



FdSc (Foundation degree)  
Health and Social Care  
*(Diagnostic Radiography)*

INFORMATION BOOKLET



## **FdSc Health and Social Care**

Welcome to Birmingham City University's Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences and thank you for your enquiry regarding studying on the FdSc Health and Social Care programme. This full-time work-based learning programme is aimed at people who are currently working in a health or social care setting.

The FdSc Health and Social Care programme has pathways in:

- Adult care
- Children
- Diagnostic Radiography
- Mental Health
- Management in Health and Social Care
- Mammography
- Radiotherapy
- Maternity

## **Entry Requirements**

### **All applicants must have the following:**

GCSE at grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics. Equivalent qualifications such as Key Skills level 2, Adult Numeracy level 2, Adult Literacy level 2, CSE grade 1 and functional skills level 2 in Maths and English will be accepted. Irish leaving certificate – Maths and English Ordinary Level passes at grade B or above. Scottish qualifications – Maths and English passes at Intermediate Standard 2 or above.

### **In addition to the above you will be required to have:**

#### **GCE A Level**

Minimum of one A2 Level pass at grade D or above. General Studies and Critical Thinking excluded.

**OR**

## **GCE AS Level**

Minimum of two AS level passes at grade D or above. General Studies and Critical Thinking excluded.

**OR**

## **HCE double award**

AVCE double award minimum pass at grade DD. General Studies and Critical Thinking excluded.

**OR**

## **BTEC National Award**

Minimum pass grade M required.

**OR**

## **BTEC National Certificate**

Minimum pass grade PP required.

**OR**

## **BTEC National Diploma**

Minimum pass grade PPP required.

## **International Baccalaureate Diploma**

Minimum pass grade 24 required.

**OR**

## **Access to HE Diploma in Health and Social Care**

Full award (60 credits) must include 12 Level 2 maths credits and 12 Level 2 English credits if not already achieved at GCSE or equivalent.

**OR**

## **NVQ Level 3**

Full award, plus GCSE Maths at grade C or above or equivalent.

**OR**

## **NVQ Level 2**

Full award plus a written paper – details of the content will be provided by the admissions tutor post application.

**OR**

## **14-19 Progression Diploma in Society, Health and Development**

Full award.

**OR**

## **Cache Award, Certificate or Diploma**

Full award.

## **Portfolio route**

A portfolio route has been devised for those applicants who are already working in a health or social care setting and who do not meet the formal entry requirements. To follow this route you are still expected to possess GCSE Maths or equivalent and GCSE English or equivalent.

The portfolio should include:

- Two written testimonies (one of which must be from your employer) supporting your application
- One reflective piece that draws on your current practice (1,500 words)
- All pieces of work should be endorsed by your line manager.

The portfolio should be submitted within two weeks' post application, following discussion with the Admissions Tutor.

**In addition:**

All applicants will be invited to attend an interview which will include numeracy and literacy assessments, to be held at the university.

Applicants seconded from local Trusts may also be required to attend an interview as part of their Trust's selection process.



Applicants must be employed in a health or social care support worker role (or equivalent) and have support from their line manager in order to apply to the programme.

Places are subject to the confirmation from the Disclosure and Barring Service. Applicants should be aware that qualifications, personal statement, interview, references, written exercise and where appropriate Portfolio all form part of the selection criteria for this programme.

### **Hours of attendance in University**

Each student will require one day protected learning time per week, which will include University attendance, group tutorials or self-directed study time.

### **Programme structure**

Students studying the Foundation degree will study the equivalent of 11 modules throughout the programme. The full-time programme is offered

over two years and will be delivered via work-based learning.

Students will be required to study towards the completion of module workbooks or online learning through Moodle activities, forums and postings while building an e-portfolio and completing relevant assessments.

### **Self-directed study**

Students will be introduced to each module (or topic of study) by the module coordinator. Each module has a series of classroom sessions and other activities designed to help students gain all the information and skills needed to successfully complete their studies. Students are expected to undertake some of these activities in their own time or in their own organisation. Students are given advice on managing their study time and will be directed by module coordinators to complete learning activities on time. Prospective students must be aware of the commitment required to complete the Foundation degree programme.

