Course Specification

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Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Wolverhampton School of Sciences		
Course Code(s):	BM048F31UV	Part-time	3 Years
Course Title:	Foundation Degree (Science) Healthcare Science (Biomedical Science)		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Foundation Degree (Science) Healthcare Science (Biomedical Science)		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	05/Jun/2018		
Last Review:	2018/9		
Course Specification valid from:	2018/9		
Course Specification valid to:	2023/4		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Elizabeth O'Gara
Head of Department:	Dr Elizabeth O'Gara

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 Degree in Biomedical science is delivered by the Department of Biomedical Science and Physiology which has an established reputation for excellence in the field of healthcare science. This is a stimulating and flexible course that allows you to combine theoretical learning with essential work-based study. Studying at the University on a part-time basis, it allows you to develop in your pathology laboratory position, and gain skills highly relevant to the workplace.

This Foundation Degree is intended to provide Assistant Practitioners with the necessary academic skills that underpin their career in pathology and laboratory medicine. You will have the opportunity to learn and apply the skills and knowledge you have acquired in the work place as an integrated element of the programme. Undertaking this course will give you the opportunity to develop your competencies in the theoretical and practical knowledge required to carry out standard laboratory tests in your NHS laboratory.

Successful completion of the course will enable you to explore further education and career opportunities, allowing transfer onto a related degree programme.

Educational Aims of the Course:

This course will be delivered using a mixture of work-based learning and university taught modules covering a wide range of subjects in the Biomedical disciplines such as; human structure and function, biochemistry and cell biology, microbiology and the principles of disease investigation in the Biomedical science specialist areas .

The course aims to equip you with essential study skills for higher education learning, provide you with the underpinning scientific subject knowledge required for the biomedical science subject area, nurture your practical skills relevant to the pathology and laboratory medicine and will enable you study a multitude of different diseases including presentation, diagnosis and treatment.

This courses also aims to develop your professional practice, raising awareness of your professional role, the regulatory professional bodies and you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your development of professional practice within the workplace

Achievement of this course will allow you entry onto the Biomedical Science degree which together with the completion of the IBMS registration portfolio can lead to career progression to the position of a Biomedical Science practitioner.

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
2017/8	H	Part Time	£3780.00
2017/8	EU	Part Time	£3780.00
2019/0	H	3PTF	£3967.00
2019/0	EU	3PTF	£3967.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Part-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4BC005	Biochemistry for Life Science	20	SEM1	Core
4BM035	Introduction to Microbiology (Distance learning)	20	SEM2	Core
4BM027	Cell Biology	20	SEM2	Core
4BM037	Biomedical Science Skills (Work Based)	20	SEM1	Core

September (Part-time)

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5BM074	Principles of Disease Investigation in Medical Microbiology (work-based)	20	SEM1	Core
5BM070	Principles of Disease Investigation in Cellular Pathology (work-based)	20	SEM2	Core
4BM036	Biology of Disease (Distance learning)	20	SEM2	Core
4BM016	Human Form & Function	20	SEM1	Core

September (Part-time)

Year 3

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5BM076	Principles of Disease Investigation in Clinical Biochemistry (work-based)	20	SEM2	Core
5BM073	Principles of Disease Investigation in Haematology (work-based)	20	SEM1	Core
5BM077	Work Based Portfolio (Biomedical Science)	20	YEAR	Core

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits from the linked (*) groups.

*** For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 20 credits**

Please select either 5BM075 or 5BM071 depending on your specialism.

5BM075	Principles of Disease Investigation in Immunology (work-based)	20	SEM1	

*** For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 20 credits**

Please select either 5BM075 or 5BM071 depending on your specialism.

5BM071	Principles of Disease Investigation in Genetics and Genomics (work-based)	20	SEM2	

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:

None

Reference Points:

Quality Code - Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards. Including :

Qualifications Frameworks

IBMS criteria and requirements for the Accreditation and Re-accreditation of BSc (Hons) degrees in Biomedical Science (January 2017)

HCPC Standards of Proficiency - Biomedical Scientists (2014)

QAA Characteristics Statements Foundation degree 2015

Credit Frameworks

QAA Biomedical Science Subject Benchmark Statements 2015

Quality Code - Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act (2010)

Learning Outcomes:

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (CHECLO1)

Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles of underpinning science subjects for biomedical science, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of this area of study

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CertHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (CHECLO2)

Gain knowledge and experience of practical procedures in science subjects that underpin biomedical science and demonstrate your ability to analyse data and interpret results.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (CHECLO3)

Describe your professional role and responsibilities and be aware of the professional and regulatory bodies relevant to your workplace

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CertHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (CHECLO4)

Communicate the results of your studies accurately and reliably, with structured and coherent arguments

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Foundation Course Learning Outcome 1 (FDCLO1)

Gain knowledge and critical understanding of the established principles in biomedical science, and understand the limits of your knowledge

