Course Specification
Part A

MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy
HLST246 (MACP Pathway)
HLST247 (Non-MACP Pathway)

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences
School of Nursing Midwifery and Health
Coventry University

Academic Year: 2021/2022

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

We regularly review our course content, to make it relevant and current for the benefit of our students. For these reasons, course modules may be updated. Coventry University’s accreditation with CMI is currently ongoing for the relevant modules and is regularly reviewed and monitored by the CMI through their quality systems. Whilst Coventry University anticipates that these reviews will continue to be successful, if they were to be unsuccessful, the relevant module in this course would no longer be accredited and we would notify applicants and students of this change as soon as possible.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the Module Information Directory (MID), student module guide(s) and the course handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

01 March 2021
PART A Course Specification (Published Document)

MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy

1. Introduction
The healthcare landscape has dramatically altered over the last decade with rapidly changing patient needs and NHS staff shortages necessitating new ways of working within the NHS to create a workforce capable of meeting future healthcare demands. The NHS Long Term Plan (DOH, 2019) has identified several credible strategies for workforce transformation including enhanced contributions from allied health professionals (AHPs) working in advanced practitioner roles. Patient self-referral to musculoskeletal (MSK) physiotherapists working as front line practitioners in First Contact Practitioner (FCP) and Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioner (APP) roles has been singled out as a safe, cost effective example of this.

Physiotherapists in advanced practitioner roles are expected to be clinical experts in their fields who provide leadership and strategic vision and contribute to teaching and research. Postgraduate education is essential for physiotherapists taking up these roles to allow them to work at the optimum level of their skill set and to support development of the key qualities required for advanced practice. These include the ability to draw on the evolving evidence base, the capacity for leadership, the ability to be innovative and to initiate change, to facilitate learning in others and the capacity for effective collaboration and (CSP 2018; HEE 2018).

The clinically focused MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy programme has been re-designed to support the development of specialist physiotherapists within the changing social and healthcare landscape. It is aimed at fully qualified, experienced and highly motivated practitioners who want to make a difference to clinical practice and work in senior clinical roles. It aims to equip practitioners with advanced level knowledge and skills capable of promoting MSK health, providing safe, effective, high-quality care in the diagnosis and management of individuals with MSK disorders. Alongside this the course aims to develop physiotherapists who will excel as clinical leaders with the capacity to influence local service delivery; foster evidence informed practice; lead clinical teams and contribute to the education of the local healthcare workforce. The overall course aim is to produce graduates who will operate at the highest level of practice ready to move into senior clinical roles such as first contact practitioners, advanced physiotherapy practitioners, clinical specialists and consultants. The course has been re-designed in partnership with subject experts, past and present students, which ensures that the course is fully aligned to the very latest thinking about advanced MSK physiotherapy practice. The course has retained the recognised strengths of the previous, long running MSc in Manual Therapy course and built on these to produce an exciting new programme focused to the personal and professional development of specialist MSK physiotherapists.

The course is accredited by and has long-standing, strong links with the Musculoskeletal Association of Chartered Physiotherapists (MACP), the professional body that sets and regulates postgraduate educational and clinical standards for MSK physiotherapy in the UK. MACP accreditation is an additional statement of course quality. It also maps directly to Health Education England's (HEE) Advanced Clinical Practice (ACP) Framework (2018) and their Musculoskeletal Core Capabilities Framework for First Contact Practitioners (2019) both of which reflect the current changes in health care delivery.

The course will be delivered in our new, purpose-built, state-of-the-art healthcare building (Alison Gingell building) by an experienced, forward-thinking, research active and supportive course team. The team includes alumni and nationally renowned specialist guest lecturers ensuring a diverse, research informed and clinically relevant learning experience for all students.

A course-based approach to teaching and learning is adopted by the course team, which is diverse and authentic to facilitate a stimulating and clinically relevant student experience. The course learning outcomes drive the course design and content and map directly to the course modules. Module content and sequencing has been designed to build on and progressively develop the knowledge and skills required for advanced MSK clinical practice. Teaching strategies include the use of practical seminars, debates, group work, presentations, lectures, workshops, involvement of service users, peer learning and problem-based learning using case studies with the aim of modelling high standards of patient care in a variety of ways. Learning on the course is supported using current educational technology and enhanced using a flipped classroom approach.

