

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Institute of Health		
Course Code(s):	AH001T01UV	Full-time	4 Years
UCAS Code:	B952		
Course Title:	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science with Foundation Year		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Science with Honours Paramedic Science with Foundation Year Bachelor of Science Prehospital Studies Diploma of Higher Education Prehospital Studies Certificate of Higher Education Prehospital Studies Foundation and Preparatory Studies Prehospital Studies University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	01/Apr/2020		
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:	2019/0		
Course Specification valid to:	2020/1		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Miss Suzy Paget
Head of Department:	Mr Peter Gregory

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

Distinctive Features of the Course:

- The Foundation Year programme has been designed to prepare you for studying at undergraduate level and to support you to develop the required skills and knowledge to transition effectively into Level 4 study.
- On successful completion of Year 1 (foundation year) you will be guaranteed a place on the 3 year HCPC approved BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science programme.
- Opportunities for inter-disciplinary learning are embedded in all 4 years of the programme which is vital for employment within the increasingly integrated health and social care arena.
- The course benefits from significant input from the University's Service User Group who comprise of either recipients of health care or carers. Members of the group work with the academic team to ensure students gain insight into patient and carer perspectives and to support the development of core skills (such as communication).
- A friendly, helpful and student focused team of academic and administrative staff.
- Module teaching teams who are subject specialists with extensive experience working within the health care arena.
- Placement opportunities in Years 2,3 and 4 within a range of different settings.
- Visiting and honorary lecturers from health care related fields who bring contemporary and real-world examples of practice into the classroom.
- Links and knowledge from local, national and international research initiatives undertaken in the Institute of Health and the wider University research institutions.

Starting degree level study can be a daunting prospect. The BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science (with Foundation Year) is designed to help you to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to succeed in your studies with the University of Wolverhampton at degree level and beyond. During your Foundation Year you will develop skills appropriate to University such as finding and using information, working collaboratively with others, challenging and debating ideas and expressing yourself with greater confidence. The foundation year will also develop your knowledge in areas linked to your course, such as understanding the Human Body and contemporary health and social care. We hope the Foundation year helps you to become familiar with University life, develop the skills to support you across the three years of your BSc degree and to feel at home on campus.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Once you have completed the foundation year, the BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science course will enable you to develop the knowledge and skills to provide safe, competent and effective paramedic practice and apply for professional registration with the Health and Care Professions Council to practise as a paramedic in a variety of health and social care settings.

The overall aims of the BSc (Hons) Paramedic course are to:

1. Facilitate the development of autonomous, accountable, reflective practitioners committed to continuing professional development and life-long learning.
2. Develop compassionate practitioners with excellent interpersonal and communication skills and focusing on the delivery of person-centred care through mutually agreed goals.
3. Allow students to develop as enquiring practitioners with excellent skills of clinical judgement, who are able to assess, implement, evaluate and inform paramedic practice across the lifespan and in a diversity of settings.
4. Provide students with practice learning opportunities, working within inter-professional teams in a variety of health and social care settings.
5. Allow students to critically analyse the complexity of professional, ethical and legal frameworks and their impact on decision making.
6. Allow students to develop a wide range of transferable skills including the ability to investigate and apply research evidence, leadership and management skills and information technology skills.
7. Allow students to critically analyse the wider political, cultural, economic and social context of health and social care provision.
8. Facilitate the development of practitioners as change agents, able to respond to a changing and dynamic practice environment, safely and effectively treating and managing patients, with a wide range of conditions.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
3ED002	Preparing for Undergraduate Study	40	YEAR	Core
3ED003	Valuing the Self & Others	20	SEM1	Core
3HW003	Perspectives on Health and Well-being	20	SEM1	Core
3ED004	Interprofessional Working	20	SEM2	Core
3HL007	An Introduction to the Human Body	20	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4HW073	Foundations of Communication and Professionalism	20	SEM1	Core
4HW072	Effective Learning, Research Methods and Evidence Based Practice	20	SEM1	Core
4HW074	Foundation Sciences Underpinning Paramedic Practice	20	INYR	Core
4HW075	Foundation Skills for Paramedics	40	INYR	Core
4HW076	Foundation Clinical Practice	20	YEAR	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 3

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5HW068	Skills for Paramedic Practice	20	SEM1	Core
5HW071	Paramedic Management of Patients with Mental Ill-health and Cognitive Impairment	20	SEM1	Core
5HW072	Leadership and Clinical Decision Making	20	SEM2	Core
5HW073	Obstetrics and Paediatrics for Paramedic Practice	20	SEM2	Core
5HW069	Sciences Underpinning Paramedic Practice	20	INYR	Core
5HW070	Clinical Practice II	20	INYR	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 4

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6HW131	Physical Assessment and Management of Urgent Conditions	40	SEM1	Core
6HW132	Paramedic Care for a Person with a Long-term Condition	20	SEM1	Core
6HW133	Clinical Practice III	20	YEAR	Core
6HW134	Independent Study Project	40	YEAR	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Section 1.3.1 - Exemption to exceed normal module credits within the standard University Framework allowing for the use of some 40 credit practice and theory modules.

