

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	PgC Advancing Practice
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	60 Credits at level 7
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 to 5 years part-time
Intended Award	PgC Advancing Practice
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120 credits at honours academic level or show an ability to work successfully at Masters level; • No less than two years post registration experience with no less than six months experience in the relevant clinical speciality; • Access to relevant area of clinical practice with support of their organisation on their advancing role; • Current registration with the relevant regulatory body e.g. NMC, HCPC.
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the PgC Advancing Practice course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2024-25 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This programme of study has been designed to facilitate students in the development and evidencing of the knowledge, skills and competencies required to work at an advanced level within their own professional setting and role.

Students will be supported to develop a critical awareness of current problems and new insights at the forefront of their professional practice. Students will examine care development and delivery from their own professional standpoint and take account of how other disciplines challenge and contribute to the quality of care delivery.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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The PgC Advancing Practice provides the opportunity for students to engage in a critical exploration of the Advanced Practice agenda in healthcare practice with particular emphasis on leadership skills coupled with modules designed to facilitate knowledge and skills in relation to assessment/examination skills, clinical reasoning and decision-making.

Course Aims

- To enable students to engage in critical debate of issues pertinent to the roles and responsibilities within advanced professional practice and respond to them appropriately;
- To develop practitioners who are able to work in a professionally autonomous way demonstrating leadership within their area of practice and who are accountable for their own professional and clinical decisions;
- To enable students to critically evaluate personal and professional development needs in relation to advanced professional practice and implement appropriate responses;
- To enable student's to meet the challenges of undertaking research at master's level within their field of practice;
- To develop an individual who is able to act as a role model and an educator to initiate change and management development opportunities within the clinical setting.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the PgC Advancing Practice course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

At the end of the course students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding and cognitive skills

1. Independently propose and evaluate alternative approaches to person-centred practice.
2. Critically appraise conceptual models, theories and vocabulary in the subjects covered within the course.
3. Deal with complexity and contradiction in knowledge proffered for practice.
4. Make sound judgments in the absence of complete data.

Subject specific skills

1. Demonstrate expertise in a variety of contexts within their field of practice.
2. Effectively engage others in the delivery of enhanced, person-centred care.
3. Take responsibility for personal and professional development in relation to advanced practice.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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Key / common skills

1. Critically analyse and appraise existing sources of information.
2. Critically evaluate elements of management and leadership in relation to the advanced practice role.
3. Demonstrate the ability to present complex arguments to a group in a competent manner.
4. Demonstrate self-reflectivity and an awareness of the need for continuing professional development.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks / Professional Standards:

- Health Education England Multi-professional framework for advanced clinical practice in England

Course Structure

The PgC Advancing Practice comprises modules at level 7.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 7			
	Effective Leadership for Advanced Practice	20	M
	Holistic Assessment	20	M
	Clinical Reasoning and Decision Making	20	M

Awards

On successful completion of the Effective Leadership for Advanced Practice, Holistic Assessment and Clinical Reasoning and Decision Making modules, students will be awarded a PgC Advancing Practice.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying part-time on PgC Advancing Practice are likely to have approximately 30 tutor structured learning hours per semester. Tutor structured learning will be a mix of lectures, seminars and practical activity. Students will normally be expected to undertake 10 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course will include

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#)

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essays, seminar presentations and one written examination and one Objective Structured Clinical Examination.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking PgC Advancing Practice will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Part-time UK	£1,010 per 20 credit module
Part-time EU/International	£1,620 per 20 credit module*

*International students on health courses may also incur a placement fee. For information please contact the Admissions Department on 01473 338348 or via email admissions@uos.ac.uk.

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).