Unique features of the programme include

- Supported and extended induction period
• Excellent academic and pastoral student support from course team
• Use of specialist guest lecturers
• Balanced theory: practice mix
• Leadership and management module
• New ‘Clinical Approach to Pain’ module
• New style dissertation module output to enhance student publication
• Advanced MSK Physiotherapy Practice (ESP) module – nationally unique
• Wide range of authentic assessment tools used across the course
• Shared modules allowing for inter-professional learning and development of intercultural competence
• MACP course accreditation
• Chartered Management Institute qualifications
• 150 hours mentored clinical practice placement (MSc course MACP pathway only)
• Membership to MACP (MSc course MACP pathway only)

The programme consists of 3 awards
• MSc in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy
• Post graduate diploma in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy
• Post graduate certificate in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy

The MSc in MSK Physiotherapy course aims to equip practitioners with high level critical, evaluative and clinical skills across the four pillars of advanced practice (research, education, clinical and leadership). It offers students a wide range of educationally transformative learning opportunities to enable development of the skills, knowledge, behaviours and confidence required to excel as clinical leaders able to deliver and influence current and future clinical practice within a wide range of practice settings.

The MSc course can be taken full time, over a 1-year period, or part time over a 2-year period and provides a flexible programme of study to meet and accommodate students’ professional and personal needs.

Two pathways are offered on the MSc course:

• The MACP pathway: which provides the opportunity for students to complete a period of mentored clinical practice in the workplace and leads to membership of the MACP
• The non-MACP pathway: which provides the opportunity for students to undertake a university-based module, which explores the evidence underpinning clinical practice in more depth.

As part of both pathways of this course students will undertake a professional development module which is currently accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). Students who successfully complete the module 7049CRB Leading Diverse Workforces, and meet the CMI learning outcomes will gain a Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice based on the following CMI units: Leading and developing people to optimise performance (unit 702); Strategic approaches to diversity and Inclusion (unit 715) at no additional cost.

Students who successfully complete this module will be awarded Foundation Chartered Manager status and be able to use the designation ‘fCMgr’ after their name.

The Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) in MSK Physiotherapy consists of 4 MSK specific modules, a research module, a leadership module and a module that underpins the development of expert practice. The diploma provides education across all four pillars of advanced practice and so is ideal for less experienced clinicians requiring all round development to move into advanced practice roles. It does not lead to membership of the MACP and does not include an in-depth research study.

The Postgraduate Certificate (PgC) in MSK Physiotherapy consist of 3 bespoke MSK modules and is focused on developing the clinical pillar of advanced practice. It is ideal for upskilling and supporting experienced physiotherapists wishing to move into First Contact Practitioner roles or for clinicians wishing to focus on developing specialist clinical skills in MSK physiotherapy.
Previous research carried out at Coventry University has demonstrated that a range of exciting career opportunities have opened up for graduates of the MSc in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Programme including clinical specialist, consultant, university lecturer, researcher and other advanced clinical practice and leadership roles.

Applications are welcomed from students from the UK, Europe and the International market with a minimum of 1-2 years postgraduate clinical experience in the MSK physiotherapy speciality.

### 2 Available Award(s) and Modes of Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Awards</th>
<th>Mode of attendance</th>
<th>UCAS Code</th>
<th>FHEQ Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy</td>
<td>FT 1 year or PT 2 years</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PgDip Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy</td>
<td>FT 1 year or PT 18 months</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PgC Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy</td>
<td>PT 1 year</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall back Awards</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PgD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PgC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 3 Awarding Institution/Body
- Coventry University Main Campus

#### 4 Collaboration
- Not applicable

#### 5 Teaching Institution and Location of delivery
- Coventry University

#### 6 Internal Approval/Review Dates
- Date of approval/latest review: December 2019
- Date for next review: December 2025

#### 7 Course Accredited by
- Not applicable

#### 8 Accreditation Date and Duration

#### 9 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external factors
- There are no specific benchmark statements related to this programme, however, the course meets the QAA Descriptor for a qualification at Masters (M) level: Masters Degree (QAA 2016) Qualification descriptors can be found in The UK Quality Code for Higher Education in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (QAA, 2014).

  QAA Masters Degrees Characteristics Statement:

- IFOMPT educational standards
### 12 Outline and Educational Aims of the Course

The course aims to provide a coherent programme of study relevant to current advanced MSK physiotherapy practice that will support individuals to explore and extend their knowledge and professional expertise. Successful completion of this course will produce a practitioner who is a specialist in the MSK field of physiotherapy ready to move into a senior clinical role with the ability to deliver and influence current and future clinical practice.

The course is unique in offering students' additional level 7 Chartered Management Institute qualifications relevant to advanced clinical practice and for students on the MACP pathway, the course also leads to membership of the MACP.

