

## **MSc Health Professions Education (MSc HPE) – Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What are the requirements to be eligible to attend the MSc HPE programme?**

This programme is suited to practitioners of all disciplines involved in the education and training of medical, nursing and other healthcare staff.

A minimum of a relevant second-class Bachelor's degree from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard and relevant professional experience of health care education and training.

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency. The English language level for this programme is 'Good'.

### **2. What is a flexible/modular programme?**

The MSc HPE is flexible programme and you can choose the amount of modules you would like to take each year as long as this is within the maximum time limit for the qualification.

For example if you were completing the Masters you would have up to 5 years to take 180 credits. You can choose to take no modules in an academic year however you are still required to enrol on the programme and this will count towards your 5 years to complete the award.

### **3. What is the workload ratio?**

Students often ask us for a 'rough guide' as to how much time they should set aside for the modules. There is no specific number as every person studies at a different pace. However, as a useful template for each credit we recommend a notional 10 hours of study. So, for a 15 credit module, this would equate to 150 notional hours of study time. This can take many different forms including face-to-face days, reading background literature, participating in online discussions and writing your assignment.

### **4. Attending face to face days**

Due to the current situation, face to faces days may not be able to take place. Should we be able to run face-to-face session's attendance will be optional as everything will be available online.

### **5. What qualifications can I apply for?**

When applying, you will need to apply for the MSc, however we also provide interim awards. This means once you have enough credits for any interim qualifications, you can request to be exited from the course at the end of the academic year and take your award. It is worth noting, however, that there are time frames for each award:

- PG Certificate (60 credits): Must be completed within 2 years
- PG Diploma (120 credits): Must be completed within 5 years
- MSc (180 credits): Must be completed within 5 years.

## 6. What different routes are available on the MSc in Health Professions Education

We offer several different routes for the MSc in Health Professions Education so we can cater to your individual needs and interests.

### **MSc in Health Professions Education**

- This route has no core modules other than the final research project and pre-requisite module for the MSc.
- You can study towards a PG Cert, PG Dip or MSc.
- If you wish to progress from the Diploma to the MSc, you must complete one of our pre-requisite modules in your Diploma year:
  - Conducting Literature Reviews for Health Professions (MDSC0031) if you wish to do the report as your final research project.
  - Writing a Research Proposal for Clinical Education Projects (MDSC0022) if you wish to do the dissertation as your final research project.

### **MSc in Health Professions Education (Leadership)**

- You can study for a named 'Leadership' award at each level of the course: PG Certificate, PG Diploma, MSc.
- At Certificate and Diploma level, 50% of your module credits must be from our list of leadership-themed modules in order to exit with a named award.
- If you wish to progress from the Diploma to the MSc, you must complete one of our pre-requisite modules in your Diploma year:
  - Conducting Literature Reviews for Health Professions (MDSC0031) if you wish to do the report as your final research project.
  - Writing a Research Proposal for Clinical Education Projects (MDSC0022) if you wish to do the dissertation as your final research project.
- To graduate with an MSc in Health Professions Education (Leadership), 60 credits must be from our list of leadership modules, and your research project should have a leadership focus.

### **MSc in Health Professions Education (Primary Care)**

- You can study for a named 'Primary Care' award at each level of the course: PG Certificate, PG Diploma, MSc.
- As the PG Cert (Primary Care) curriculum has been mapped to the GMC Standards for Trainers, there is no flexibility at this level of the programme. However, students progressing to the diploma will have a free choice of modules within their diploma year.
- If you wish to progress from the Diploma to the MSc, you must complete one of our pre-requisite modules in your Diploma year:
  - Conducting Literature Reviews for Health Professions (MDSC0031) if you wish to do the report as your final research project.
  - Writing a Research Proposal for Clinical Education Projects (MDSC0022) if you wish to do the dissertation as your final research project.
- To graduate with an MSc in Health Professions Education (Primary Care), 60 credits must be from our list of Primary Care modules, and your research project should have a focus on an aspect of education in Primary Care.

