University of Hertfordshire

MSc Advanced Physiotherapy

HMAPHYMSC

Also available:

PgDip Advanced Physiotherapy (HMAPHYPGD) | PgCert Advanced Physiotherapy (HMAPHYPGC)

Take your clinical practice to the next level — on your own terms, at your own pace.

Flexible Part-time, modular study	**MACP** accredited pathway available	**Up to 6 yrs** to complete MSc Advanced Physiotherapy (180 credits)	**Up to 4 yrs** to complete Pg Diploma Advanced Physiotherapy (120 credits)	**Up to 2 yrs** to complete Pg Cert Advanced Physiotherapy (60 credits)

Why This Programme?

Whether you are an early-career physiotherapist looking to build a strong specialist foundation, a mid-career clinician ready to step into a more senior role, or an NHS professional working towards Advanced Practice — this programme is built around you.

This contemporary well-established MSc Advanced Physiotherapy at the University of Hertfordshire offers something rare: academic rigour combined with real-world flexibility. You choose which modules to study, when to study them, and how fast to progress. The result is a qualification that reflects your professional identity, and career aspirations.

What our graduates go on to do:

- ✦ Physiotherapy Consultants & Clinical Specialists
- ✦ First Contact Practitioners (FCP) in primary care
- ✦ Advanced Practitioners (AP)
- ✦ Team Leaders, Clinical Mentors & Practice Educators
- ✦ Lecturers & Researchers in higher education & clinical practice

What Our Students Say

> *"All modules have been excellent. The course has been flexible in allowing me to choose my particular areas of interest."*
>
> **— Current student**

> *"Staff are enthusiastic, approachable and tailor sessions to the needs of the group."*
>
> **— Current student**

> *"Thank you so much for your support throughout my MSc. I have had such a great experience over the last 4 years and have loved studying at UH. I am sure I will be back."*
>
> **— MSc graduate**

Is This Programme Right For You?

The programmes of study are for you if you are:

- A qualified physiotherapist registered with the HCPC
- Passionate about advancing your clinical skills and career
- Motivated to develop and challenge your practice
- Able to evidence at least one year of relevant post-qualification experience
- Normally in a clinical role with a relevant patient caseload
- Committed to continuing professional development (CPD)

> **Not sure yet?**
> You can start by applying for a single module as an independent student — no commitment to a full programme required. This gives you a real taste of level 7 study before you decide.

If English is not your first language, you will normally need IELTS 7.0 overall (with at least 7.0 in writing and no less than 6.5 in any other band). Several modules of study have specific pre-requites for successful application (please see individual application sites for details). A full-time international student option is not currently available.

Choose Your Award Level

The programme offers three exit points. Eligible students can progress between awards, carrying forward credits already earned.

MSc Advanced Physiotherapy • 180 credits • Up to 6 years

The flagship award.

Combines discipline-specific physiotherapy modules, research modules and elective options into a fully personalised Master's degree. Must include at least 30 credits of discipline-specific physiotherapy modules and 60 credits of research (7SHK2211 Research Methods in Health & Social Care; 7HSK2210 Preparation for Research in Health and Social Care; 7HSK2209 Research Project in Health & Social Care). Full MACP membership eligibility available.

PgDip Advanced Physiotherapy • 120 credits • Up to 4 years

Ideal if a full research project is not your immediate goal. Must include at least 30 credits of discipline-specific physiotherapy modules and the 7SHK2211 Research Methods in Health & Social Care module.

PgCert Advanced Physiotherapy • 60 credits • Up to 2 years

A focused, achievable first step. Must include at least 30 credits of discipline-specific physiotherapy modules. A great entry point if you are new to postgraduate study.

Additional Professional Accreditation: MACP

The MSc Advanced Physiotherapy is approved by the Musculoskeletal Association of Chartered Physiotherapists (MACP) — a member organisation of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manual & Musculoskeletal Physical Therapists (IFOMPT). Eligible MSc students can achieve full MACP membership by completing a specific set of modules as part of their programme.

