

# MSc ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE

## Institute of Health

<b>Academic Level:</b>	7	<b>Credits:</b>	180
<b>UCAS Code:</b>	Not applicable		
<b>Awarding Body:</b>	University of Cumbria		
<b>Delivery Site:</b>	Distance Learning		
<b>Programme Length:</b>	Standard Registration 3yrs (Maximum Registration 5yrs)		
<b>Mode of Delivery:</b>	Distance Learning		
<b>Pattern of Delivery:</b>	Part time		
	Total weeks of study:	108	
	Delivery pattern:	3 x 12 week	
	Standard semester dates:	No	
<b>PSRB:</b>	Not applicable		
<b>Programme Webpage:</b>	<a href="https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/advanced-clinical-practice/">https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/advanced-clinical-practice/</a>		

### Entry Criteria

The University's standard criteria for admissions apply. Please refer to the [Applicant Information](#) pages of the University website for more information. For [APL](#), please refer to the University website. Detailed criteria for admission to this programme can be found on the programme webpage.

The following additional requirements apply for entry to this programme:

A registered health care professional currently registered on their associated professional register.

Minimum 3 years post qualification experience.

You are required to have an educational supervisor to support your clinical learning and undertake practice assessments. This must be a GMC registered Doctor or a qualified ACP/ANP. Your place of work is subject to a self-administered educational audit of the learning environment.

Normally you must hold an Honours degree classification 2ii or above in a cognisant subject.

If you do not hold a 2ii Honours degree, you will be considered as a non-standard entrant. Standard University practice will be followed with respect to you, if you are without traditional entry requirements.

Non-standard entrants are required to demonstrate ability to benefit from and successfully complete the course. All non-standard entrants are interviewed. You will need to provide evidence of successful study at Level 6 (or equivalent) within the last 5 years.

If English is your second language you may be required to provide evidence of passing an International Language Testing System (IELTS) with a score of 7.0 with a mean score of 6.5 in all elements.

All applicants will be interviewed by a member of the Advanced Practice team; this interview will be conducted by teams or telephone.

The application must be supported by two references one of which must make reference to the applicant's professional competence. One referee must be the applicant's current employer.

Applicants must have support from employers to undertake this educational route.

It is expected that you will have in place a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. If an additional DBS check is required, it is the responsibility of the student or employer, to arrange for and fund this.

If you undertake a placement outside a Contract of Employment with the placement provider, there is an expectation that adequate arrangements for Indemnity Insurance will be in place, and this is your responsibility.

As well as standard Accredited Prior Learning (APL), we can offer APL for the following:

- If you have Non-Medical Prescribing at level 6, then under university regulations we can APL 20 credits into this programme.

- If you have Non-Medical Prescribing at level 7 and were awarded 40 credits or more, you will be able to APL a maximum of 40 credits.
- If you have Non-Medical Prescribing at level 7 and were awarded fewer than 35 credits you will be able to APL a maximum of 20 credits.

## PROGRAMME AIMS AND OUTCOMES

### Programme Aims

By the end of this programme you will be able to:

1. Develop a comprehensive and systematic knowledge and practical understanding of how techniques of rigorous enquiry enable the critical appraisal, interpretation and application of evidence as it concerns the field of advanced practice.
2. Critically evaluate modes of clinical decision making in the area of advanced practice and the impact and interaction of judgement and decision making in complex and unpredictable situations.
3. Critically appraise different models of leadership and management and apply them appropriately to enable advanced practice service development and improvement, demonstrating originality of thought and the development of strategic thinking in response to a changing and dynamic practice environment and to health and social policy.
4. Critically appraise a range of theoretical concepts and frameworks for collaborative working and therapeutic relationships (embracing equality and diversity), demonstrating mastery in their application and innovative approaches to multi-agency working in the arena of advanced practice, including user/carer engagement and team working.
5. Systematically review the complex nature of sociocultural, economic, political, technological, legal, professional and ethical concepts as they apply to the field of advanced practice.

### Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the core capabilities of the Multi-professional Framework for Advanced Practice (HEE 2017)

At the end of the programme, you will have demonstrated a systematic understanding and critical awareness of the following areas of practice that are fundamental to advanced practice.

#### **After 180 credits of study, you will be able to demonstrate**

- K1. The philosophical principles, theories and policy drivers that underpin advanced practice and the complexities of professional, ethical and legal perspectives.
- K2. Take a clinical history in complex situations, being systematic and creative and utilise physical examinations and diagnostic testing to enable safe problem solving, diagnostic reasoning and evidence based treatment planning.

- K3. Use complex reasoning, critical thinking, problem solving, reflection and analysis to inform your assessments, clinical judgements and decisions.
- K4. Use evidence based approaches and risk assessment in clinical decision making and be able to give a rationale for diagnosis and treatment.
- K5. The effect of pathophysiological, psycho-social and developmental factors upon disease presentation and management.
- K6. Theories and research to support innovative approaches to leadership and management and develop collaborative and effective working partnerships.
- K7. Develops self and others through education, research and the use of audit of their own and the practice of others.
- K8. Develops practices and roles that are appropriate to patient and service need through understanding the implications of and applying epidemiological, demographic, social, political and professional trends and developments.
- K9. Develops and utilises health promotion and disease prevention strategies and comprehensively assess patients for risk-factors and early signs of disease.
- K10. Working across professional, organisational and system boundaries and proactively develop and sustain new partnerships and networks to influence and improve healthcare outcomes.

### **Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes**

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

If you are successful at the end of the programme you will be able to:

- S1. Make rational and sound professional judgements and use a range of techniques in relation to the assessment of health needs of individuals.
- S2. Seek and critically evaluate evidence-based approaches to diagnostic interventions
- S3. Use models of leadership and collaborative working to effectively develop partnerships with individuals, families, groups, communities and agencies working together for health improvement.
- S4. Influence policy and advanced practice at local and regional level.
- S5. Demonstrate ability to systematically and holistically search for health needs at individual, family, group and community level.

- S6. Plan, deliver and evaluate evidence advanced practice interventions.
- S7. Demonstrate the use of effective interpersonal skills for the development of therapeutic partnerships with individuals, families, groups and communities in order to support and empower them in enhancing their health and well-being.
- S8. Use effective communication, negotiation and leadership skills in effective collaborative working with statutory, voluntary and private agencies.
- S9. Undertake health assessment, screening and surveillance with individuals, families, groups and communities for health protection, prevention of ill-health and to promote health and well-being.
- S10. Work always within professional, legal and ethical codes of conduct and frameworks for practice.
- S11. Work effectively within professional, ethical and legal frameworks, able to reflect upon own practice and that of others and take responsibility for own professional practice.
- S11. Work in effective partnerships with others, in a range of different situations and settings.
- S12. Use higher level communication skills that include verbal, non-verbal, written and electronic means to convey information.
- S13. Use proactive leadership, change and resource management skills, interacting effectively in teams.
- S14. Use information technology systems effectively to access, analyse and interpret data, research findings and the evidence base for advanced practice.
- S15. Manage complex situations, drawing upon and applying appropriate evidence-based tools and interventions.

**Programme Outcomes for Exit Awards After 60 credits of study AT LEVEL 7 (PGCert Healthcare) you will be able to demonstrate:**

Knowledge and Understanding K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K9

Skills and other attributes S1, S2, S6, S7, S9, S10, S11, S12, S14, S15

**After 120 credits of study AT LEVEL 7 (PGDip Healthcare) you will be able to demonstrate:**

Knowledge and Understanding K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K9,

Skills and other attributes S1, S2, S3, S4, S6, S7, S8, S9, S10, S11, S12, S14,

**After 120 credits of study AT LEVEL 7 (PGDip Advanced Clinical Practice) and completion of qualificatory practice unit you will be able to demonstrate:**

Knowledge and Understanding K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8 K9, K10

