

School of Health and Social Work

Title of Programme: **Post Graduate Certificate in Applied Mental Health Practice**

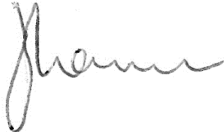
Programme Code: **HSMHPPGC**

Programme Specification

This programme specification is relevant to students entering:
21 September 2020

Assistant Associate Dean of School (Academic Quality Assurance):
Jenny Lorimer

Signature



A programme specification is a collection of key information about a programme of study (or course). It identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the programme, lists the modules that make up each stage (or year) of the programme, and the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff. It also describes the structure of the programme, its progression requirements and any programme-specific regulations. This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right programme of study, to current students on the programme, and to staff teaching and administering the programme.

Summary of amendments to the programme:

Date	Section	Amendment
24/03/2020	Table 1a, Table 2	DMD code update: - 7HSK0370 Managing Mental Health Act Assessments has replaced 7SCH0123 Managing Mental Health Assessments. - 7HSK0269 - Addition of Coursework P/F assessment type.
24/03/2020	E. Entry Requirements	Addition of paragraph clarifying DBS checks upon registration.

If you have any queries regarding the changes please email AQO@herts.ac.uk

Programme Specification Post Graduate Certificate in Applied Mental Health Practice (PG Cert).

This programme specification (PS) is designed for prospective students, enrolled students, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes and content for each module can be found in Definitive Module Documents (DMDs) and Module Guides.

Section 1

Awarding Institution/Body	University of Hertfordshire
Teaching Institution	University of Hertfordshire
University/partner campuses	College Lane
Programme accredited by	Health and Care Professions Council
Final Award (Qualification)	PG Cert
All Final Award titles (Qualification and Subject)	Applied Mental Health Practice
FHEQ level of award	7
Language of Delivery	English

A. Programme Rationale

The programme is designed for qualified professionals experienced at working with people with mental health needs, working within Local Authorities and health trusts. It meets the legal requirement for Local Authorities to ensure that a sufficient number of Approved Mental Health Professionals are available to meet the needs of the local area. The course enables professionals to acquire relevant legal and other knowledge together with practical skills to be able to undertake this responsibility.

B. Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme has been devised in accordance with the University's graduate attributes of programmes of study as set out in [UPR TL03](#).

Additionally this programme aims to:

- Provide students with the knowledge and understanding to equip them for practicing as Approved Mental Health professionals
- To provide education and training that is accredited by the Health and Care Professions Council
- Ensure a sufficient level of practice skills required within the locality of their work.

C. Intended Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes are referenced the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014), and relate to the typical student. Additionally, the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education (2016) have been used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Knowledge and Understanding:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p>A1- Understand legislation, related codes of practice, and national and local policy and guidance applicable to the role of an AMHP, and be able to apply this in practice</p> <p>A2 - Understand the legal position and accountability of AMHPs, employers and the authority the AMHP is acting for in relation to the Mental Health Act 1983</p> <p>A3 - Understand a range of models of mental disorder, and be able to apply them in practice</p> <p>A4 - Understand the contribution and impact of social, physical and development factors on mental health, and be able to apply this in practice.</p> <p>A5 - Understand the social perspective on mental disorders and mental health needs in working with service users, their relatives, carers and other professionals, and be able to apply this in practice.</p> <p>A6 - Understand the implications of mental disorders for service users, their relatives, carers and other professionals, and be able to apply this in practice</p> <p>A7 - Understand child and adult protection procedures in relation to AMHP practice.</p> <p>A8 - Understand the needs of children and young people and their families and the impact those needs have on AMHP practice</p>	<p>Acquisition of knowledge and understanding is through a combination of lectures(A1-A8), small group tutorials (A1-A8), coursework (A1-A8)</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent study both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding of Mental Health Law and Codes of Practice are assessed through unseen examinations (A1, A2), assessed during Practical placements, and through the assessment of portfolio of evidence compiled from the taught aspects of the course, marked assignments, and the demonstration of achieved competencies.</p>
Intellectual skills:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p>B1 - Be able to exercise independence, authority and autonomy in the AMHP role.</p> <p>B2 - Be able to recognize assess and manage effectively the risks related to the AMHP role.</p> <p>B3 - Be able to evaluate critically local and national policy to inform AMHP practice</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are developed through methods and strategies outlined in section A, above. In particular, regular tutorial groups support trainees in articulating these aspects of their role</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop intellectual skills further by independent study</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are assessed through in-course discussions, observation of practical application of those skills, and assignments reporting on completed assessments under the Mental Health Act (B1 – B5).</p>