Required modules for full MACP membership eligibility (if enrolled on the MSc Advanced Physiotherapy):

1. Lower Quadrant — MSK Physiotherapy (7HSK2226) • 30 credits
2. Upper Quadrant — MSK Physiotherapy (7HSK2227) • 30 credits
3. Advanced Musculoskeletal Clinical Practice (7HSK2228) • 15 credits
4. Full 60 credits of research modules
5. 45 credits of other discipline specific or optional modules/short courses

Some students with a pre-registration MSc (Physio) may be eligible at PgDip level — speak to the Programme Leader for details.

What Will You Study?

The programme is made up of three component types. You build your own study plan from these, guided by your career goals and advice from the Programme Leader. Choose from taught modules delivered in-person (on campus), online, work-based clinical placements, hybrid and independent learning modules.

1. Discipline-Specific Physiotherapy Modules

The clinical core of your award.

Module (double click for more info + application sites)	Code	Credits	Delivery
Lower Quadrant — Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy	7HSK2226	30	Taught (online + in-person on campus)
Upper Quadrant — Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy	7HSK2227	30	Taught (online + in-person on campus)
Musculoskeletal Injection Therapy	7HSK2230	15	Taught (online + in-person on campus)
Physical Activity, Rehabilitation & Exercise Prescription	7HSK2252	15	Taught (online + in-person on campus)
Advanced Musculoskeletal Clinical Practice*	7HSK2228	15	Work-based placement + online
First Contact Practitioner (FCP) Stage 1 Musculoskeletal	7SCZ2019	30	Online

Note: Lower Quadrant must be completed successfully before Upper Quadrant; both must be completed successfully before Advanced MSK Clinical Practice. *not available at PgCert level; only for eligible students at PgDip level.

2. Research Modules (60 credits)

Develop the skills to critically evaluate evidence and conduct your own clinical research. These modules are normally completed sequentially.

Module (double click for more info + application sites)	Code	Credits	Delivery
Research Methods in Health & Social Care*	7HSK2211	15	Online
Preparation for Research Project in Health & Social Care* **	7HSK2210	15	Online
Research Project in Health & Social Care* **	7HSK2209	30	Online

* only available at PgDip & MSc level, **only available at MSc level

3. Optional Modules — Tailor Your Award

An extensive suite of optional modules allows you to shape your programme around your specific interests and career aspirations. You may also be able to transfer credits in from other universities.

Area	Module (variety of delivery models, double click for more info + application sites)	Code	Credits
Advanced Skills	MSK Trauma: Image Recognition for Healthcare Professionals	7HSK2212	15
Advanced Skills	MSK Pathologies: Image Recognition for Healthcare Professionals	7HSK2213	15
Advanced Skills	Imaging Modalities for Healthcare Professionals	7HSK2214	15
Advanced Skills	First Contact Practitioner (FCP) Stage 2 Multidisciplinary*	7SCZ2027	15
Advanced Skills	Non-Medical Prescribing (AHP)	7HSK0109	30
Advanced Skills	Advanced Health Assessment & Diagnostic Indicators	7HSK2204	15
Advanced Skills	Advanced Patient Assessment & Clinical Reasoning	7HSK2224	15
Exercise	Strength & Conditioning Science	7LMS2104	15
Exercise	Applied Strength & Conditioning	7LMS2115	15
Education	Enabling Learning in Contemporary Healthcare	7HSK0267	15
Leadership & Education	Leadership, Education & Developing Others (LEDO)	7HSK0293	30
Leadership & Education	Coaching Skills for Leading Leadership in Health & Social Care	7HSK2085	15
Leadership	Leadership in Health & Social Care**	7HSK2207	15
Leadership	Leading Innovation and Change in Health & Social Care**	7HSK2208	15
Leadership	Advanced Decision Making in Health & Social Care	7HSK0168	15
Student tailored	Negotiated Learning 1	7HSK2215	15
Student tailored	Negotiated Learning 2	7HSK2216	30

*Only available for eligible students after successfully passing 7SCZ2019 FCP1. ** Recommended to normally be taken after successful completion of 7HSK2207 Leadership in Health & Social Care.

