

Credit Bearing Short Course

Programme Specification

Instructions to Lead Academic: A separate document must be completed for each course that has been approved / re-approved during the short course approval process. All sections must be completed to enable the correct setting up of the course on the Student Records System. **Please type in the grey boxes only.**

Programme Title:	
Non-Medical Prescribing Level 6	
Programme (AOS) Code(s):	SCNMPRBP
Level of Qualification:	Level 6
Regime of Delivery:	Flexible & Distributed Learning: Blended Learning
Typical Length of Study:	20-weeks
Professional Body Recognition / Accreditation:	HCPC & NMC V300 registered Independent & Supplementary Prescriber
Awarding Body:	Buckinghamshire New University
Language of Study:	English
Date Published:	October 2024
Date re-approval required:	Usually six years from date published / approved

Intake Information

Please give details of all intakes planned for the programme, including the location(s) of delivery where this will be offered. Add additional lines as necessary.

Start Date	End Date	Location(s) where intake will be offered:
07 October 2024	14 March 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> High Wycombe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uxbridge <input type="checkbox"/> Aylesbury Vale <input type="checkbox"/> N/A – e.g. Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify below)
06 January 2025	27 June 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> High Wycombe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uxbridge <input type="checkbox"/> Aylesbury Vale <input type="checkbox"/> N/A – e.g. Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify below)
24 March 2025	19 September 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> High Wycombe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uxbridge <input type="checkbox"/> Aylesbury Vale <input type="checkbox"/> N/A – e.g. Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify below)
07 July 2025	12 December 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> High Wycombe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uxbridge <input type="checkbox"/> Aylesbury Vale <input type="checkbox"/> N/A – e.g. Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify below)

Module Information

Please add all occurrences of modules to be delivered including specific start and end dates for each. Add additional lines as necessary.

Code	Module Title	Level	Credit	Core / Option	Start date	End date
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	10 October 2024	12 December 2024
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	08 January 2025	12 March 2025
ALL6027	Applied Pharmacology Level 6	6	20	Core	09 January 2025	13 March 2025
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	25 March 2025	24 June 2025
ALL6027	Applied Pharmacology Level 6	6	20	Core	26 March 2025	25 June 2025
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	27 March 2025	26 June 2025
ALL6027	Applied Pharmacology Level 6	6	20	Core	08 July 2025	16 September 2025
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	09 July 2025	17 September 2025
ALL6027	Applied Pharmacology Level 6	6	20	Core	10 July 2025	18 September 2025
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	11 July 2025	19 September 2025
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	07 October 2025	09 December 2025
ALL6027	Applied Pharmacology Level 6	6	20	Core	08 October 2025	10 December 2025
ALL6028	Principles of Prescribing Level 6	6	20	Core	09 October 2025	11 December 2025
ALL6027	Applied Pharmacology Level 6	6	20	Core	10 October 2025	12 December 2025

Other Information

Please add any other specific information relevant to this programme e.g. entry requirements, progression routes etc.

The Non-Medical Prescribing programme has a blended delivery approach, affording flexibility of learning for nurses, midwives and allied healthcare professionals thereby considering existing clinical responsibilities.

Underpinned by the Royal Pharmacological Society (RPS) (2021) Prescribing competency Framework, programme completion leads to annotation of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Register, and the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Register, as a qualified independent and supplementary prescriber. (The NMC registrant will also be defined as a V300-qualified prescriber).

This programme aims to:

1. Produce confident healthcare professionals who utilise evidence-based guidance, to become safe, efficient and cost-effective, registered (HCPC and NMC), non-medical prescribers, within the current healthcare climate.
2. Produce knowledgeable and skilled healthcare professionals, who have an in-depth understanding of clinical governance, in relation to prescribing practice.

Entry Requirements

Nurses/Midwives: The applicant must be a registered nurse or midwife with at least one year's post qualifying experience. The applicant must provide evidence via the Accreditation of Prior and Experiential Learning (APEL) process of their ability to study at degree level; 60 credits at Level 5 are normally required to access the Level 6 programme.

Allied Health Professionals: must be registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) in a relevant allied health profession and have three years post qualifying experience. The applicant must provide evidence via the Accreditation of Prior and Experiential Learning (APEL) process of their ability to study at degree level; 60 credits at Level 5 are normally required to access the Level 6 programme.

For the purposes of developing their independent prescribing practice applicants must identify an area of clinical or therapeutic practice on which to base their learning.

An updated, Enhanced DBS Certificate (and/or be in the process of updating this), dated within the last 3 years, must be provided.

Previous study, professional and/or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules in accordance with our accreditation of prior learning (APL) process.

Learning and Teaching

The Non-Medical Prescribing programme has a blended learning approach, incorporating 16 days of teaching activity, 8 days of which will be in-person. Incorporated within these days, there will be 2 summative examinations for the numeracy and pharmacology assessments.

The remaining 8 days will be supported through interactive online learning, and teaching, including digital media platforms.

Seminars and case study work will also feature to consolidate and enhance the learning experience.

Students will undertake the Programme, as follows:

ALL6028 Principles of Prescribing – 10 weeks.
ALL6027 Applied Pharmacology - 10 weeks.

A clinical setting must already be positioned before application, in which to complete the required 90 clinical contact hours.

Please note: BNU are not responsible for creating a placement or providing Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPP). The term DPP will be used generically to cover all the regulatory titles such as Practice Assessor (PA) & Practice Supervisor (PS) for nurses and midwives, and Practice Educator (PE) for allied healthcare professionals.

Assessment

The assessment for the programme is designed to meet the requirements of the NMC (2018) and the HCPC (2019) education standards. The NMC and HCPC have adopted 'A competence framework for all prescribers' (RPS 2021) within their prescribing standards.

All the assessments are appropriate, achievable and vocationally focused and form a constructive part of the learning process.

The portfolio assessment affords the opportunity to capture 90 hours of supervised clinical practice allowing reflection on practice and application of theory to practice through critical analysis of the prescribing competencies. It contains Practice supervisor, Practice assessor, Practice educator (Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP)) feedback along with service user commentary to contribute to the development of a holistic approach to prescribing.

The following assessment activities are used for this programme:

Numeracy Examination: Pass mark 100%

Portfolio 1: Pass Mark 40%

Pharmacology Examination: Pass Mark 80%

Portfolio 2: Pass mark 40%

Additional Assessment Regulations

There are two attempts at each assessment. There is an exceptional third attempt at the numeracy assessment, at the discretion of the assessment board. The pass mark for this assessment is 100% and is a pass/fail element.

In addition, the NMC standards state:

That the award must be registered within five years of successfully completing the programme and failure to do so will mean retaking and successfully completing the programme, to qualify and register the award as a prescriber.