

# BSc (Hons)/ PgDip/MSc Specialist Community Nursing

With professional awards in District,  
General Practice or Community  
Children's Nursing with options in  
either V300 or V100 Nurse Prescribing

School of Health  
and Social Work





# Course/Programme Overview

The programme is designed to enable practitioners to adopt a strategic approach to the provision of specialist community nursing care, working effectively with individuals, families, groups and communities, involving, where appropriate, an active collaboration with other disciplines and agencies.

It fulfils the professional standards for the education and preparation of specialist community practitioners developed by the UKCC [2001] and is endorsed by the Nursing and Midwifery Council. The programme leads to a professional recognition in community children's nursing, community nursing in the home – district nursing or general practice nursing preparing students for an enhanced, specialist role with specific patient/client groups in the community with either an Independent Nurse prescribing award or community nurse prescribing award. The programme also prepares specialist community practitioners to effectively contribute to the current health policy agenda through the provision of quality specialist community nursing interventions that promote the health and well-being of individuals, families, groups and communities

## Who's the course for?

The course is suitable for all registered nurses who want to enhance their skills and advance their knowledge in community nursing in order to achieve recognition with the Nursing and Midwifery Council as a Specialist Community Practitioner in District, General Practice or Community Children's Nursing. Applicants are normally sponsored or seconded by a Primary Care organisation.

## Where shall I study?

The course takes place at either the College Lane, De Havilland or Meridian House campuses in Hatfield, just 25-minutes away from Central London by train. Luton airport and Stansted airport are just 40 minutes away.



# Programme structure

## BSc (Hons)/PgDip/MSc Specialist Community Nursing

The Specialist Community Nursing course is modular in structure and gives you the option to study for three different types of awards: Bachelor's degree (BSc (Hons)), Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) or Master's degree (MSc). You can record your qualification as a Specialist Community Nurse Community Children's, District or General Practice Nurse when you complete the BSc (Hons) or PgDip awards. Postgraduate students then have the option of continuing their studies to achieve a full Master's award.

For each level of study you need to achieve the following credits:

- BSc(Hons) degree: 120 credits at level 6
- Postgraduate Diploma: 120 credits at level 7
- Master's degree: 180 credits at level 7 (including a research and dissertation module)



## Module listings

- Case management in primary care (15 credits)
- Holistic assessment of health needs in primary care (15 credits)
- Managing long term conditions in primary care (15 credits)
- Leading innovation in practice (15 credits)
- Research for evidence-based practice (15 credits)
- Policy in practice in primary care (15 credits)
- Fundamental skills and knowledge for general practice nurses (15 credits)
- option to complete either the independent nurse prescribing (V300) (30 credits) or community nurse prescribing (V100) (15 credits) and integrative review of community nursing practice (15 credits) modules. \*

\*applicants will need to demonstrate that they meet all the entry criteria required by the NMC.

To find out more please visit [go.herts.ac.uk/pc](http://go.herts.ac.uk/pc)





## Entry requirements

All applicants are required to demonstrate effective registration on part 1 of the NMC register. You also need to have access to an appropriate specialist community practice placement with a designated Practice Supervisor and Practice Assessor for the duration of your studies on the course. This is normally provided through the sponsoring employer. If you are self-sponsored, you are required to negotiate this with a relevant care organisation. Students opting to undertake the non-medical prescribing (V300) will also require access to a suitably qualified Practice Supervisor and Practice Assessor to enable them to undertake this module.

## BSc (Hons)

Applicants should have 120 academic credits at level 5 or equivalent (arrangements exist for the accreditation of prior certificated and/or experiential learning).

## PgDip/MSc Award

Applicants should have a first degree in a health-related subject.

## Study options

### BSc (Hons) option

- Full-time: one year
- Part-time: up to two years

### PgDip option

- Full-time: one year
- Part-time: up to two years

### MSc option

- Part-time: up to five years

Note: If you choose the MSc degree option you will need to complete the dissertation and research modules once working as a Specialist Community Nurse.

## Fees

The University is contracted by the NHS to provide post registration education/CPD and training for its health professionals. If you are an NHS or Local Authority employee contact the senior manager responsible for post registration education/CPD in your organisation to check if the course can be supported by the organisations contract with our University.

It may be possible to self-sponsor for the course, in which case you are required to negotiate access to an appropriate placement and qualified Sign Off Mentor or Practice Teacher and where applicable Designated Medical Practitioner before the University can consider your application.

## How to apply

To apply for the courses you need to complete a University application form which can be found on [go.herts.ac.uk/cpdapply](http://go.herts.ac.uk/cpdapply)

You can also contact the Health CPD office on **01707 284956** or by email at [cpdhealth@herts.ac.uk](mailto:cpdhealth@herts.ac.uk)

We're always happy to answer questions, give advice or arrange a visit.

## Course/programme enquiries

For further enquiries about the courses please contact our Programme Leader **Theresa Titchener** at [t.m.titchener@herts.ac.uk](mailto:t.m.titchener@herts.ac.uk).

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