Most 'campus' teaching takes place on the College Lane Campus, or on the De Havilland Campus.
The mode of delivery varies, reflecting innovative ways to enhance your learning experience. You will need to have access to a suitable personal computer and a good reliable internet connection. Assessment takes place by a variety of methods for example: VIVAs, essays, presentations, reports, written, work based learning and practical examinations.

Sample Study Routes

Not sure where to start? Here are three ***example*** pathways — but your route is always guided by your own goals. We strongly recommend discussing your plan with the Programme Leader.

Route A: MSc Advanced Physiotherapy + Full MACP Membership (MSK Specialist) (180 credits)

Lower Quadrant — MSK Physiotherapy (30)
Upper Quadrant — MSK Physiotherapy (30)
Advanced MSK Clinical Practice (15)
+ 60 credits of research modules
+ 45 credits of discipline specific or optional modules, e.g. MSK Injection Therapy, FCP Stage 1 & 2, Imaging modules, Non-Medical Prescribing etc…

Route B: MSc Advanced Physiotherapy working towards a Advanced Practitioner (AP) role (MSK Specialist), modules help evidence 4 pillars of practice.

Lower Quadrant — MSK Physiotherapy (30)
Upper Quadrant — MSK Physiotherapy (30)
Leadership, Education & Developing Others (LEDO) (30)
+ 60 credits of research modules
+ 30 credits of discipline specific or optional modules aligned to the 4 pillars of Advanced Practice, e.g. Advanced Decision Making in Health & Social Care, Negotiated Learning, Strength & Conditioning Science, Non-Medical Prescribing, MSK Injection Therapy, Imaging modules etc…

Route C: Pg Dip Advanced Physiotherapy (MSK Specialist with Leadership interest)

Lower Quadrant — MSK Physiotherapy (30)
Physical Activity, Rehabilitation & Exercise Prescription (15)
Leadership in Health & Social Care (15)
Leading Innovation and Change in Health & Social Care (15)
Coaching Skills for Leading (15)
+ 15 credits of Research Methods in Health & Social Care
+ 15 credits of discipline specific or optional modules, e.g. MSK Injection Therapy, Imaging modules, Advanced Communication, Strength & Conditioning Science, Applied Strength & Conditioning, Imaging modules etc…

Fees & Funding

Because this programme is modular, you only pay per module — making it far more manageable than a conventional postgraduate course. Fees for 2026/27 (UK/EU self-funding students):

Module size	Fee (2026/27)
15-credit module	**£945.00***
30-credit module	**£1,890.00***

*Fees may vary for enhanced modules and international students.

Ways to manage your fees:

NHS employees — part or all of your fees may be funded through your Trust's CPD commissioning. Check with your CPD lead.

NHSE-funded short courses — FCP Stage 1 MSK and FCP Stage 2 may be fully funded for eligible students (subject to availability).

UH alumni discount — if you completed your undergraduate degree at UH, you are normally entitled to a 20% fee reduction on all modules.

Postgraduate loan — a government loan is available for this course. Note: if you use a loan, the programme must be completed within three years and agreed in advance with the Programme Leads.

Bursaries – the MACP offers the opportunity to apply for MSc/PgDip Bursaries for eligible students.

How to Apply

Applications are made through our CPD portal: applycpd-herts.com There are two routes:

Option 1: Try a Module First

Apply as an Independent Student

Apply for a single module with no commitment to a full award. You can study up to 45 credits independently before joining a programme. A low-risk way to experience level 7 study.

Option 2: Join a Programme Directly

PgCert, PgDip or MSc

Check eligibility criteria and apply directly for your target award. You will need a professional reference and a brief CV. Indicate your intended first-year modules on application. Credits can be transferred if you later decide to progress to a higher award.

If you have a particular interest in the management of patients with cardiorespiratory problems or long-term conditions, you may wish to explore the master's degrees offered by our partner Education for Health. If you wish to pursue Advanced Clinical Practice, you may wish to review the university's MSc Advanced Clinical Practice Programme.

Ready to Take the Next Step?

We would love to have a conversation with you — by Teams, phone or email — to help you build a personalised study plan.

Andrea Moulson, Programme Leader

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