

Course Specification

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Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Institute of Health		
Course Code(s):	SH026P31UV	Part-time	1 Years
Course Title:	Postgraduate Certificate Commissioning for Health and Social Care		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Postgraduate Certificate Commissioning for Health and Social Care University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	01/Jun/2017		
Last Review:	2017/8		
Course Specification valid from:	2012/3		
Course Specification valid to:	2023/4		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Alexandra Birch
Head of Department:	Dr Julian Barratt

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)

Applicants for this course will normally hold a first degree or evidence of Level 6/7 study achieved at or above a minimum pass grade. However, applicants who have experience related to the areas of study will be considered eg. If currently working in commissioning.

If English is not your first language you will need evidence of TOEFL score of 550 or above; or an IELTS score of 6.0 or above; or evidence of English proficiency equivalent to these scores.

You may be eligible to apply for accreditation of prior experience and learning (APL) to be counted towards your studies up to a maximum of 90 credits.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This course aims to meet professional development needs in the field of commissioning for health and social care. There will be opportunities for multi-agency learning; which is vital to employment within the increasingly integrated health and social care arena.

- Development of a range of strategic skills to enable the use of action learning and reflection.
- A friendly, helpful and student-focused team of academic and administrative staff.
- The programme is delivered by subject specialists who are involved in significant advisory roles and research within commissioning health and social care locally, regionally and nationally, and who participate in national communities of practice, developing and sharing expertise across the UK.
- Links and knowledge from local, national and international research initiatives undertaken in the School of Health & Wellbeing and the wider University research institutions.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The MSc/PgD/PgC Commissioning for Health and Social Care aims to provide you with a master's level education in the concepts, theories, academic and practical skills that you will require to be an effective and efficient commissioner. The course offers a flexible approach to learning with options to study a module at a time or as a whole course allowing students to gain a PgC or PgD.

The course offers a range of learning options with face-to-face and on-line sessions using the latest technology and the latest blended learning techniques. This course can be completed in 2 years. It caters for professionals who may already be working in this field or those wishing to embark on a career in commissioning. The course will ensure you develop a sound knowledge of the current drivers for quality, financial efficiency and value for money. The course will enable you to understand the political environment in which public service commissioners work as well as the underlying principles and values within health and social care organisations. This course will enable you to apply these principles to your workplace and assist you to develop valuable skills in communication and strategic leadership. You will also develop a wide range of inter-personal skills for effective use in inter-agency working via work-based learning projects and assessments. This course will equip you with the necessary academic and practical skills to meet the current challenges of commissioning public services to improve the quality and responsiveness of service delivery against the background of financial constraints.

You may study either a Research Dissertation (60 credits) or work-based Consultancy Project which will be

negotiated by an employer or third party organisation where you may agree delivery parameters of a specific project carry out the required work and academically evaluate the process and outcomes or a more traditional research dissertation. This module consists of an independent study designed, planned and carried out by yourself (under the supervision of an experienced member of staff), written up into dissertation

You may study the course as a whole or as stand-alone modules and decide on your final award title of MSc Commissioning for Health and Social Care It is envisaged that this course will have two intermediate awards;

PgC Commissioning for Health and Social Care

PgD Commissioning for Health and Social Care.

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	Part Time	£2134.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Part-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7HW056	Theories and models of commissioning	20	SEM1	Core
7HW057	Applied Commissioning	20	SEM2	Core
7WB001	Work Based Learning Module 1	20	CRYRA	Core

September (Part-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7HW056	Theories and models of commissioning	20	IN YR	Core
7HW057	Applied Commissioning	20	IN YR	Core
7WB001	Work Based Learning Module 1	20	CRYRA	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:

None

Reference Points:

[QAA Master's Degree Characteristics March 2010](#)

[Health & Social Care Bill 2010-11](#)

[Statement of common purpose for subject benchmark statements for the health and social care professions 2006](#)

[QAA Subject Benchmark Statement Health Studies \(UG\)](#)

[QAA Subject Benchmark Statement Social Policy & Administration \(UG\)](#)

The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ) (second edition revised August 2008)

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/FHEQ/EWNI08/FHEQ08.pdf>

University of Wolverhampton equality and diversity action plan (2008)

University of Wolverhampton student voice (2007)

University of Wolverhampton learning and teaching strategy (2010-2012)

University of Wolverhampton general examination and assessment regulations (2010-2011)

University of Wolverhampton postgraduate academic regulations (2011).

