Master of Science in Advanced Clinical Practice

These regulations must be read in conjunction with the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses). These regulations are available online via the Open University ‘Student Policies and Regulations’ website at https://help.open.ac.uk/documents/policies.

Short title
MSc in Advanced Clinical Practice

Award letters
MSc ACP (Open)

Entry requirements
Students must be employed and have the support of their employer to undertake this qualification. Where a practitioner is self-employed, assurances of support, appropriate learning opportunities, governance and safety measures will be discussed with the qualification lead.

Students undertaking the Non-Medical Prescribing module as part of this qualification will also need to meet the specific requirements for that module.

The normal entry requirements for the MSc ACP programme are:

- Normally a first degree in a health-related discipline. Applicants with evidence of equivalent professional development or academic proficiency will be considered. Applicants with non-European academic qualifications will need to supply evidence of equivalency through NARIC
- Current registration with one of the statutory regulators of health and care professions
- Employment as a health care professional
- Evidence of their employer’s recommendation for their application for a programme of study leading to an Advanced Practice role including a formal reference from the employer confirming:
  - the applicant demonstrates professional values and behaviours, respecting people’s diversity, beliefs, culture, needs, values and preferences and shows respect and empathy acting as a role model for others
  - the applicants ‘clinical readiness’ to undertake the programme
- Evidence of employer support to undertake the programme including:
  - the provision of a mentor to ensure appropriate learning in practice
  - the availability of appropriate supervision in clinical practice
  - for the Non-Medical prescribing module the provision of a Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) with evidence of a qualification at level 7
**Maximum duration of study**  
5 years, or 4 years with RPL

**Credit requirement**  
180 credits from three compulsory 60 credit modules

**Maximum Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)**  
A maximum award of 120 credits of RPL by Recognition of Prior Certificated Learning (RPCL through credit transfer) and/or Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL). The award of RPEL will be assessed through the submission of an RPEL Application form.

**Maximum age of RPL**  
Recognition of Prior Certificated Learning (RPCL through credit transfer) – 16 years  
Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) – 5 years

**Unique study requirement**  
60 credits

**Classification**  
Distinction: 90* module credits at Distinction grade  
Merit: 90* module credits at Merit grade

**Additional rules**  
* The minimum classification requirements will require completion of two 60 credit modules.

The classification scheme was amended in April 2021