

MSc Football Medicine in association with FIFA (THHL-ADM32)

Course and Award Details

Course title	MSc Football Medicine in association with FIFA
Route(s)	MSc Football Medicine in association with FIFA
Awarding body	University of Bath
Award	Masters Degree not mainly by Research
Award name	Masters - Postgraduate Taught
Course mode of delivery	Distance Learning (MSc) 45+ weeks equivalent
Course length	5 years
Entry point	September 2024
Main location of study	University of Bath, Main Campus, Claverton Down
Course-owning school/department	Health

Course Description

Course Summary	Developed in partnership with FIFA, this specialist master's course equips qualified doctors with the skills to conduct clinical practice in football settings.
Course Description	<p>This highly flexible academic and clinical master's degree develops your sport and exercise medicine expertise, with a focus on football.</p> <p>Through a combination of Bath's clinical expertise and FIFA's industry insights, you'll learn advanced football medicine techniques. This will help to enhance your sport-specific or portfolio medical career.</p> <p>During your studies, you'll gain the skills needed to improve the preparation, development, and medical management of recreational or elite players; and deepen your clinical knowledge of musculoskeletal injuries, to allow you to better assess, treat, and advise the patients in your practice.</p> <p>You'll also develop your:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- clinical knowledge of the aftercare of injuries and rehabilitation- ability to provide safe and effective pitch-side emergency care- expertise in injury prevention in football- awareness of the signs of mental health issues in sport and the ability to provide confidential support- understanding of the ethical and medicolegal issues of working in football <p>This course will also provide you with a recognised qualification for indemnity insurance - many team doctor jobs will require this type of qualification.</p> <p>>Visit FIFA's world-leading medical facilities</p> <p>>In Year 2, you'll visit FIFA's medical facilities in Zurich, Switzerland. This is an opportunity to see world-leading practice up close.</p> <p>A mix of self-led and face-to-face learning</p>

Bath is the only UK university that works with FIFA to offer this type of academically recognised course through part-time distance learning. This means you can complete your master's degree alongside your clinical practice.

You'll also experience face-to-face teaching during our Residential Weeks, which will take place in Bath and at FIFA's medical facilities in Zurich.

Bath's sports medicine expertise

You'll learn from experts in sports medicine and sports physiotherapy, some of whom have extensive football-specific experience, as well as staff in our wider Department for Health(/departments/department-for-health) community.

Their passion, knowledge and industry expertise shape their teaching to enhance your learning experience. They all have vast levels of industry experience and have worked with a range of professional athletes across different sports.

Some have worked at high-profile sporting events, including the:

- Olympic Games
- Commonwealth Games
- Paralympic World Cup
- World University Games

Use specialist facilities

During the first Residential Week, you will use the physiology and biomechanics suites on our Bath campus. These contain up-to-date performance testing and analysis equipment.

The second Residential Week, which will take place at FIFA's medical facility in Zurich, will give you hands-on access to FIFA's expertise and leading facilities. You will also complete pitch-side medical training during this week.

Gain important career skills

During this course, you will benefit from:

- highly interactive, flexible distance learning and clinical teaching
- residential teaching weeks to support your practical and clinical examination training
- an online network of sport and exercise medicine and sports physiotherapy clinicians
- access to experienced clinical specialists in the field to provide professional development support
- a problem-solving and reflective approach to football medicine

You will be assigned an experienced sports medic as your Professional Development Advisor during this course. They will provide mentorship and help you establish industry links.

In Year 1 and Year 2 there are opportunities to learn from guest speakers and build connections with other clinicians at our Residential Weeks. The first is optional and will take place in Bath. The second is compulsory and will take place will take place at FIFA's medical facility in Zurich, Switzerland.

Upon successful completion of the Residential Week at FIFA's Zurich medical facility, you'll also receive a pitch-side medical certificate. This will be awarded by FIFA.

Graduate prospects

By the end of your studies, you will be qualified to work with footballers and/or teams from grassroots to elite levels in a variety of football medicine roles (such as team doctor).

Throughout the course, you'll become better equipped to assess, treat, and advise

patients in relation to musculoskeletal injuries, and to advise patients about the health benefits of exercise more generally.

Recent Department for Health graduates have gone on to work for leading organisations in the field of football, including:

- FIFA Medical Department
- The Premier League
- UEFA
- Manchester United FC
- The FA

If you want to continue your research alongside professional practice, we also provide an established Professional Doctorate(/courses/postgraduate-research/dhealth-professional-doctorate-in-health-part-time/), offering a route for MSc students interested in continuing their research to doctoral level while working part-time.

Contact hours

You are expected to spend, on average, around 10 hours per week studying. This will be made up of structured and interactive online content, with support from Bath academics throughout.

During Residential Weeks, you will experience face-to-face teaching to complement your distance learning study.

