**University of Suffolk**

## DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

| | |
|---|---|
| Course Title | **Non-Medical Independent and/or Supplementary prescribing for Nurses, Midwives, SCPHN, Therapeutic Radiographers, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Paramedics, and Dietitians (V300)** |
| Awarding Bodies | **University of Suffolk** |
| Level of Award[1] | **FHEQ Level 7** |
| Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition | **Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)**<br><br>**Health Care Professions Council (HCPC)** |
| Credit Structure[2] | **40 Credits at level 7** |
| Mode of Attendance | **Part-time** |
| Standard Length of Course[3] | **6 months** |
| Intended Award | **Non-Medical Independent and/or Supplementary prescribing.** |
| Named Exit Awards | **None** |
| Entry Requirements[4] | • Registered with NMC (nurses must be first level nurses).<br>• One year patient orientated post-registration experience in a hospital, community or primary care setting for both registrant areas including in the clinical area in which they will be prescribing after the course.<br>• Identified clinical need confirmed by written support from employing trust prescribing lead /equivalent as appropriate to employment<br>• Identified Designated Prescribing Practitioner and practice supervisor in line with the NMC requirements for the role for the 78 hours practice supervision.<br>• A first degree or proven ability to study at degree level if not on a recognised UoS pathway<br>• Confirmed skills in care planning, clinical assessment/diagnosis<br>• A current DBS check (within 3 years from the start of your programme).<br><br>**This course is not open to visa sponsored students (those students sponsored by the University under the student route).** |

[1] For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2024)
[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.

**University of Suffolk**

## DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

| | |
|---|---|
| Delivering Institution | **University of Suffolk** |

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the Non-Medical Independent and/or Supplementary prescribing for Nurses, Midwives, SCPHN, Radiographers, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Paramedics, and Dietitians course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2025-26 academic year[5].

### Course Summary

This is a professional statutory regulatory body (PSRB) accredited programme provided as a stand-alone 40 credit module leading to a recordable qualification as:

An independent and /or supplementary prescriber

The PSRBs; NMC (2018) HCPC (2019) set the standards for the educational requirements of the course and this informs the curriculum. With the core focus on working in partnership with the patient / carer this programme has been designed around the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Competency Framework for all Prescribers (2021. The PSRB standards incorporate this framework which is embedded into both practice and theory learning aspects of the v300. Although these requirements do not call for teaching on specific clinical areas, some specifics are included to contextualise prescribing application, but the overall focus is on applying the principles of prescribing to student's own specialist clinical area. It is expected therefore, that students embrace a high degree of autonomy, as they will need to apply these principles to the context of their current or future practice. The theory / practice split of this course is designed to facilitate this approach.
The underpinning philosophy therefore is that successful students will be able to apply the principles of prescribing to enhance patient care by providing quicker and more efficient access to healthcare and making better use of their own skills.

### Course Aims

1. Prepare Nurses and Midwives, Therapeutic Radiographers, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Dietitians and Paramedics to meet the required regulatory to meet the required regulatory standards in order to act as Independent and supplementary prescribers.
1. Extend opportunities for critical appraisal of their existing practice whilst achieving the RPS prescribing competencies in the workplace.
3. Enable students to engage in comprehensive enquiry with specific identified aspects of their prescribing practice.

### Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the Non-medical independent and /or supplementary prescribing 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].

[5] The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the Admissions Policy.
[6] As set out in the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2024)

1. Critically reflect on the consultation whilst demonstrating the ability to undertake a systematic patient assessment informed by the relevant evidence base to enable appropriate decision- making including diagnosis.
2. Critically analyse the management options available in a range of clinical scenarios to include evidence of knowledge and understanding related to pharmacology
3. Evidence a commitment to working in partnership with a range of service users supporting a concordant approach
4. Evidence the ability to prescribe safely effectively and within the boundaries of all relevant legislation and guidelines including supplementary prescribing
5. Demonstrate the ability to provide comprehensive, relevant and accessible information to support prescribing decisions
6. Reflect on the prescriber's responsibilities in relation to monitoring and review processes
7. Critically analyse the role of the prescriber in relation to managing risk and maintaining safe practice
8. Apply and reflect on the legal, regulatory and ethical frameworks underpinning prescribing practice
9. Through analysis demonstrate self-awareness of own prescribing practice and the commitment to the on-going improvement of all prescribing practice
10. Reflect on the importance of interprofessional and collaborative working to support and inform prescribing practice.

**Course Design**

The design of this course has been guided by the following Professional Standards / Competency Frameworks:

- HCPC (2019) Standards for prescribing
  NMC Standards for prescribing (2021) available at:
  https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/standards-for-post-registration/standards-for-prescribers/royal-pharmaceutical-societys-competency-framework-for-all-prescribers/
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society, (2022). A Competency Framework for all Prescribers

**Course Structure**

The Non-Medical Independent and/or Supplementary prescribing for Nurses, Midwives, SCPHN, Radiographers, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Paramedics, and Dietitians (V300) comprises one module at level 7.

A Module Specification for this module 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 | | | |
| | Non-medical Independent and/ or Supplementary Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives, SCPHN, Physiotherapists, Therapeutic Radiographers, Podiatrists, Paramedics and Dietitians V300 | 40 | M |

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

## Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded as successfully completing the Independent and/ or Supplementary Non-Medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives, SCPHN, Physiotherapists, Therapeutic Radiographers, Podiatrists, Paramedics and Dietitians (V300) and will be eligible to apply for professional registration to legally act as a prescriber.

## Course Delivery

The course is delivered at IPSWICH. Students studying on the Independent and/ or Supplementary Non-Medical Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives, SCPHN, Physiotherapists, Radiographers, Podiatrists, Paramedics and Dietitians (V300) are likely to have approximately 84 contact hours.

The contact hours will be a mix of lecture, seminar, practical activity, and students will also be required to participate in 78/90 hours of work -based supervision. (Nurses =78, AHPs = 90). Students will normally be expected to undertake 6.5 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 are used on the course with some required by the professional regulators. The assessment methods used are appropriate to assess the intended learning outcomes in order to ensure safe prescribing practice at the point of qualification. The team support students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles.

Assessment on the course overall will include two unseen examinations and a portfolio of practice learning consisting of reflective learning entries, and direct observation of clinical practice to demonstrate a safe level of competence. Graded work requires students to submit a case study and a critical incident analysis.

## Special Features

On successful completion of the course the students details will be passed to the appropriate PSRB for recommendation to be recorded with the qualification of Independent and/or supplementary prescriber

## 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 [and are registered with the appropriate professional body (i.e. NMC or HCPC)].

## Course Costs

Students undertaking Non-Medical Independent and/or Supplementary prescribing for Nurses, Midwives, SCPHN, Radiographers, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Paramedics, and Dietitians (V300) will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

| Student Group | Tuition Fees |
|---|---|
| Part-time UK | £2,033 per 40 credit module |

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.