Skills and other attributes S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9, S10, S11, S12, S13, S14, S15

## PROGRAMME FEATURES

### Programme Overview

The MSc Advanced Clinical Practice programme aims to provide a robust and flexible post graduate framework for Nurses, Midwives, Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) and GPhC Professionals to advance their knowledge, understanding and skills in order to be responsive to the rapidly changing nature of healthcare and healthcare delivery in the 21st Century Interim NHS People Plan (2019). [Interim-NHS-People-Plan\\_June2019.pdf \(longtermplan.nhs.uk\)](#)

The advanced clinical practice programme encompasses the features of the Multi-professional Framework for Advanced Clinical Practice in England (HEE, 2017) <https://advanced-practice.hee.nhs.uk/multi-professional-framework-for-advanced-clinical-practice-in-england/> ensuring its' graduates are fit for purpose with achievement of these core capabilities and can practice at the required standard and level of advanced practice. The programme will develop your skills, knowledge and competence and capability through engagement with online learning as well as work-based learning within your own area of practice which will encourage the development of area specific competencies. Learning activities should be supervised by an educational supervisor with development of learning contracts to enable core competencies to be developed according to your individual learning needs as well as external placements where specific competencies cannot be achieved within your own workplace. This will ensure the full range of competencies/capabilities are achieved which will enhance your employability in the advanced practice healthcare arena.

Your programme will begin with a 3-day well-structured online induction and the length of your programme will be 3 years, unless you have Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) and then the length will be shorter dependant on the amount of APL you bring in. You will undertake 60 credits per year, which equates to one module per term. Each module has been designed to take you through the pillars of practice and build up your theoretical knowledge base alongside developing your clinical skills. You will soon see how your academic and workplace learning are woven into the programme to enable you to 'marry' together the new knowledge and clinical skills that enable you to become an advanced practitioner. We have used this interweaving of practice and learning for many years very successfully to enable you to become a competent advanced practitioner.

Normally masters programmes are 2 years long (D3.1 academic regulations). However, the nature and content of this programme requires delivery over 3 years.

Non-Medical Prescribing (NMP) is an inherent part of the advanced practice framework and therefore embedded as a separate programme into this Masters programme. In order to undertake the NMP programme, you must demonstrate you meet the relevant legal and professional statutory regulatory body (PRSB) criteria for entry to the programme and for eligibility for a prescribing role



on successful completion. You will also be required to demonstrate you are eligible to prescribe in accordance with UK legislation and be registered with the appropriate UK PRSB. For those professions who are yet unable to prescribe you will take 40 credits of optional modules in year 2 from a selection.

If you have been granted 20 credits of APL for NMP at level 6, then in year 2 you would be required to take a single optional module as NMP is 40 level 7 credits.

By studying on a distance learning programme, you have the flexibility to undertake the work asynchronously but within a set time frame. We purposefully ensure that we run your set tasks from mid-week to enable you to post at the weekends if this is more appropriate for you. You do not have to attend class on a regular basis, and this always proves to be beneficial to you and your employers. We are very flexible in our approach to your education and realise that sometimes you cannot always study continuously. If your circumstances change at any point in the programme and you are finding study difficult, we can allow you to take time out (intercalate) for a set period, and then enable you to re-join the next cohort. This is an option that some students have taken and have gone on to continue studies and graduate. This flexible approach to your studies can give you the time out you need without having to leave the programme.

You are required to be working a minimum of 30 hours per week in clinical practice and you must have an identified educational supervisor who can facilitate your learning within the workplace and who give you a minimum of 1 hour per week direct educational supervision. This is as well as the 64 supervised clinical practice hours per module that are linked to each of the first-year modules.

The University is not responsible for sourcing placements. Your workplace learning takes place within your employed area. If you and your employer must seek alternative placement then your employer is responsible for ensuring that all governance arrangements are in place, including honorary contracts.

You must have exposure to patients with undifferentiated conditions, exacerbations of conditions or complex and unpredictable needs to enable you to develop the range of capabilities required to become an advanced practitioner.