Delivery methods

The following list provides an indication of some of the learning and teaching methods used on the course:

- Research project
- Clinical experience
- Online resources
- Practical sessions
- Seminars
- Tutorials
- Workshops
- Real-life case studies

Assessment summary

You will experience a balance of different forms of assessment designed to support your professional development. This will include coursework, essays, reports, presentations oral presentations, reflective portfolios, and a final project/dissertation.

Your clinical skills will be assessed through Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) at the end of Year 2.

Throughout the course, you'll receive formative (unassessed) feedback on your progress in preparation for your graded assessments.

We can make reasonable adjustments to assessment procedures for students with disabilities. Take a look at our Disability Service's pages(/professional-services/disability-service/) for information.

Assessment methods

The following list provides an indication of some of the assessment methods used on the course:

- Coursework
- Essay
- Dissertation
- Portfolio
- Practical work
- Reflective assessment
- Report
- Oral presentation

Budgeting statement

You will need to budget at least £100 for the cost of photocopying, printing and binding. You will also need to budget for the cost of textbooks.

Additional Costs

Residential events

Residential Week tuition is included in your course fees. However, accommodation, food and travel costs (in both Bath and Zurich (Switzerland)) are not included. Accommodation is not available on the University campus, so we recommend you book accommodation in Bath city centre. You may also need to budget for accommodation whilst taking your clinical exams which are held on the University of Bath campus.

IT access and equipment

You'll need to have access to IT equipment and a stable internet connection to enable your participation on the course through distance learning.

Course Assessment Regulations

Applicable Assessment Regulations	Postgraduate Taught Assessment Regulations - https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/postgraduate-taught-assessment-regulations/
Exemptions from Regulations	Not specified
Course Progression Requirements	Not specified

Course Structure

Year 1

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	HL00000	Academic integrity training & test	Extra	Foundation (FHEQ level 3)	0	
M02	HL52036	Football medicine in practice I	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
M02	HL52048	The sport and exercise doctor	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
M06	HL52038	Foundations of biomechanics and physiology for clinicians	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	15	
M10	HL52035	Exercise behaviour change for population health	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	

Additional rules for module selection

None

Year 2

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	HL52037	Football medicine in practice II	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S1	HL52039	From injury to rehabilitation for sport and exercise	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S2	HL52031	Applied football medicine	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
S2	HL52041	Psychology of sports medicine	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	

Additional rules for module selection

None

Year 3

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	HL52042	Research project	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	30	

Additional rules for module selection

None

The availability of optional units is subject to constraints such as staff availability, minimum and maximum group sizes, and timetabling factors, as well as a student's ability to meet any pre-requisite rules.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to

Knowledge and Understanding	Intellectual Skills	Professional and Transferable Skills	Placement	Study Year Abroad
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Justify your adherence to, and use of, professional and sports-specific competencies			✓
Utilise evidence-based clinical reasoning to rationalise decisions and solve unforeseen novel/contemporary clinical problems in your field, role, and context	✓	✓	
Use both reflective and feedback mechanisms to support and re-evaluate self-care techniques, clinical practice, and the development of lifelong learning skills			✓
Deliver, develop, and adapt, specialized standards of care across a widespread spectrum of SEM and MSK, based on the needs of professionals, patients, and the changing healthcare environment	✓	✓	✓
Critically appraise and synthesise evidence from a variety of sources, including collected data, to identify, adapt, and implement best practice, both clinically and academically.	✓	✓	
Discuss ethical issues in clinical practice, including your own, and manage any implications			✓
Create a shared understanding of clinical issues with specialists and non-specialists alike, using context-specific language and communication methods where appropriate			✓
Select and apply the appropriate established techniques in dealing with sporting injuries, including differential diagnosis, investigation, and management	✓		✓

Recognise the limits of the scope of practice of all MDT members, including, and relative to, the football doctor, integrating with other MDT disciplines where appropriate for athlete management.

✓

Apply a conceptual and comprehensive knowledge of football medicine sufficient to take on the role of a team doctor

✓

Integrate academic and clinical fields through research design methodology and practice

✓

✓

Alternative Courses and Exit Awards

Designated Alternative Courses (DAC) and exit awards

PG Diploma Football Medicine - available on completing the first 60 credits of the programme. The units which must be passed for this Exit Award are: - Football Medicine in Practice I (HL52036) - The Sport and Exercise Doctor (HL52048) - Foundations of Biomechanics and Physiology for Clinicians (HL52038) - Exercise Behaviour Change for Population Health (HL52035) - Football Medicine in Practice II (HL52037) - From Injury to Rehabilitation for Sport and Exercise (HL52039) - Psychology of Sport Medicine (HL52041) - Applied Football Medicine (HL52031) These units align with CILOs 1-10. Students will also be eligible for generic exit awards under PGTAR regulations should they fail reassessments but meet the relevant credit requirements for a generic award.