

Programme Specification Pro-forma (PSP)



GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY

GENERAL INFORMATION

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| 1. Programme Title: | MSc Medical Ultrasound (Part –time) |
| 2. Final Award: | MSc Medical Ultrasound |
| 3. Exit Awards: | Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Ultrasound
Postgraduate Certificate in Medical Ultrasound |
| 4. Awarding Body: | Glasgow Caledonian University |
| 5. Approval Date: | April 2017 |
| 6. School: | School of Health and Life Sciences |
| 7. Host Department: | Department of Psychology, Social Work and Allied Health Sciences |
| 8. UCAS Code: | Not Applicable |
| 9. PSB Involvement: | Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education (CASE) |
| 10. Place of Delivery: | Glasgow Caledonian University |
| 11. Subject Benchmark Statement: | Not applicable |
| 12. Dates of PSP Preparation/Revision: | January 2017 |

2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

Programme Philosophy and Aims

The MSc Medical Ultrasound sits within a suite of Postgraduate Programmes. The main aim of the programme is to produce competent, autonomous ultrasound practitioners.

Our philosophy is to provide health care professionals with a sound understanding of the principles and practice of medical ultrasound and its applications, and to help students develop the necessary skills to apply them in clinical practice.

In developing knowledge and skills relating to the science, technology and practical applications of ultrasound, students will evaluate and perform current ultrasound techniques relating to their specific area of ultrasound practice.

In addition, students will critically explore the professional issues at the forefront of ultrasound practice, applying sound research techniques and advanced academic enquiry to review and inform the evidence base.

Programme Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- Provide students with the range of skills required for the safe, competent and autonomous professional practice of medical ultrasound within their chosen field(s) of expertise.
- Develop student's abilities to assimilate complex theories, in order that an informed knowledge base can enlighten clinical practice.
- Develop student's cognitive skills, enabling them to systematically and creatively make complex clinical decisions in the absence of complete information.
- Further develop student's interpersonal skills to enable effective interaction with service-users and multi-professional groups.
- Equip students with the necessary skills to communicate ultrasound findings, whilst working within an ethical, legal and professional framework.
- Develop student's ability to integrate and evaluate a range of professional issues within a framework of effective, rational decision making and service improvements.
- To provide students the opportunity to critically evaluate the contribution of ultrasound to the overall management of the patient.
- To facilitate and support effective learning and developing student's abilities to reflect on their professional practice so that they will continue as independent practitioners with a commitment to lifelong learning.
- Equip students with the knowledge and skills to be able to actively participate in clinical audit, research and development.

The aims of the clinical education scheme are to:

- Provide a suitable student learning environment to perform medical ultrasound examinations in an evidenced-based environment,
- Encourage and allow for student reflection and progression during the clinical learning period,
- Provide support for the clinical staff in their role as major collaborators in the scheme.

The programme is informed by relevant statutory, political and professional standards, benchmarks and drivers, in addition to internal university documentation. Relevant documentation include:

GCU (2015) [Qualifications Framework](#). Glasgow. GCU.

GCU (2016) [Assessment Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Programmes 2016-17](#). Glasgow. GCU

GCU (2016) [Strategy for Learning \(2015-2020\)\(revised\)](#). Glasgow. GCU

QAA (2015) *The UK Quality Code for Higher Education*. Gloucester. Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

SCQF (2012) [SCQF Level Descriptors](#). Glasgow. Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework.

SCQF (2010) *Credit Rating Criteria Explained: Learning Outcomes, Notional Learning Hours & Assessment*. Glasgow. Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework.

Department of Health (2004) *The NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (NHS KSF) and the development review process*. London. Department of Health

NES (2016) [Post Registration: Career Development Framework](#)

for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals

NES (2015) *The 2nd Edition of the Next Chapter - NHS Education for Scotland Allied Health Professions Education Strategy 2015-2020*. Edinburgh. NHS Education for Scotland.