Section 1.2.3 - Exemption for delivery outside the standard University Academic Calendar, including Year Long modules, to enable students to complete the required hours for practice.

Section 4.3.5 - Exemption in accordance with the standards of proficiency required by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). There will be no right to repeat practice modules.

Section 4.4.3 - Exemption in accordance with the standards of proficiency required by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). No compensation will be awarded on practical or theoretical modules but students will be granted the opportunity of a third attempt at levels 4, 5 and 6 (except on practice modules and independent study modules) in accordance with thresholds stated in Section 4.4.4 of the Academic Regulations. For practice modules, provided students have passed the practice component, they will be granted the opportunity of a third attempt in the theory component only.

Section 4.5.1 - Exemption requiring students to pass all modules before progressing to the next level of study.

Section 5.10.1 - Exemption from conferring an aegrotat award. Students must successfully complete all summative assessment tasks and pass all modules in order to receive their qualification although this may be conferred posthumously by exception.

Approved by AFRSC.

Reference Points:

Academic

University of Wolverhampton Strategic Plan (2012 – 2017)

University of Wolverhampton examination regulations (2013)

University of Wolverhampton under-graduate taught regulation (2012 onwards)

QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/FHEQ/EWNI/default.asp>

QAA The Quality Code (2013)

QAA Code of Practice for the Assurance of Academic Quality & Standards in Higher Education & SEEC Level Descriptors (2006)

QAA Benchmark Statements – Paramedic Science (2004)

Professional

HCPC Standards for Education and Training (2012)

HCPC Standards of Proficiency for Paramedics (2014)

The College of Paramedics Curriculum guidance (2015)

Health and Care Professions Council Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics (2016)

Other External References

Equality Act (2010).

Learning Outcomes:

Foundation Course Learning Outcome 1 (FYRCLO1)

Develop an independent, reflective and self-managed approach to study.

Foundation Course Learning Outcome 2 (FYRCLO2)

Utilise skills appropriate for study in Higher Education.

Foundation Course Learning Outcome 3 (FYRCLO3)

Apply new approaches to learning, study and finding information.

Foundation Course Learning Outcome 4 (FYRCLO4)

Describe your existing transferable skills and new skills and how these may be developed.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (CHECLO1)

Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (CHECLO2)

Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (CHECLO3)

Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (CHECLO4)

Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (CHECLO5)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (DHECLO1)

Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of your area(s) of study, and of the way in which those principles have developed with an understanding of the limits of your knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (DHECLO2)

Demonstrate the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (DHECLO3)

Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the subject(s) relevant to the named award, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (DHECLO4)

Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (DHECLO5)

Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 6 (DHECLO6)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment, requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making and undertake further training, developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations.

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 1 (ORDCLO1)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects of their field of study, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of defined aspects of a discipline

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 2 (ORDCLO2)

Accurately deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry within their chosen discipline

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

Demonstrate a conceptual understanding that enables the student: A. to devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems, using ideas and techniques, some of which are at the forefront of a discipline. B. to describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research, or equivalent advanced scholarship, in the discipline

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 4 (ORDCLO4)

Demonstrate an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

Manage their own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources (for example, refereed research articles and/or original materials appropriate to the discipline).

Honours Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

Provide research and evidence based paramedic care that is safe, effective and ethical; assume full professional autonomy and accountability for your practice as a paramedic within the legal framework of the country in which you are employed.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 2 (DEGCLO2)

Critically analyse the legal and ethical dimensions of paramedic practice

Honours Course Learning Outcome 3 (DEGCLO3)

Evidence competence in the fundamentals of assessment skills, clinical reasoning and a repertoire of safe, effective prevention and treatment skills underpinned by a sound understanding of biological, physical, and behavioural sciences.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 4 (DEGCLO4)

Demonstrate effective communication strategies with other health care professionals, and with individuals across the lifespan in diverse and multi-cultural health and social care settings

Honours Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

Formulate strategies for continuing professional development of self and others, evidencing an aptitude and enthusiasm for life-long learning through reflection and skills of analysis and enquiry.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 6 (DEGCLO6)