The programme team will need to have contact and discussions about your progress with your educational supervisors/lead ACP/Employer and, if funded, Health Education England faculty of advancing practice.

To be awarded the MSc Advanced Clinical Practice you must successfully complete the qualificatory practice unit. If you have exhausted all University attempts, then you would be awarded a PG Diploma in Healthcare.

You must always be cognisant of your codes of professional conduct as a registrant with a PRSB. These apply not only in the workplace but also within the educational setting.

Also, you are guided by the University Regulations appertaining to academic discipline and fitness to practice.

## Learning and Teaching

### Teaching

Academic learning will be facilitated through an online distance learning delivery, using a supported and facilitated approach that includes formative feedback. Teaching and learning within each module on programme is very structured, with the set tasks designed to build your clinical knowledge, challenge and promote your critical thinking as a diagnostician, and develop your digital capabilities alongside your academic writing skills. Through engaging with the module content, and discussion around the current discourse in the field of advanced practice, you will also see how health and health care are influenced by the wider complexities of sociocultural, economic, political, technological, legal, professional and ethical factors.

Each 20-credit module attracts 200 learning hours and more information on how these hours are used are available in the individual module descriptors. You will notice as you progress on programme that each module builds upon the preceding one in a cumulative manner that will build your knowledge and skills in the advanced practitioner role as you become part of an inclusive community of practice.

**In the first year** you have around 3 contact hours per week (36 per module). Your learning will be a combination of scheduled teaching and learning within the Blackboard virtual learning environment (VLE) and learning in clinical practice.

A typical pattern for **scheduled teaching and Learning** includes:

Week one - guided task work and feedback that develops your academic underpinning of advanced practice.

Week two - may focus upon a given problem-based learning task, linking the academic work to the workplace using 'patient presentations' and developing your anatomical and pathophysiological knowledge related to these alongside the relevant clinical management. This cycle continues over all the modules in the first year and includes other set methods such as discourse, case-based discussion and critical reflection-on and in-practice.

**In your clinical environment**, 64 supervised practice hours are required for each module and at least one hour per week with your educational supervisor. This will equate to 76 hours per module.

You will be expected to consult with patients with a range of differing conditions within your workplace under close supervision and undertake workplace assessments on a termly basis e.g. demonstration of practical skills (DOPs) for physical examination of specific physiological systems.

### **In the second year:**

Scheduled teaching and learning is 2 hours contact time per week (24 in total) for the Leadership module.

Again, 64 supervised practice hours are required for the module and at least one hour per week with your educational supervisor making a total of 76 hours. You will be consulting with patients and developing in the other 3 pillars of practice of clinical leadership, education and research, whilst developing your portfolio of evidence and undertaking the workplace assessments on a termly basis.

Non-medical Prescribing (NMP) sits within year 2 on programme as you are becoming more adept at undertaking patient histories and developing your diagnostic skills and confidence in role.

Becoming an independent prescriber allows you to increase your level of clinical autonomy and complete full episodes of patient care within your scope of practice. The schedule of teaching and learning for NMP is timetabled by that programme team.

Please note that if you are not taking Non-medical Prescribing, a detailed educational plan for the remainder of your programme will have already been set through discussion with your personal tutor or the Programme Lead.

### **In the third year:**

You will undertake a Service Evaluation Project which has 24 contact hours and further tutor support within this double module. This project has 12 weeks of online learning and then a further 12 weeks to undertake and present your project that includes up to 8 hours of individual tutor support and guidance.

Your final 20 credit module to complete the programme will be a choice module and the contact hours may vary here. Depending on your clinical workplace setting, the team will be able to advise you of the choices and which most suit your learning needs.

You will continue to have a minimum of 1 hour per week with your educational supervisor throughout year 3 to enable continued progress with your advanced knowledge and skills.

### **Independent Learning**

Throughout the programme, when you are not engaged in online activities you are expected to undertake extensive reading and research having identified gaps in your understanding and make the links to your area of practice. This process helps to develop you as an independent adult learner, capable of self-direction and supports the ethos of lifelong reflexive learning.