### **MSc in Health Professions Education (Research)**

- You can study for a named 'Research' award at each level of the course: PG Certificate, PG Diploma, MSc.
- At Certificate and Diploma level, 50% of your module credits must be from our list of research-themed modules in order to exit with a named award.
- If you wish to progress from the Diploma to the MSc, you must complete one of our pre-requisite modules in your Diploma year:
  - o Conducting Literature Reviews for Health Professions (MDSC0031) if you wish to do the report as your final research project.
  - o Writing a Research Proposal for Clinical Education Projects (MDSC0022) if you wish to do the dissertation as your final research project.
- To graduate with an MSc in Health Professions Education (Research), 60 credits must be from our list of research modules. Your research project can be based on a health professions education topic of your choice, and may take the form of empirical research or desk-based research.

### **7. What do the different modes of study mean?**

**Full-time Mixed Mode Distance** – 1 year predominantly online with option to attend face to face

**Flexible/modular Mixed Mode Distance** – 5 year predominantly online with option to attend face to face.

### **8. Are there any pre-requisite modules and what are these?**

During your final year you will need to carry out a research project in the form of a report or dissertation. In order to study on these modules you need to complete a pre-requisite module.

- If you wish to do the Report, by undertaking desk-based research in the form of a literature review, the pre-requisite module is the 15 credit module 'Conducting Literature Reviews for Clinical Education Research'.
- If you wish to do the Dissertation, by undertaking empirical research such as collecting data from research participants, the pre-requisite module is the 15 credit Writing a Research Proposal for Clinical Education Projects module.

### **9. How long would it take to receive a decision on my application?**

Admissions aim to provide a decision within six working weeks of receiving a complete application and references. However this may be longer due to other external factors. You can enquire about your application status by emailing [uclms.postgraduate@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:uclms.postgraduate@ucl.ac.uk)

### **10. How can I apply?**

You can apply through the UCL website. You will find all the relevant links on our webpages <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/medical-school/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-programmes>

### **11. What modules do you offer?**

Our module timetable and module details are available on our website <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/medical-school/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-programmes>

## **12. Can I transfer credits from another course?**

You can apply for recognition of prior learning (RPL) when you apply to the programme. You must have achieved the credits within the past 5 years. Full details and an application form can be found at <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/academic-manual/chapters/chapter-1-student-recruitment-and-admissions>

## **13. Can I apply for a scholarship?**

We do not deal with scholarships in-department. You can access information about funding and scholarships via the following website: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships>

## **14. What is the cost of the programme?**

Fees for the MSc Health Professions Education are collected centrally by UCL and you will be invoiced upon commencing your studies for any modules you select in an academic year. You are then able to pay via three instalments per year, you can visit [UCL Fees](#) website for further information.

### **Fees for the 2020/21 academic year are as follows**

- £8,990 (UK/EU, full-time)
- £19,520 (overseas, full-time)
- £749 (UK/EU, per 15 credit module)

Modular/flexible students (non-full-time) will be invoiced on a pro-rata basis over their duration of study.

## **15. How can an MSc in Health Professions Education advance my career?**

The MSc in Health Professions Education can give scholarship skills that are transferrable to many other academic roles. A Master's qualification is also increasingly looked for in many medical education jobs, such as the ones we do. At PG Cert level, it demonstrates an interest in education and shows that the person fulfils the GMC criteria for teaching, which is useful for getting involved in undergraduate or postgraduate teaching. All of these things can help with the development of a portfolio career, which is fulfilling and helps to reduce the risk of burnout!

## **16. When does the programme start?**

### **September Starters**

Modules will commence on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

Enrolment for new students usually takes place in mid-September. This year everyone will be enrolling remotely.

We will be holding a virtual induction event on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.

### **January Starters**

Modules will commence on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

We will be holding a virtual induction event in December 2020 (exact date TBC)