## **Student support**

Students will have support from a personal tutor, mentor and assessor or clinical learning facilitator while undertaking the programme. Students may also access additional support services to meet their learning needs during their time in university.

### **Personal Tutor**

A member of University staff will act as a personal tutor and advise students regarding their individual learning needs, providing or referring them to the additional support mechanisms as required.

Personal tutors may also provide support and advice where appropriate, helping students adjust to University life. Personal tutors will provide a link between the University and the workplace, making regular contact with students and their work-based mentors. Personal tutors, where feasible, will make regular visits to the workplace. Where this is not feasible, specific arrangements will be made in consultation with the student, their work-based

mentor and organisation in order to provide the individual support required.

### **Mentor/Assessor or Clinical Learning Facilitator**

An appropriate member of staff from the student's organisation will be identified and be responsible for organising and assessing learning in the workplace. They will provide and arranged clinical learning and assessment opportunities, monitor student's progress through module workbooks and liaise closely with the personal tutor and/or programme director.

### **Titles and awards**

Successful completion of the full learning programme will lead to the award Foundation degree Science (FdSc) Health and Social Care (pathway specific).

## **Course philosophy**

The Foundation degree Health and Social Care is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills required to support their individual work roles and thus benefit their service users. Work-based learning is a key feature of the programme, enabling students to apply newly acquired knowledge to their practice effectively and in a timely manner. Many students will have no experience of higher education and one of the key philosophies of the programme is to support the academic and personal development of the student, enabling them to achieve their individual potential. In turn, this will facilitate the delivery of a responsive, informed and quality service within organisations. Collaboration between the University and work-based partners will aim to ensure students receive the support they need to engage with the unfamiliar, and the programme team are committed to providing the support and encouragement required to achieve their individual goals. The programme is committed to developing

workers who will be productive members of interprofessional teams, whilst responding to the changing needs and priorities of the services they support.

## **Content**

Programme content is informed by the various professional groups supported by the programme. National Occupational Standards have been used as reference points where appropriate as well as detailed consultation with employers.

### **Diagnostic Radiography pathway**

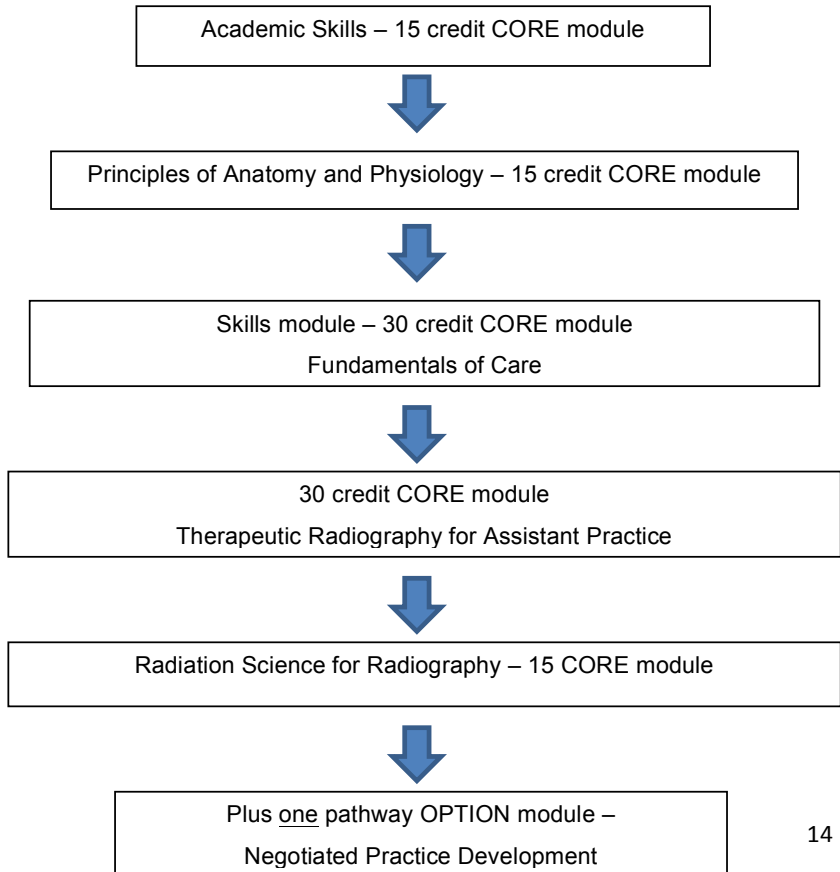
Diagnostic Radiography is a clinical service, at the heart of almost all care situations in the NHS. From initial radiographic (X-ray) assessments of injuries to investigations for cancer care. This pathway involves the students in the pivotal role of supplying crucial information to medical and other clinical staff to help plan treatment. Students are often already working in radiology/imaging departments so they will have an understanding of the environment and

