

**Programme Specification**

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Programme title	FdSc Addictions Counselling
Awarding Institution//Body	University of Bath
Teaching Institution	University of Bath
Programme accredited by (including date of accreditation)	Federation of Drug and Alcohol Practitioners (25/08/2016)
Subject Benchmark Statement*Subject Benchmark Statement:	
Date of Specification preparation/revision	
Applicable to cohorts	
Programme Approved by	

Synopsis and academic coherence of programme

This Foundation Degree programme aims to meet the increased demand for capable practitioners in the field of Addictions Counselling. It includes a large work-based component where academic knowledge and understanding reinforces and underpins the development of vocational skills in a planned integration of academic learning with work-based skills. The programme philosophy focuses on the development of reflective and effective clinical practice, provided by a range of learning opportunities including:

- The application of effective models of intervention for addictions treatment
- The investigation of a range of current issues in the treatment of addictive behaviours
- Clinical work-based learning experience
- The preparation for and reflection on clinical practice
- The development of a portfolio of professional practice

Educational aims of the programme**The programme is intended to:**

- Increase students knowledge, skills and critical understanding in order to deliver safe, effective and measurable interventions for persons presenting with problems due to substance misuse
- Provide an opportunity for students to experience work-based learning in one of a variety of statutory, voluntary and criminal justice settings
- Develop students' ability to gather and evaluate information from a range of sources and draw reasoned conclusions for application in their clinical practice
- Enable students to work collaboratively in multidisciplinary teams with service users and their significant others
- Develop students capacity to integrate the knowledge and theory of addictions counselling into the planning and delivery of treatment for addictive behaviours
- Empower students to respond to developments in the field of addictions treatment

Teaching, learning and assessment methods.

Teaching methodologies range from lectures, experiential workshops, small group exercises, tutor and student led seminars, individual and group tutorials, practical workshops, case studies, demonstration videos and periods of assessed clinical work with direct observation of experienced practitioners in the workplace. Assessment methods include essays, case studies, reflective accounts of practice, skills analyses and progress logs.

- Knowledge & Understanding:

	<p>On successful completion of the Certificate of Higher Education it is expected that the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the theoretical framework which underpins the safe treatment of addictive behaviours • Understand a range of models of substance use with appropriate methods of assessment and treatment planning • Understand how the theory and practice of addictions counselling applies to a treatment setting • Understand some contemporary issues and developments in addictions treatment • Be aware of equality and diversity issues in the treatment of addictive behaviours <p>On successful completion of the Foundation Degree Addictions Counselling it is expected that the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the theoretical framework which underpins the safe and effective treatment of addictive behaviours • Understand a range of methods of intervention • Understand how the theory and practice of addictions counselling applies to their particular setting • Understand a range of contemporary issues and developments in addictions treatment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intellectual Skills: 	<p>On successful completion of the Certificate of Higher Education it is expected that the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate ideas through the analysis of information and concepts • Formulate appropriate responses to resolve well defined problems • Evaluate a range of information <p>On successful completion of the Foundation Degree Addictions Counselling it is expected that the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate ideas through the analysis of information and concepts at an abstract level • Formulate appropriate responses to resolve well defined and abstract problems • Analyse, evaluate and reformulate a range of information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Practical Skills: 	<p>On successful completion of the Certificate of Higher Education it is expected that the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise appropriate judgement in planning and designing effective interventions with substance users <p>On successful completion of the Foundation Degree Addictions Counselling it is expected that the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Command wide ranging specialised clinical skills • Utilise diagnostic and creative skills in a range of clinical functions • Exercise appropriate judgement in planning, designing and implementing effective interventions with substance users
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferable/Key Skills: 	

On successful completion of the Certificate of Higher Education it is expected that the student will be able to:

- Communicate effectively using different means (i.e. written and verbal)
- Utilise IT and communication skills to access internet, e-mail and produce reports
- Reflect upon own academic and professional performance
- Prepare for, plan and facilitate counselling sessions effectively
- Begin to utilise problem solving skills in a variety of theoretical and clinical situations
- Begin to work independently and as part of a team to identify and achieve clear goals
- Use supervision and support to identify own development needs and improve practice
- Research and construct a bibliography

On successful completion of the Foundation Degree Addictions Counselling it is expected that the student will be able to:

- Communicate effectively using different means (i.e. written, verbal and visual)
- Utilise IT and communication skills to access internet, e-mail and produce reports
- Develop numeracy skills for the understanding of statistical analysis
- Work effectively within multidisciplinary teams and professional networks
- Reflect upon own academic and professional performance and take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development
- Prepare for, plan and facilitate meetings effectively
- Utilise problem solving skills in a variety of theoretical and clinical situations
- Manage and prioritise caseload within organisational policies and priorities
- Work independently and as part of a team to identify and achieve clear goals
- Use supervision and support to identify own development needs and improve practice
- Research and construct a bibliography