<p>B4 - Be able to draw on, and evaluate critically, a range of research relevant to evidence based AMHP practice</p> <p>B5 - Be able to gather, analyse and share information appropriately.</p>		
<p>Practical skills:</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods & strategies</p>	<p>Assessment</p>
<p>C1 - Be able to manage anxiety, risk and conflict and understand its impact on AMHP practice</p> <p>C2 - Be able to communicate effectively with service users, relatives and carers when undertaking the AMHP role</p> <p>C3 - Be able to communicate advice, instruction information and professional opinion, including verbal and written reports.</p> <p>C4 - Be able to present case at a legal hearing.</p> <p>C5 - Be able to balance and manage the competing requirements of confidentiality and effective information sharing to the benefit of the service user and other persons concerned with the user's care.</p>	<p>Practical skills are developed through the use of parallel practice placements which ensure that these skills are viewed, reviewed and discussed in supervision; reports are provided by practice assessors to ensure that this skills have been well-articulated.</p>	<p>Practical skills are assessed within practice placement settings where trainees are supervised, advised and observed in undertaking the role.</p>
<p>Transferable skills:</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods & strategies</p>	<p>Assessment</p>
<p>D1 - Be able to work with Service users, carers and others to evaluate the outcomes of interventions and identify unmet needs</p> <p>D2 - Be able to build and sustain effective professional relationships with service users, relatives and carers when undertaking the AMHP role</p> <p>D3 - Be able to work as an AMHP in partnership with others, including inter-agency and inter-professional working.</p> <p>D4 - Understand the roles and responsibilities of other professionals involved in statutory mental health work</p> <p>D5 - Be able to use networks and community groups to</p>	<p>Transferable skills are developed through Transferable skills are developed through parallel practice placements with ongoing supervision and mid-placement review. The acquisition of competencies is achieved through the observed exercise of the role of AMHP. Service users and carers are interviewed (D1, D2) and trainees undertake a presentation and include reports in their portfolio. Class teaching also covers these aspects (D3 to D10) with expectations that trainees complete legal documentation in practice formats (D10)</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop transferable skills by maintaining</p>	<p>Transferable skills are assessed through the placements built into the course (D3 - D10) Portfolio submitted at the end of the course is assessed internally and externally and covers all skills.</p>

influence collaborative working with service users, agencies and advocates
 D6 - Be able to make appropriate decisions that are sensitive to the needs of the service user.
 D7 - Be able to assess the feasibility of, and contribute effectively to, planning and implementing options for care of the service user.
 D8 - Be able to plan, negotiate and manage compulsory admission to hospital or arrangements for supervised community treatment.
 D9 - Be able to manage and co-ordinate effectively the relevant legal and practical processes, including the involvement of other professionals, as well as service users, relatives and carers.
 D10 - Be able to complete statutory documentation, including an application for admission, and written records in accordance with applicable legislation, protocols and guidelines.

a record of evidence and completing a personal development plan.

D. Programme Structures, Features, Levels, Modules, and Credits

The programme is offered in full-time (4 months) and part-time (5-6 months) modes, and leads to the award of a Pg Cert. Entry is normally at Masters (7) level (with related degree qualifications) but candidates are also required to have undertaken a minimum amount of practice following their initial qualifications. Intake is normally Semester A. Two courses are run each year with the second starting in Semester B subject to there being sufficient demand.

Professional and Statutory Regulatory Bodies

Health and Care Professions Council; to be replaced by Social Work England.

Work-Based Learning, including Sandwich Programmes

Students on the course undertake practice placements alongside the university teaching. During the practice placement students are required to demonstrate the necessary competencies which the AMHP role requires.

Programme Structure

The programme structure and progression information below (Table 1a and 1b) is provided for the award. Any interim awards are identified in Table 1b. The Programme Learning Outcomes detailed above are developed and assessed through the constituent modules. Table 2 identifies where each learning outcome is assessed.

Table 1a Outline Programme Structure

Both modules are compulsory for all elements, which are:

Module 1 (7HSK0269) Applied Mental Health Law: Coursework (Pass/Fail) - In-class tests on mental health law and the code of practice (each individual test must be passed in order to achieve an overall pass for this assessment) AND Coursework 1 (100% weighting) (one written case study).