### **Teaching Staff**

All staff who teach on the programme have extensive backgrounds in advanced practice from a range of different professional practice settings.

## **Assessment**

Overview of the methods of assessment used on the programme within each year of study

### Year 1

HPHA7020 - patchwork Text

HPHA7021 - Case Study & Viva

HPHA7022 - Written assignment.

### Year 2

HPHA7023 - Poster presentation

Non-Medical Prescribing – see separate Programme Specification for this.

HPHA9007 - OSCE and Portfolio submission.

For those taking optional modules they are all written assignments.

### Year 3

HPHA7024 - Project.

All optional modules have written assignments associated with them

**Feedback:** The programme team make extensive use of rubrics in the marking of assignments. You will be able to see the rubric on each module you undertake.

The team use anonymous marking to reduce any marking bias that may occur.

The University has a 20-working day turnaround for marking.

You feedback will be collected through Gradebook.

All student assessment is subject to the University regulations.

## Graduate Prospects:

Following the programme, you will become an Advanced Practitioner within any healthcare setting and you will be in a senior role. Some of you may go on to undertake credentials within your area of speciality, either through the Royal College of Emergency Medicine or through the endorsed credentials from Health Education England.

You may wish to undertake further study at PhD Level or undertake a professional doctorate. You may also aspire to consultant level practice [Report template \(hee.nhs.uk\)](http://hee.nhs.uk)

## MODULES

Year 1			
Code	Title	Credits	Status
HPHA7020	Consultation, Examination and Clinical Decision Making in Advanced Practice	20	Core
HPHA7021	Clinical Decision Making: Improving Outcomes in Complex Patients	20	Core
HPHA7022	Analysing Research and Evidence to Inform Advanced Clinical Practice	20	Core
HPHA9007	Portfolio of Advanced Practice and Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE)	Qualificatory	Qual
<b>Students exiting at this point with 60 credits would receive a Post Graduate Certificate in Healthcare.</b>			

Year 2			
Code	Title	Credits	Status
HPHA7023	Clinical Leadership to Improve Patient Outcomes	20	Core
HPHN7416 HPHN7411 HPHN7451	HPHN7146 Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists HPHN7411 Independent/ Supplementary Prescribing for Nurses and Midwives (V300) HPHN7415 Independent/ Supplementary Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals.	40	Core. For professions unable to prescribe then see the optional modules below

HPHA9007	Portfolio of Advanced Practice and Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE)	Qualificatory	Qual
HPHA7025	Health Assessment in Common Childhood Illness	20	Optional
HPHA7026	Advanced Assessment of the Acutely Unwell Child	20	Optional
HCPD7002-06	Negotiated learning	20	Optional
HCPD7013	Work Based Learning	40	Optional
HCPD7015	Work Based Learning	20	Optional
HCPD7068	Acute Care: Initial Management of the Acutely Ill Adult	20	Optional
HCPD7070	Advanced Pathophysiology & Diseases in Practice	20	Optional
<p><b>Students exiting at this point with 120 credits would receive a Post Graduate Diploma in Advanced Clinical Practice</b></p> <p><b>Students exiting at this point with 120 credits without HPHA9007 would receive a Post Graduate Diploma in Healthcare.</b></p>			

<b>Year 3</b>			
<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status</b>
HPHA7024	Service Evaluation for Improving Clinical Practice	40	Core
HPHA7025	Health Assessment in Common Childhood Illness	20	Optional
HPHA7026	Advanced Assessment of the Acutely Unwell Child	20	Optional
HCPD7002-06	Negotiated learning	20	Optional
HCPD7015	Work Based Learning	20	Optional

HCPD7068	Acute Care: Assessment and Management of the Acutely Ill Adult	20	Optional
HCPD7070	Advanced Pathophysiology & Diseases in Practice	20	Optional
<b>Students exiting at this point with 180 credits would receive a Master of Science Advanced Clinical Practice</b>			

### Additional Module Information

You will follow the programme core modules in the sequence laid out above. However, if you are in a profession who cannot yet prescribe then you will undertake two 20 credit optional modules in the second year and a single optional module in the third year.

