community Health MSc

Community Health and Education MSc

Community Health and Management MSc



Course overview

The aim of these courses is to support students interested in, or working in community health, who wish to address inequality, promote social justice and positively transform community health and social care. They are suitable for those wishing to develop an operational or strategic role in community health, or to specialise in a particular area of practice. They are especially suitable for qualified community nurses, midwives, paramedics and allied health professionals.

Our community health courses are informed by a critical public health approach. They explore the politics of community health and the theoretical underpinning of collaboration, partnerships and leadership.

There is an emphasis on solution-focused and strengths-based approaches to community health and wellbeing - working with people to build capacity and develop assets for health. It examines the role of culture and contemporary health discourses to explore the implications of these views for collaborative working practices, and health and wellbeing.

By the end of these courses you will have a critical understanding of the economic, political and ethical factors influencing the delivery of contemporary health care in the community and the principles and politics underpinning collaborative working and how to enhance service development and change, in partnership with service users and carers.

Course structure

You choose to study for either the postgraduate diploma (PGDip) or MSc award. The PGDip is made up of six 20-credit modules and the MSc is made up of six 20-credit modules plus a dissertation.

You normally start by taking two core modules plus one research module, along with three options chosen from our Graduate Programme in Health and Social Sciences (GPHSS) that are relevant to your interests or role.

For the education route, option choices must include two or three education-related modules. For the management route, options must include three management-related modules.

Modules run at different times throughout the year. Most modules run intensively over a short period of time, but some run extensively. Teaching is mostly at our Falmer campus but some modules may also take place on one of the other university campuses and also online.

If you wish to study for the full masters award, you then complete a dissertation (60 credits). There is no practice placement or a requirement to complete practice assessments.

Course Duration

Full-time: 1 year
Part-time: 6 years

Core modules include:

- Collaboration in Community Health
- Culture, Community Health and Wellbeing

Plus one research module from:

- Qualitative Research
- Taking Research Forward in Health and Social Care
- Research Theory and Practice

Optional modules allow you to study topics of personal and professional interest and develop your understandings of research, education theory and practice, or management and leadership. Options could include public health, change management, leadership and safeguarding.

Professional Accreditation

These courses do not lead to a professional registration with a recognised professional body nor do they offer students employment whilst studying or on completion.

Career and progression opportunities

These courses will allow you to develop your understanding of community health policy, politics and practice in the UK in statutory and non statutory health and social care settings, and will enhance the development of either operational or strategic roles in community health.

Entry Requirements

Applicants should normally possess two or more of the following

- a good honours degree (normally first or 2:1) from a UK educational institution or equivalent recognised award from an overseas institution
- recent professional qualifications and relevant experience, normally recognised registration or recordable qualification
- directly relevant experience which will normally mean work that is recent (within the last five years), and has been based in health or social care, or engaged in community health-related, or voluntary sector settings. Applicants will need to demonstrate an ability to study and write at level 7
- a clear rationale and interest for personal and professional development in community health, and a commitment to masters level study.

Claims for the Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning (APeL) will be considered.

If you are unable to meet the above requirements, you may be able to register for a standalone module.

Students who are successful studying one module and are awarded credits may then be eligible, after consultation with the course leader, to enrol for further modules and the course.

How to apply for Community Health (MSc)

Applying for a course

To apply for a course visit www.brighton.ac.uk/gphss, and search for the course in your chosen area of study by clicking on the relevant school link, then follow the online application instructions. Once you have submitted your online application it will be forwarded to the relevant school.

The school will then contact you to inform you whether you will be invited for an interview. If you are successful at the interview stage you will be given a conditional or unconditional offer and further instructions regarding enrolment.

Applying for a single module

To apply for a single module visit www.brighton.ac.uk/gphss and complete the 'single enrolment application form'.

Once complete, return it to the following address:

The Graduate Programme in Health and Social Sciences
Faculty of Health
University of Brighton
Room 336
Mayfield House
Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9PH

Or email gphss@brighton.ac.uk

Careers advice service

To discuss your options contact the relevant course leader, and for further advice on our Graduate Programme contact: 01273 642060 or email gphss@brighton.ac.uk

Fees and funding for all courses

Undergraduate and Postgraduate

Tuition fees and the kind of funding available depend on a number of factors, including which course you take and your chosen mode of study. Many organisations support their professionals; if for example you work for an NHS trust, your module costs may be covered via the Health Education Contract (HEC).

Information on fees are available on request, please contact our marketing and admissions team, fees@brighton.ac.uk, for further details.

Other students fund themselves and for this reason we keep module and course fees as low as possible and we can phase payment arrangements for individuals.

A discount is available for students who have studied at the university before. Please see the fees and funding section at www.brighton.ac.uk/money for details on eligibility and further information.

You may also email if you have a specific fee enquiry.

Further Information

For further information, please visit the School of Nursing and Midwifery, continuing professional education section of our website www.brighton.ac.uk/snm/courses/post-reg.

The GPHSS student guide also provides essential information about the Graduate Programme and frequently asked questions can also be found at: www.brighton.ac.uk/gphss.

**This publication is
available in alternative
formats on request.**

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**Specialist Community Practice Health
Nursing, and Community Specialist
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