Summary of assessment and progression regulations

NFA - fully compliant

Progression Regulations and Awards

Students leaving an undergraduate programme prematurely may be eligible for a Certificate of Higher Education

Suspension:

For suspension of studies a formal request has to be made to the University either directly or via the Programme Leader at the partner institution communicating a valid reason for the need to suspend. This request will then be considered by the University. Suspension is for 12 months and allows students to return back to their study at the same point in the following academic year. In exceptional circumstances only, the University will consider a further suspension period of 12 months. Suspension beyond this point is not feasible.

Regulations:

The FdSc Addictions Counselling programme is fully compliant with the University's New Framework for Assessment: Assessment Regulations. The NFAAR describes the rules for progression from one stage of the programme to the next (including supplementary assessment) as well as for the award of degrees. Students taking the FdSc Addictions Counselling programme are assessed according to these rules ([NFAAR-FD](#)).

The following NFAAR-FD appendices detail decision-making criteria and flowcharts

[Appendix 11: Main assessment](#)

[Appendix 12: Supplementary assessment](#)

Appended is a description of how the programme is structured in terms of the NFAAR. Information about Stage Required Units (SRUs) and the definitions for parts and stages of the programme, are also available in the NFAAR (see [NFAAR-FD Appendix 2: Definitions](#)).

Details of Work Placements Requirements / Work Based Learning / Industrial Training Requirements

Students are required to undertake a minimum of 684 hours of work-based learning activities. During these periods of clinical practice students are expected to produce a portfolio of evidence of their learning. Work-based learning takes place in agencies in the statutory, voluntary and independent sectors where students are supervised by qualified and experienced clinicians. Students are required to find a suitable work based learning environment, in consultation with their tutor.

Details of Study Abroad Requirements

Details of Professional Accreditation

Admissions Criteria including APL/APEL arrangements

Applications are welcomed from candidates:

- with a relevant level 3 qualification. Please see the University of Bath website for further information regarding specific Level 3 entry criteria:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/study/ug/prospectus/foundation/foundation-programmes/addictions-counselling/index.html>

- without formal qualifications but who have a minimum of two years relevant work experience and are able to demonstrate that they have developed the necessary skills to succeed on the course can apply through the University's AP(E)L procedures.

Applicants satisfying entry criteria will be required to attend a selection process.

As part of this selection process, applicants meeting the academic entry requirements but with limited experience will be required to attend and pass a one week intensive counselling course organized by the Centre for Addictions Treatment Studies before being admitted on the course.

All applicants will normally also require a pass (at grade C or above) in English or the level 2 equivalents.

Students applying with non-UK based qualifications will be considered on an individual basis.

Applicants without formal qualifications but who have a minimum of two years relevant work experience and are able to demonstrate that they have developed the necessary skills to succeed on the course can apply through the University's AP(E)L procedures.

Where English is not the applicant's first language an IELTS score of 6.5 with no element less than 6.0, or equivalent qualification, will normally be required.

Full details of the different routes into the qualification can be found at

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/study/ug/prospectus/foundation/foundation-programmes/addictions-counselling/index.html>

Precise entry requirements may vary from year to year.

Details of Support Available to Students

Department and Programme Specific Support Information

Support will follow the arrangements made by the partner institution, and detailed in their Programme Handbook. In particular, the following arrangements will apply:

- induction to the partner institution, its services and facilities, and to the programme
- access to the partner institution's learning resources (Library, IT facilities etc.)
- information on the units to be studied, including content, delivery and assessment
- a partner institution programme handbook, including details of the full assessment schedule and programme regulations
- personal tutorial system for the provision of academic and pastoral support.

In addition, students will receive support from the University of Bath according to the partnership arrangement between the two institutions, including:

- an initial induction to the Bath campus their facilities and learning resources
- access to Library resources and IT facilities at the Bath campus
- the allocation of a Link Academic Advisor from the University to the programme
- Access to library resources and IT facilities at the University
- University of Bath Student Handbook, including details of the University's regulations
- membership of the University of Bath Students' Union (The SU Bath), including access to The SU's support services and training.

Info Sources:

- [University of Bath Website](#)
- [UCAS Website](#)
- Partner Institution website: www.actiononaddiction.org.uk
- Partner Institution publicity (e.g. prospectus, course leaflet, open days)
- Partner Institution Programme handbook
- University of Bath Student Handbook

Business Support Systems - part of Computing Services