Learning Outcomes:

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCLO1)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: 1. to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. 2. to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCLO2)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGCCLO3)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGCCLO4)

Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGCCLO5)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGCCLO6)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: 1. the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility 2. decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations 3. the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7HW056	Theories and models of commissioning	PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO5
7HW057	Applied Commissioning	PGCCLO1, PGCCLO3, PGCCLO4
7WB001	Work Based Learning Module 1	PGCCLO1, PGCCLO5, PGCCLO6

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

The learning activities which will support you in the achievement of the learning outcomes are wide and varied. The types of learning experiences which will help you achieve this include:

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 a module on VLE our virtual learning environment.

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 commissioning health and social care services. Opportunities will be available through technology for students to review and critique their own actions during such exercises and critically

evaluate the experience for future development.

Work Based Learning: The learning outcomes of which are developed via a tripartite negotiation between you, the university and your employer. The actual methods of achieving the learning will vary greatly but will always include personal tutor support.

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 and social care.

Debate and dialogue: These learning activities are integral to lectures and seminars. The University's virtual learning environment, VLE 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 feed back 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 Award Leader and your Personal Tutor aim to tailor academic advice to meet your individual needs.

Independent and self-directed learning: These are essential aspects of becoming a Master of your chosen field. Academics responsible for module delivery will ensure essential reading material is made known to you e.g. research studies and articles, chapters in books, whole books, policies and web based material. In each module there will be a degree of freedom for you to explore topics of your own choice in the context of the module specific learning outcomes. To achieve this you will be encouraged to seek out and review material additional to that recommended by module leaders to support your academic and professional development.

Master's Level Independent Research: The 60 credit independent study module can be selected from three options, either an evidence based practice module containing two major assessments, usually of relevance to your current workplace, a consultancy or the research Dissertation. This module consists of an independent study designed, planned & carried out by you, written up into a 15 - 20,000 word Dissertation.

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:

- Online resources for each module will be readily available through CANVAS
- Personal Tutorial support both online and face to face
- Dedicated award team
- Assessment of key study skills will be an integral component of each summative assessment in each module

- Face-to-face and on-line activities to promote study skills within module content and also links to various sources of study support via the Learning Centres 'Infobites' programme and its web pages http://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills_for_learning.aspx
- A Post Graduate student group will meet regularly to provide contact and support for post-graduate students conducting their own research studies
- Learning Information Services advisors offer individual support across our four campus learning centres including study skills advisors and on-line study skills.
- ASSIST at <http://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/contacts/assist.aspx> – provides real-time online librarian support
- The [Careers and Employment Services](#) team offering support in finding a part-time job or volunteering whilst studying and help in preparing for perhaps different work after study.
- Counselling offering a confidential space in which you can talk to a counsellor about your concerns. Personal appointments are available on all campuses; there is a drop-in service every weekday at City Campus and on online counselling is available at [Counseling Services](#)
- The student financial support unit at [money matters](#) can help students with advice on funds available to students.
- The student enabling service centre provides a comprehensive range of support for Deaf, Dyslexic and Disabled students including; screenings and assessments, guidance on gaining financial support, various support services and enabling technologies. They can be contacted at [students with disabilities](#).

Employability in the Curriculum:

Students will be able to seek employment in a range of health and social care organisations within the public and private sector in commissioning.



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