



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

MSc

Nursing

Study mode

Full-time

Part-time

Duration

12 months

Up to 36 months

Apply by: **28 August 2026**

Starts on: **21 September 2026**

About this course

Join a specialist programme for qualified nurses that will build on your existing nursing expertise. We'll enhance your leadership, research and communication skills and prepare you for advanced and innovative practice as a specialist nurse, nurse manager, nurse educator or nurse researcher.

Introduction

The MSc Nursing programme is a contemporary, vocational programme of postgraduate study that immerses qualified nurses in key issues and ideas relating to the four pillars of professional nursing: communication; leadership; education and research.

Developed in conjunction with the needs of modern professional healthcare organisations, and in collaboration with key stakeholders, the programme aims to nurture innovative professional practice.

The curriculum has been specifically designed to advance students' existing knowledge and enhance their skills in what is a highly specialised field.

The programme offers students the opportunity to compare and contrast the professional environment of the UK National Health Service with service organisations and delivery in other countries, providing them with a valuable global perspective on healthcare.

You'll also receive training in leadership and management skills for advanced clinical practitioners and receive expert insights into how to manage complex care needs.

Optional modules enable you to focus on specific aspects of patient care of professional interest. You can specialise in areas ranging from managing critically ill patients to assessing risk, promoting mental health and wellbeing, and managing the emotional impact of diagnosis.

As part of the School of Allied Health Professions and Nursing's commitment to the promotion of interprofessional learning, this programme has a module in which nurses learn alongside therapeutic radiographers which is imperative for the development of professionals who are comfortable working as part of a multi-disciplinary healthcare team where collaboration is vital.

The programme is led by a small team of experienced and dedicated nursing staff who form part of a larger team of healthcare experts in the School of Allied Health Professions and Nursing. Our interactive, small-group teaching sessions are designed to enhance your transferable skills, from critical thinking and problem-solving, to communication, leadership and teamwork.

For greater educational and professional flexibility, we also offer early exit points at postgraduate certificate and postgraduate diploma levels to ensure that we cater for the needs of nurses with diverse professional responsibilities or personal circumstances.

Who is this course for?

The programme is suitable for nurses who already hold a professional nursing qualification which confers eligibility to practice in the country of training.

What you'll learn

- Insight into the UK National Health Service and comparisons with global models of health and social care provision
- Contemporary theories and concepts of leadership, management and education for advanced clinical practice
- Complex clinical situations in patient care
- How to support mental health and wellbeing needs
- The assessment, care and management of critically ill patients

- Therapeutic communication skills
- How to assess risk and respond to the needs of vulnerable patients
- How to improve the healthcare experience of LGBTQ+ patients with cancer
- How to devise a population health improvement strategy
- How to use qualitative research to explore current issues in healthcare
- Critical understanding of palliative and end of life care

^ [Back to top](#)

Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

You'll complete one compulsory module in semester one, two compulsory modules in semester two, and a dissertation across three semesters.

A combined total of 60 credits of optional modules will also be selected across semesters one and two.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>PERSPECTIVES IN ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (HEAL442)</u>	20
<u>DISSERTATION (HEAL451)</u>	60

Optional modules	Credits
<u>MANAGING RISK AND VULNERABILITY IN CLINICAL SETTINGS (HEAL462)</u>	20
<u>TAKING PRIDE IN CANCER CARE: PERSON-CENTRED CARE FOR LGBTQ+ PEOPLE WITH CANCER (RADT755)</u>	20
<u>THERAPEUTIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE (HEAL415)</u>	20
<u>APPLIED PHYSIOLOGY OF THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT (HEAL702)</u>	30
<u>PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL411)</u>	20

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

You'll complete one compulsory module in semester one, two compulsory modules in semester two, and a dissertation across three semesters.

A combined total of 60 credits of optional modules will also be selected across semesters one and two.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATION FOR ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE (HEAL484)</u>	20
<u>MANAGING COMPLEXITY IN CLINICAL ENVIRONMENTS (HEAL441)</u>	20
<u>DISSERTATION (HEAL451)</u>	60
Optional modules	Credits
<u>PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH (HEAL452)</u>	20
<u>DEVELOPING PRACTICE IN PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE (CANC702)</u>	20
<u>ETHICS, CULTURE AND VALUES IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL412)</u>	20
<u>NEGOTIATED WORK BASED LEARNING - DEVELOPING PRACTICE SKILLS (HEAL446)</u>	20
<u>SUPPORTING LEARNING IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (MULTIPROFESSIONAL SUPPORT OF LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT IN PRACTICE) (HEAL443)</u>	20

Optional modules	Credits
<u>MANAGEMENT OF THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT (HEAL703)</u>	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

You'll complete one compulsory module in semester one, two compulsory modules in semester two, and a dissertation across three semesters.

A combined total of 60 credits of optional modules will also be selected across semesters one and two.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (HEAL451)</u>	60

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

You will learn through a range of blended approaches which include:

- traditional lectures and seminars
- interactive workshops
- online activities and discussions
- group work
- presentations
- problem-based learning

Throughout the programme you will be encouraged to take an independent and self-directed approach to your study and to use the range of learning resources available to support your academic development. Individual modules adopt a range of teaching and learning strategies to enhance your learning experience.

The programme also provides opportunities for 1-1 tuition and you will be allocated a supervisor for your dissertation.

How you're assessed

The programme is assessed through essays, portfolios, presentations and case studies. The varied assessments include a 10,000-word dissertation.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

[^ Back to top](#)

Careers and employability

The programme enables registered nurses to extend the scope of their skills and knowledge into new areas. You'll graduate well placed to apply for promotion or to extend the professional roles and responsibilities in your current position.

Key transferable skills, including practice development, research-led practice and professional leadership, will open up exciting career opportunities and help meet the demand for senior nurses and managers in the NHS and other providers.

The MSc Nursing provides a strong foundation for registered nurses to enhance their career development. It's particularly suitable if you're a UK or international nurse seeking to pursue:

- A senior nursing role in a specialist practice area
- A nursing leadership or management position
- A career as a nurse educator
- A career as a nurse researcher, for example working as a research assistant on commissioned research projects.

The programme could also be a gateway to nursing scholarship through PhD study.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

[^ Back to top](#)

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £11,700

Part-time place, per year – £5,850

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £28,300

Part-time place, per year – £14,150

Fees stated are for the 2025/26 academic year. Tuition fees for the academic year 2026/27 will be announced soon.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about paying for your studies](#).

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

^ [Back to top](#)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Postgraduate entry requirements

You must hold a professional nursing qualification which confers eligibility to register and practice in your country of training.

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in a relevant subject. If you completed pre-registration studies to diploma level, this diploma will be considered if evidence of professional development at level 6 or level 7 is provided.

As this nursing programme does not include any mandatory clinical practice requirements, overseas applicants do not need to seek professional registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the [University of Liverpool International College](#), in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MSc, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110. For academic year 2025/26 only, we will also accept the production, literacy, comprehension and conversation score set: 120 overall, with no component below 105.

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) – 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards – 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 6.0	6 weeks	On campus
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
6.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and no	30 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
component below 4.5		
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you’ve completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

[^ Back to top](#)