First and Second Year modules must be studied alongside the Qualificatory Practice Unit.

You and your personal tutor will meet at the start of your programme to discuss your pathway through the programme as you may have accreditation of prior learning that we can allow into the programme, such as Non-Medical Prescribing. This will enable your personal tutor to map out your learning journey with you as it may differ from that above.

If you are following the full programme, then you will only have to undertake one optional module in year three and again your choices and their availability will be discussed with you.

### Key to Module Statuses

Core modules	Must be taken and must be successfully passed.
Optional modules	Are a set of modules from which you will be required to choose a set number to study. Once chosen, it is not possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail.
Qualificatory practice units	These are non-credit-bearing pass/fail components that are used to satisfy relevant professional, statutory or regulatory body professional requirements that are associated with the programme. These units must be successfully completed in order to pass the award but do not affect the final degree classification. An alternate award is available if you are not successful in the QPU element of your programme.



Optional modules may be subject to availability and viability. If we have insufficient numbers of students interested in an optional module in any given academic year, this may not be offered. If an optional module will not be running, we will advise you as soon as possible and help you choose an alternative module. Optional modules are normally selected 3 - 5 months in advance.

## **Timetables**

Timetables are normally available at the start of each academic year or point of entry to the programme.

There are points in the programme where there will be opportunity to take part in live online sessions for development of your portfolio of advanced practice and preparation for OSCE. You will be notified of these dates in advance.

For Non-Medical Prescribing there will be live online day attendance as per the NMP timetable.

If you are taking Non-Medical Prescribing face to face, then of course you will have to attend the University campus it is being delivered from.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Student Support

We provide responsive learner support that promotes student success. Our approach to learner support is designed to support achievement and progression, champion inclusivity and accessibility, prepare you for opportunities beyond study, and promote independence and resilience, enabling you to achieve your potential.

The [Student Enquiry Point](#) is a simple way to contact Student Services. Using the Student Enquiry Point tile on the Student Hub you can submit an enquiry to any of the Student Services teams, which includes:

- [Careers and Employability](#)
- [Chaplaincy](#) for faith and spiritual wellbeing
- [Mental Health and Wellbeing](#)
- [Digital Skills](#)
- [Disability and Specific Learning Difficulty \(SpLD\)](#)
- [International Student Support](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Money Matters](#)
- [Safeguarding](#)
- [Skills@Cumbria](#)
- [Sports and Fitness Facilities](#)
- [University Student Accommodation](#)

As a student at the University of Cumbria you automatically become a member of the Students' Union. The Students' Union represents the views and interests of students within the University.

The Students' Union is led by a group of Student Representatives who are elected by students in annual elections. They also support approximately 400 Student Academic Reps within each cohort across the entire University. The Students' Union represent the views of their cohort and work with academic staff to continuously develop and improve the experience for all University of Cumbria students. You can find out more about who represents you at [www.ucsu.me](http://www.ucsu.me).

You can email at any time on [studentvoice@cumbria.ac.uk](mailto:studentvoice@cumbria.ac.uk).

## Course Costs

### Tuition Fees

Course fees can be found:

<https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/advanced-clinical-practice/>

### Additional Costs

The following course-related costs are not included in the fees:

You may wish to purchase your own examination equipment such as:

Stethoscope – Littmann 2 type – costs of these vary between suppliers.

Any travel to campuses from your home if you take Non-Medical Prescribing as a face-to-face option.

You will need internet access and access to a connected device. Note that some NHS employers have firewalls that can disable access to external organisations. If you are a workplace that blocks access, please speak directly to your IT department and your manager or Educational Supervisor

## Exceptions to the Academic Regulations

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.

Standard registration is usually 2 years for an MSc / MA programme, however due to the requirements of the programme you will study for 3 years and a maximum period of 5 years.