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Foundation Course Learning Outcome 2 (FDCLO2)

Gain knowledge of practical procedures in the main biomedical science disciplines and demonstrate competent practical skills, an awareness of quality procedures and your ability to analyse data, interpret and discuss results

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Foundation Course Learning Outcome 3 (FDCLO3)

Reflect upon your professional development and responsibilities and demonstrate appropriate professional behaviour in your pathology laboratory

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Foundation Course Learning Outcome 4 (FDCLO4)

Develop effective communication skills in a variety of forms and for a range of audiences.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
4BC005	Biochemistry for Life Science	CHECLO1
4BM016	Human Form & Function	CHECLO1
4BM027	Cell Biology	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO4
4BM035	Introduction to Microbiology (Distance learning)	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO4
4BM036	Biology of Disease (Distance learning)	CHECLO1, CHECLO4
4BM037	Biomedical Science Skills (Work Based)	CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4
5BM070	Principles of Disease Investigation in Cellular Pathology (work-based)	FDCLO1, FDCLO2, FDCLO3, FDCLO4
5BM071	Principles of Disease Investigation in Genetics and Genomics (work-based)	FDCLO1, FDCLO2, FDCLO3, FDCLO4
5BM073	Principles of Disease Investigation in Haematology (work-based)	FDCLO1, FDCLO2, FDCLO3, FDCLO4
5BM074	Principles of Disease Investigation in Medical Microbiology (work-based)	FDCLO1, FDCLO2, FDCLO3, FDCLO4
5BM075	Principles of Disease Investigation in Immunology (work-based)	FDCLO1, FDCLO2, FDCLO3, FDCLO4
5BM076	Principles of Disease Investigation in Clinical Biochemistry (work-based)	FDCLO1, FDCLO2, FDCLO3, FDCLO4
5BM077	Work Based Portfolio (Biomedical Science)	FDCLO1, FDCLO2, FDCLO3, FDCLO4

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Learning Activities:

This course will be delivered at university, online and in the work-place using a diverse range of learning activities:

- Lectures (Face to face & online)
- Tutorials (Face to face & online)
- Self-directed study
- Workshops
- Case study exercise
- Webinars
- Group work
- Self-directed study
- Demonstrations
- Laboratory visit
- Reflective practice
- Presentations
- Work-based learning
- Work-based laboratory exercises
- Work-based Portfolio building

Assessment Methods:

Assessments will include a variety of formative and summative techniques. Students will be assessed by traditional university-based methods combined with assessment of competences by employers in the work place.

Assessments:

Portfolios built in the workplace will include witness statements, reflective reports, practical reports, poster, data analysis exercise, case study reports, line mangers reports, signed evidence of achievements forms.

Assessments completed at university will include coursework, practicals, tests, and exams.

These learning activities and range of assessments will provide the graduate with skills which will prepare them for their future role in the ever-changing workplace.

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:

University Learning Centres 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. Learning Centres also provide access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases.

Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the Skills for Learning programme. Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills

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

Students are allocated a personal tutor to offer support in their personal development and academic achievement throughout their award. Module leaders, teaching assistants and employers will provide advice on module content, learning activities and assessment tasks. Students will be able to consult with fellow students and members of staff through the Canvas topics, email and SAMS one to one appointments. For more general enquires the Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE) student services team is available in the MI Student Centre.

Support for learning is provided within classroom sessions, tutorials, portfolio building sessions, on line resources and delivery and workplace exercises and meetings with employers. Staff will provide formative assessment opportunities and feedback on performance on modules where possible to inform students of their progress and indicate areas for improvement.

Academics study skills are integrated into all the course modules, starting with an introduction to essential Biomedical Science Skills at the beginning of the award. Specific sessions are included to cover generic study skills as well as subject specific areas such as health and safety, professional practice, regulatory procedures and quality.

Students will have access to a collection of variety of learning resources in the Canvas topics including lecture notes, recorded lectures, worksheets, reading materials and set activities for each module.

Within the induction programme there will be dedicated face-to-face sessions for the use of IT services at the

university and details on how to contact and access centralised university support services.

Students will also be informed about the range of electronic study skills support available to them on a regular basis starting in the induction period, in one to one meetings and during the delivery of each module.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Employability skills are embedded within this foundation degree. This part-time work-based award has been designed to maximise learning opportunities within the work place and to give students an increased opportunity to reflect on their worked-based practice.

The University employability awards are embedded at the beginning of this award. The bronze and silver awards are completed by all students and encourage them to develop their CV at the start of their undergraduate study.

We have engaged employer representatives and used employer guidance documents during the review and design of this course to ensure employer-focused and relevant curricula. This will enable students to graduate with the skills and knowledge required for the workplace. A range of learning activities and assessments methods will be used to encourage the development of skills required in the workplace and practitioners from the NHS will teach on this award ensuring contextualisation of course content to the current practices in the workplace.