CASE (2015) Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education [CASE Validation and Accreditation Handbook](#)

SCoR and BMUS (2016) [Guidelines for Professional Ultrasound Practice](#)

4. PROGRAMME STRUCTURES AND REQUIREMENTS, LEVELS, MODULES, CREDITS AND AWARDS

The School of Health & Life Sciences offers high quality, innovative programmes, which contribute significantly to the knowledge and skills base within health and social care. The suite of postgraduate programmes enables the school to offer both profession specific as well as general awards while minimising the potential for duplication of modules across the school. In designing this portfolio, the School encourages cross and inter-professional collaboration, which allows for a range of contextual dimensions to be added to the core elements of profession-specific awards. The suite of postgraduate programmes provide a flexible academic structure as well as an efficient means of providing academic and administrative support for all postgraduate awards within the School. The underpinning rationale for the chosen structure was to maximise access to the modules/routes for both part time and full time students from across the UK and Internationally.

The structure for all students wishing to exit with the award of PgC / PgD / MSc Medical Ultrasound is outlined in the table below. To obtain a MSc degree the student requires to accumulate 180 M level credits through 90 core credits and 90 profession specific modules.

Exit Award	Core Module	Plus ONE Ultrasound Clinical Module (30 credits):
Stage 1 Postgraduate Certificate (60 M credits)	Principles of Practice in Medical Ultrasound (30 credits)	General Medical Ultrasound Obstetric and Gynaecological Ultrasound Defined Area of Ultrasound Practice 1 Defined Area of Ultrasound Practice 2
Stage 2 Postgraduate Diploma (120 M credits)	Advanced Research Methods (30 credits)	General Medical Ultrasound Obstetric and Gynaecological Ultrasound Defined Area of Ultrasound Practice 1 Defined Area of Ultrasound Practice 2
Stage 3 Master of Science (180 M credits)	Masters Dissertation (60 Credits)	

The MSc Medical Ultrasound is not profession specific, but aimed at a vast range of healthcare professionals with relevant backgrounds.

The timeframe for the MSc Medical Ultrasound award is normally three years, however will be dependent upon work load commitments, personal work-life balance, initial confidence in studying at M-level, and for self-funding students the impact of module fees. For those reasons the programme has been designed to be flexible so that it will meet the needs and aspirations of a wide range of students. Below is an example of a part-time study pattern.

Part Time Route Example:

MSc Medical Ultrasound			
Year / Award	Trimester A September - December	Trimester B January - April	Trimester C May - August
ONE Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits)	MMB824473 General Medical Ultrasound (30 credits)		
		MMB824475 Principles of Practice in Medical Ultrasound (30 credits)	
TWO Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits)	MMB824470 Defined Area of Ultrasound Practice (30 credits)		
	MMB724491 Advanced Research Methods (30 credits)		
THREE Master of Science (180 credits)	MMB724468 Masters Dissertation (focus on ultrasound) (60 credits)		

To exit with a post-graduate award, students will undertake a series of modules, which satisfy their personal, professional and academic aspirations and needs. Such personal study pathways will normally be agreed with the appropriate Programme Lead before commencement of the programme of study. Personal study pathways may be altered subsequent to enrolling on a course of study provided the altered pathway is consistent with the programme philosophy and with accrediting body and university regulations.

The modules available within the MSc Medical Ultrasound Programme are listed below:

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
MMB824475	Principles of Practice in Medical Ultrasound	30 M
MMB824474	Obstetric and Gynaecological Ultrasound	30 M
MMB824473	General Medical Ultrasound	30 M
MMB824470	Defined Area of Ultrasound Practice 1	30 M
MMB824471	Defined Area of Ultrasound Practice 2	30 M
MMB724491	Advanced Research Methods	30 M
MMB724468	Masters Dissertation	60 M

8. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Students should expect to complete their programme of study under the Regulations that were in place at the commencement of their studies on that programme, unless proposed changes to University Regulations are advantageous to students.

The Glasgow Caledonian University Assessment Regulations which apply to this programme, dependent on year of entry can be found at:

[GCU Assessment Regulations](#)