This programme is designed to meet the Multi-Professional Framework for Advanced Practice, (Health Education England (HEE)2017). <https://advanced-practice.hee.nhs.uk/multi-professional-framework-for-advanced-clinical-practice-in-england/>

It also encompasses the Workplace Supervision for Advanced Clinical Practice: An integrated multi-professional approach for practitioner development. (Centre for Advancing Practice HEE 2021). <https://advanced-practice.hee.nhs.uk/workplace-supervision-for-advanced-clinical-practice-2/>

The addition of a qualificatory practice unit is also needed to enable you to successfully complete the required supervised practice hours required in the workplace and to meet the required portfolio for the multi professional framework and successfully complete the Objective Structured Clinical Examination.

It is anticipated that a learning development plan and the portfolio will include a range of workplace learning and development activities which include Direct Observation of Practical Skills (DOPS), Case based Discussion (CbD), Supervised Learning Event (SLE), Clinical Exercise (CEX) recording of supervised practice hours and so on. These learning and development approaches are well-established in some professional groups and less so in others, so it cannot be assumed that the developing advanced clinical practitioner/ trainee is already familiar with these formats. Discussing and agreeing the learning development plan provides an opportunity to introduce the developing advanced clinical practitioner/trainee to the range of possible learning activities, which are relevant for the identified development of the student. This will be augmented with termly practice reviews between the student, the university personal tutor and the educational supervisor to assess progress in the workplace. This approach will support the developing clinical capabilities across all 4 pillars of practice and of course will augment safe and effective clinical practice.

Within the first-year modules and a second-year module you will notice that you have been given a target of 64 clinically supervised hours to complete in practice alongside the academic content. The rationale for this is the need for you to develop your clinical ability in the workplace to enable you to develop into safe and autonomous advanced practitioners who are fit for advanced practice roles.

## External and Internal Benchmarks

There are no specific QAA Subject Benchmarks for Advanced Practice the nearest relevant criteria are the Characteristics Statement: Masters Degree QAA (2020) [Characteristics Statement: Master's Degree \(qaa.ac.uk\)](https://www.qaa.ac.uk/characteristics-statement/master-degree)

Multi-Professional Framework for Advanced Practice, (Health Education England (HEE)2017). <https://advanced-practice.hee.nhs.uk/multi-professional-framework-for-advanced-clinical-practice-in-england/>

Workplace Supervision for Advanced Clinical Practice: An integrated multi-professional approach for practitioner development. (Centre for Advancing Practice HEE 2021). <https://advanced-practice.hee.nhs.uk/workplace-supervision-for-advanced-clinical-practice-2/>

HEE Centre for Advancing Practice [Welcome - Advanced Practice \(hee.nhs.uk\)](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/advanced-practice)

Nursing and Midwifery council (NMC) The Code (2018) [The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses, midwives and nursing associates - The Nursing and Midwifery Council \(nmc.org.uk\)](https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/the-code/)

General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) Standards for Pharmacy Professionals. (2017) [Standards for pharmacy professionals | General Pharmaceutical Council \(pharmacyregulation.org\)](#)

Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics. (2016) [Standards of conduct, performance and ethics | \(hcpc-uk.org\)](#)

Interim NHS People Plan (2019) [Interim-NHS-People-Plan\\_June2019.pdf \(longtermpplan.nhs.uk\)](#)

NHS Employers- Advanced and Enhanced Practice [Advanced practice and enhanced practice | NHS Employers](#)

[UoC Strategic Plan](#)

[UoC Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy](#)

[UoC Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes](#)

## Disclaimer

This programme has been approved (validated) by the University of Cumbria as suitable for a range of delivery modes, delivery patterns, and delivery sites. This level of potential flexibility does not reflect a commitment on behalf of the University to offer the programme by all modes/patterns and at all locations in every academic cycle. The details of the programme offered for a particular intake year will be as detailed on the programme webpage:

<https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/advanced-clinical-practice/>