the importance of radiation safety and accurate examinations. Once qualified, the Assistant Practitioners occupy a valuable position in the wider imaging team and are recognised as important colleagues. Their contribution to healthcare has been established over a number of years and it is a nationally recognised qualification, which can lead to further study and development. We have supported and developed many students through this pathway and some have made significant progress in clinical careers, having started with this program.

## Modules of study

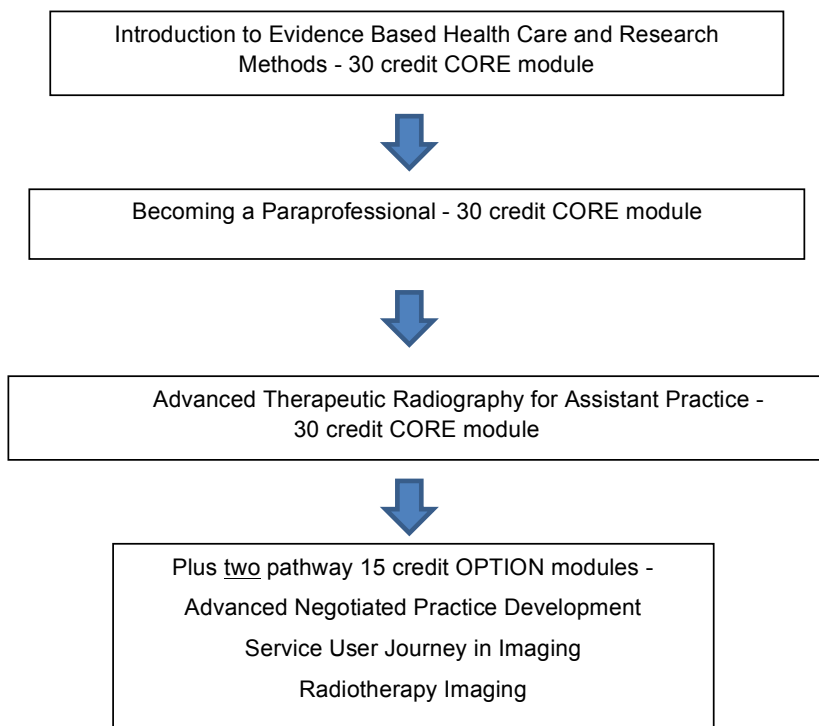
The following flowcharts identify the modules you will be undertaking:

Year 1, Level 4 (120 credits)





Year 2, Level 5 (120 credits)



## **Progression**

Students who successfully complete the FdSc Health and Social Care programme can top-up to a BSc or BSc (Hons) programme. Alternatively, students may apply to enter the BSc (Hons) Diagnostic radiography programme in year 2 following completion of relevant modules. Each applicant is considered on an individual basis.

We hope you have found this booklet useful and if you require any further information please contact the Admissions Tutor – Amanda Browne.

[amanda.browne@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:amanda.browne@bcu.ac.uk).





**BIRMINGHAM CITY**  
University

Faculty of Health, Education  
and Life Sciences  
Birmingham City University  
City South Campus  
Westbourne Road  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham B15 3TN

T. 0121 331 5000  
[bcu.ac.uk/health](http://bcu.ac.uk/health)

 [/bcuhealth](https://www.facebook.com/bcuhealth)