All individual elements of assessment must be passed.

Module 2 (7HSK0370) Managing Mental Health Act Assessments: Coursework 1 (60% weighting) A critical analysis of a Mental Health Act assessment led by the student. Practical (40% weighting) Presentation of a reflective report. Practical (Pass/Fail) The practice placement element is pass/fail. Students must achieve a pass of 50% in the coursework elements. All required HCPC competencies must be evidenced in order to pass the practice placement assessment of competencies. All individual elements must be passed.

Mode of study: Full time for attendance at all taught elements and for practice placements where trainees are full time employees; Part-time employees attend all taught elements with their full-time colleagues but take longer to complete practice placements according to their contractual arrangements with their employer.

Entry point: Semester A and Semester B

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Applied Mental Health Law	7HSK0269	30	English	0	100 P/F*	0	A, AB, B, BC
Managing Mental Health Act Assessments	7HSK0370	30	English	0	60	40 P/F*	A, AB, B, BC

* This Pass/Fail element of assessment must be successfully completed to pass the module however it will not contribute to the overall numeric grade awarded. For further information regarding the assessment for each module please refer to the Definitive Module Document.

The award of a PgCert requires 60 credit points passed at Level 7.

Table 1b Final and interim awards available

The programme provides the following final and interim awards:

Final Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of (normally):	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
Postgraduate Certificate	Applied Mental Health Practice	60 credit points at level 7	1 Semester	All programme learning outcomes (see Table 2)

Masters and Diploma awards can be made "with Distinction" or "with Commendation" where criteria as described in [UPR AS14](#), Section D and the students' handbook are met.

Programme-specific assessment regulations

The programme is compliant with the University's academic regulations (in particular, [UPR AS11](#), [UPR AS12](#) and [UPR AS14](#)) with the exception of those listed below, which have been specifically approved by the University:

E. Management of Programme & Support for student learning

Management

The programme is managed and administered through:

- A programme Leader helps students to understand the course structure
- Student representatives are invited to contribute to the programme committee
- Module Leaders aid students to achieve course requirements

Support

Students are supported by:

- Introductory days before the commencement of the full course
- StudyNet, a versatile on-line interactive intranet and learning environment
- StudyNet module sites with course and module information and teaching resources
- Attractive modern study environments in 2 Learning Resources Centres

F. Other sources of information

In addition to this Programme Specification, the University publishes guidance to registered students on the programme and its constituent modules:

- A Programme (or Student) Handbook;
- A Definitive Module Document (DMD) for each constituent module;
- Assessment Instruction and Information for each constituent module.

The [Ask Herts](#) website provides information on a wide range of resources and services available at the University of Hertfordshire including academic support, accommodation, fees, funding, visas, wellbeing services and student societies.

As a condition of registration, all students of the University of Hertfordshire are required to comply with the University's rules, regulations and procedures. These are published in a series of documents called 'University Policies and Regulations' (UPRs). The University requires that all students consult these documents which are available on-line, on the UPR web site, at: <http://www.herts.ac.uk/secreg/upr/>. In particular, [UPR SA07](#) 'Regulations and Advice for Students' Particular Attention - Index' provides information on the UPRs that contain the academic regulations of particular relevance for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students.

In accordance with section 4(5) of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017 (HERA), the UK Office for Students (OfS) has registered the University of Hertfordshire in the register of English higher education providers. The Register can be viewed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/the-ofs-register/>. Furthermore, the OfS has judged that the University of Hertfordshire delivers consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for its students. It is of the highest quality found in the UK. Consequently, the University received a Gold award in the 2018 Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes (TEF) exercise. This award was made in June 2018 and is valid for up to 3 years. The TEF panel's report and conclusions can be accessed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/teaching/tef-outcomes/#/provider/10007147>

G. Entry requirements

The normal entry requirements for the programme are:

For current entry tariff point requirements, please refer to the relevant page for the Course on the University website or on the online prospectus.

On placement, AMHP students will necessarily undertake work with vulnerable adults and children. Where students are employed by a Local Authority or Trust, given their own robust processes, the University is satisfied that an up-to-date enhanced DBS check will be in place. Where students are not employed by a Local Authority or Trust, however, the University will need to see evidence that an up-to-date enhanced DBS check is in place as part of the application process.

