UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

MSc

Nursing

Study mode	Duration	
Full-time	12 months	Apply by: **11 September 2026**
Part-time	Up to 36 months	Starts on: **28 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
PERSPECTIVES IN ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (HEAL442)	20
DISSERTATION (HEAL451)	60

Optional modules	Credits
MANAGING RISK AND VULNERABILITY IN CLINICAL SETTINGS (HEAL462)	20
TAKING PRIDE IN CANCER CARE: PERSON-CENTRED CARE FOR LGBTQ+ PEOPLE WITH CANCER (RADT755)	20
THERAPEUTIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE (HEAL415)	20
APPLIED PHYSIOLOGY OF THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT (HEAL702)	30
PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL411)	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
LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATION FOR ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE (HEAL484)	20
MANAGING COMPLEXITY IN CLINICAL ENVIRONMENTS (HEAL441)	20
DISSERTATION (HEAL451)	60

Optional modules	Credits
PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH (HEAL452)	20
DEVELOPING PRACTICE IN PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE (CANC702)	20
ETHICS, CULTURE AND VALUES IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL412)	20
NEGOTIATED WORK BASED LEARNING - DEVELOPING PRACTICE SKILLS (HEAL446)	20
SUPPORTING LEARNING IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (MULTIPROFESSIONAL SUPPORT OF LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT IN PRACTICE) (HEAL443)	20

Optional modules	Credits
MANAGEMENT OF THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT (HEAL703)	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
DISSERTATION (HEAL451)	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 Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching - learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning - taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment - assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

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 - £12,500
Part-time place, per year - £6,250

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £30,000
Part-time place, per year - £15,000

Tuition fees are for the academic year 2026/27.

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 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 £12,858 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. You can find information on the general and subject-specific costs you could expect to incur on our study costs webpage.

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

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. 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 writing at 6.0 and no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with writing at 5.5 and no component below 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
5.0 overall, with no more than one component at 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component at 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

© University of Liverpool