Apply leadership and management skills appropriate to the role and develop as an agent of change in order to enhance patient care and advance the paramedic profession.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
3ED002	Preparing for Undergraduate Study	FYRCLO1, FYRCLO2, FYRCLO3, FYRCLO4
3ED003	Valuing the Self & Others	FYRCLO1, FYRCLO2, FYRCLO3, FYRCLO4
3ED004	Interprofessional Working	FYRCLO1, FYRCLO2, FYRCLO3, FYRCLO4
3HL007	An Introduction to the Human Body	FYRCLO1, FYRCLO2, FYRCLO3, FYRCLO4
3HW003	Perspectives on Health and Well-being	FYRCLO1, FYRCLO2, FYRCLO3, FYRCLO4
4HW072	Effective Learning, Research Methods and Evidence Based Practice	CHECLO1, CHECLO5
4HW073	Foundations of Communication and Professionalism	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO4, CHECLO5
4HW074	Foundation Sciences Underpinning Paramedic Practice	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO5
4HW075	Foundation Skills for Paramedics	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4, CHECLO5
4HW076	Foundation Clinical Practice	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4, CHECLO5
5HW068	Skills for Paramedic Practice	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
5HW069	Sciences Underpinning Paramedic Practice	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO5
5HW070	Clinical Practice II	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5HW071	Paramedic Management of Patients with Mental Ill-health and Cognitive Impairment	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5HW072	Leadership and Clinical Decision Making	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
5HW073	Obstetrics and Paediatrics for Paramedic Practice	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
6HW131	Physical Assessment and Management of Urgent Conditions	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6HW132	Paramedic Care for a Person with a Long-term Condition	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6HW133	Clinical Practice III	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6HW134	Independent Study Project	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO5

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

From levels 3-6 you will experience a range of different teaching, learning and assessment activities; these include lectures, seminars, debates, problem-based learning, problem-solving, small group learning sets, formative and summative assessment tasks, on-line activities, written essays, tutorials, independent research, video analysis, visits and case study analysis. You will be expected to take responsibility for your own learning throughout the course with the amount of independent work increasing over the four years. The practical elements are taught mainly by lecture/demonstration/simulated learning supported by blended learning opportunities, which are then reinforced by placement opportunities. IT is integral to the teaching and learning strategies and includes discussion boards, formative on-line assessment and the use of interactive software during lecture presentation.

Lectures: You will experience a variety of lecture formats. Both teacher and student centred lectures are encouraged. Within the lecture, time will be provided where you are encouraged to be interactive with lecturers to aid clarification and extension of your knowledge and understanding. All lecture material will be supported by digital technology to enhance learning, and will be made available for you to access independently throughout Canvas, which is the University's virtual learning environment (VLE).

Seminars: These are educational opportunities to extend and deepen your understanding of topics covered in a module. In some seminar forums you will be encouraged to take the lead in discussing relevant articles, policies and the theoretical and evidence base that underpins the module.

Simulated learning: A wide variety of simulated learning will be available to enable students to practice in near to real life situations in relation to paramedic practice. Opportunities will be available through the use of contemporary technology for students to review and critique their own actions during such exercises and critically evaluate the experience to aid future development.

Workshops: Workshops will allow you to develop skills of interaction and critical debate with a wide variety of academic staff and students, they are essential to developing skills for inter-professional working in health care and paramedic practice.

Debate and dialogue: These learning activities are integral to lectures and seminars. The University's virtual learning environment provides a forum for you and your colleagues to engage in dialogue with each other as well as with academic staff.

Formative on-line assessments: Here opportunities will be provided for you to 'have a go' at some summative assessment tasks before the actual (graded) assessment is submitted. This will develop your academic and practical skills through face to face tutorial guidance and on-line feedback.

Peer-presentations: You will be required to study some aspects of specific modules independently and feedback your findings to the wider group, which allows you to further develop your academic skills and critical approach.

Tutorials: Face to face meetings with Module Leaders, the Course Leader and your Personal Tutor aim to enable the tailoring of academic, personal and professional advice to meet your individual needs.

Placements: During Years 2, 3 and 4 you will be expected to meet the requirements of the proposed clinical practice hours via a range of clinical placements. These will take place in a variety of settings and may require considerable travel to and from these locations away from the university. Specific information will be available in the BSc Paramedic Science course placement handbook which will be made available to you at the commencement of Year 2 (the first year of the BSc Honours Paramedic Science programme).

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)

Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)

Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

General University Support:

The University Libraries are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide

physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Our libraries also provide access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases. The University Libraries are also home to the Skills for Learning programme. The programme provides a wide range of resources and support for students, ranging from workshops and on line guides to one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. For the full range of help and advice see: <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills-for-learning/>

The University Student Support website offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc.

Course Specific Support:

- The level 3 modules are designed to prepare you for, and facilitate your progress into study at Level 4.
- You will be allocated a Personal Tutor
- You will be allocated an Academic Coach, and Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) will provide extensive support if needed (at levels 3 and 4).
- Specific assessment support will be factored into each module.
- If you have disabilities and/or specific learning difficulties you can gain a wide range of support from Student Support and Well Being.
- Higher Education academic skills will be embedded throughout the curriculum.
- You will be allocated a supervisor for your final year project.

Employability in the Curriculum:

There are an increasing number of paramedic roles within both the public and private sectors across the UK. Currently, most graduates of paramedic programmes tend to apply for their first post within an NHS Ambulance Trust but wider opportunities are available. Increasingly, paramedics are to be found working for institutions other than ambulance Trusts, such as Minor Injuries Units, Out of Hours GP providers, Walk-In Centres, Custody Suites, Event Medicine, Remote Medicine, and various private health providers, both in the UK and abroad. There is also a growing body of Research Paramedics who are helping to strengthen the evidence-base that the profession relies upon to guide its practice.