The programme is subject to the University's Principles, Policies and Regulations for the Admission of Students to Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes (in [UPR SA03](#)), along with associated procedures. These will take account of University policy and guidelines for assessing accredited prior certificated learning (APCL) and accredited prior experiential learning (APEL).

If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact: John Paul Anastasiadis, Programme Leader – j.p.anastasiadis@herts.ac.uk

If you wish to receive a copy of the latest Programme Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report (AMER) and/or the External Examiner's Report for the programme, please email a request to aqo@herts.ac.uk

Post Graduate Certificate in Applied Mental Health Practice

Table 2: Development of Intended Programme Learning Outcomes in the Constituent Modules

This map identifies where the programme learning outcomes are assessed in the constituent modules. It provides (i) an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the programme aims (ii) a checklist for quality control purposes and (iii) a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the programme progresses.

		Programme Learning Outcomes (as identified in section 1 and the following page)																											
		Knowledge & Understanding					Intellectual Skills					Practical Skills					Transferable Skills												
Module Title	Module Code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	D9	D10
Managing Mental Health Act Assessments	7HSK0370	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Applied Mental Health Law	7HSK0269	x	x					x				x							x	x								x	

KEY TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1 - Understand legislation, related codes of practice, and national and local policy and guidance applicable to the role of an AMHP, and be able to apply this in practice
- A2 - Understand the legal position and accountability of AMHPs, employers and the authority the AMHP is acting for in relation to the Mental Health Act 1983
- A3 - Understand a range of models of mental disorder, and be able to apply them in practice
- A4 - Understand the contribution and impact of social, physical and development factors on mental health, and be able to apply this in practice.
- A5 - Understand the social perspective on mental disorders and mental health needs in working with service users, their relatives, carers and other professionals, and be able to apply this in practice.
- A6 - Understand the implications of mental disorders for service users, their relatives, carers and other professionals, and be able to apply this in practice
- A7 - Understand child and adult protection procedures in relation to AMHP practice.
- A8 - Understand the needs of children and young people and their families and the impact those needs have on AMHP practice

Intellectual Skills

- B1 - Be able to exercise independence, authority and autonomy in the AMHP role.
- B2 - Be able to recognize assess and manage effectively the risks related to the AMHP role.
- B3 - Be able to evaluate critically local and national policy to inform AMHP practice

Practical Skills

- C1. Be able to manage anxiety, risk and conflict, and understand its impact on AMHP practice.
- C2. Be able to communicate effectively with service users, relatives and carers when undertaking the AMHP role.
- C3. Be able to communicate advice, instruction, information and professional opinion, including verbal and written reports.
- C4. Be able to present a case at a legal hearing.
- C5. Be able to balance and manage the competing requirements of confidentiality and effective information sharing to the benefit of the service user and other persons concerned with the user's care.

Transferable Skills

- D1. Be able to work with service users, carers and others to evaluate the outcomes of interventions and identify unmet needs
- D2. Be able to build and sustain effective professional relationships with service users, relatives and carers when undertaking the AMHP role.
- D3. Be able to work as an AMHP in partnership with others, including inter-agency and inter-professional working.

B4 - Be able to draw on, and evaluate critically, a range of research relevant to evidence based AMHP practice

B5 - Be able to gather, analyse and share information appropriately.

D4. Understand the roles and responsibilities if other professionals involved in statutory mental health work.

D5. Be able to use networks and community groups to influence collaborative working with service users, agencies and advocates.

D6. Be able to make appropriate decisions that are sensitive to the needs of the service user.

D7. Be able to assess the feasibility of and contribute effectively to, planning and implementing options for care of the service user.

D8. Be able to plan, negotiate and manage compulsory admission to hospital and/or arrangements for supervised community treatment.

D9. Be able to manage and co-ordinate effectively the relevant legal and practical processes, including the involvement of other professionals, as well as service users, relatives and professionals.

D10. Be able to complete statutory documentation, including an application for admission, and written records in accordance with applicable legislation, protocols and guidelines.

Section 2

Programme management

Relevant QAA subject benchmarking statements	None
Type of programme	Taught Postgraduate
Date of validation/last periodic review	May 14
Date of production/ last revision of PS	Jan 2020
Relevant to level/cohort	Level 7 entering September 2020
Administrative School	School of Health and Social Work

Table 3 Course structure

Course details		
Course code	Course description	HECOS
HSMHPPGC	PgCert Applied Mental Health Practice	100287