**Postgraduate Certificate (PgC)**

The overall aim of this course is to enable students to:

- Develop the skills, concepts and knowledge required for advanced level assessment and management of individuals with MSK disorders including the use of medical diagnostic investigations, outcome measures and an understanding of pharmacology
- Critically evaluate clinical practice, the underpinning theory and the relevant evidence base
- Challenge and enhance the quality and standard of service delivery and clinical care to positively impact the wider community

**Postgraduate Diploma (Pg Dip)**

In addition to the above, the aims of this course are to enable students to develop:

- an advanced understanding of the clinical application of pain neuroscience
- the ability to reflect on and critically apply theoretical knowledge to advanced physiotherapy practice
- an understanding of the importance of research and research design in the evaluation of clinical outcomes in the development of advanced clinical practice.
- a professional learning cultures for themselves and their teams
- An understanding of the principles of strategic leadership and their application to the workplace environment

**Masters Award**

In addition to the above, the aims of this course are to enable students to:

- Develop an understanding of the importance of evidence informed practice in the development of professional knowledge and practice
- Consolidate and apply university-based learning to the clinical setting to allow fully authentic development of advanced level clinical practice in MSK Physiotherapy in the work-place
- Develop the ability to plan, conduct, write up and justify an in-depth project relating to a specific area of academic and clinical interest.

The programme satisfies the QAA Descriptors for a qualification at Masters (M) level; Masters Degree (QAA 2016) benchmark statements and Coventry University’s Code of Practice for Academic and Professional Skills Development.

### 13 Course Learning Outcomes

**Postgraduate Certificate (PgC)**

On completion of the course a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate effective and advanced critical thinking skills and physical examination skills in the assessment of differentiated, undifferentiated acute, persistent and complex MSK disorders including the referral for further diagnostic investigations.
2. Develop, justify, implement and communicate an effective, person-centered management plan for individuals with MSK disorders using a reasoned and evidence-informed approach which considers all options appropriate for the care pathway (e.g., pharmacology, injection therapy, surgery, rehabilitation, onward referral, social prescribing, health promotion and self-management).

3. Critically evaluate the impact and outcomes of interventions, service delivery and models of care for MSK disorders.

**Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip)**

On completion of the course, in addition to the learning outcomes for the postgraduate certificate, a student will be able to:

4. Critically evaluate the theoretical basis and clinical application of advanced MSK physiotherapy practice.

5. Critically evaluate the principles for leading and developing people and equality, diversity and inclusion at a strategic level.


7. Demonstrate an understanding of the philosophical underpinnings of research and its application to practice-based healthcare research design.

**Masters Award**

On completion of the course, in addition to the learning outcomes for a postgraduate diploma, a student will be able to:

8. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the importance of evidence-informed practice in the development of professional knowledge and practice.

9. Apply university-based learning to the workplace and demonstrate the development of the skills, knowledge, behaviours and confidence required for advanced level clinical practice in a wide range of MSK practice settings (MACP pathway only).

10. Justify choice of research design, methodology and methods to investigate a research question relating to advanced physiotherapy practice.

### 14 Course Structure and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards

**Postgraduate Certificate in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy – HLST 247**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal Management for Advanced Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (MSK) (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy - HLST247**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
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<td>Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (MSK) (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Clinical Approach to Pain for Health Professionals (10 credits)</td>
<td>Developing Expertise for Professional Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>Leading Diverse Workforces (10 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods, Methodology and Design (20 credits)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MSc in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy – full time: HLST246 (MACP pathway) and HLST247 (non-MACP pathway)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal Management for Advanced Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (MSK) (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Clinical Approach to Pain for Health Professionals (10 credits)</td>
<td>Developing Expertise for Professional Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>Applied Research for Advanced MSK Practice (40 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods, Methodology and Design (20 credits)</td>
<td>Clinical Practice in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (MACP pathway only) (20 credits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6
The MSc programme comprises 10 modules in total; seven 20 credit modules, two 10 credit modules and one 40 credit dissertation module, which allows for three awards to be offered on the programme: MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy; PgDip Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy; PgC Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy.

To achieve the necessary number of credits for all awards, students must achieve 40% pass mark for all modules contributing to the award.

Two pathways are offered on the MSc course: the MACP and non-MACP pathway. Students are required to choose which pathway they will undertake at the outset of the course. Each pathway consists of one mandatory module.

**MACP Pathway**
This pathway has been established for students who wish to complete a period of mentored clinical practice with an MACP qualified mentor. The MACP pathway leads to an additional qualification of membership to the MACP. This module facilitates the consolidation and application of university-based learning to the clinical setting and allows for fully authentic development of advanced level clinical practice in MSK Physiotherapy in the work-place.

- 7112 SOH Clinical Practice in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy

**Non- MACP Pathway**
This pathway has been established for students who are unable to complete a period of mentored clinical practice for a variety of reasons (overseas students without HCPC registration; students with funding issues; students unable to take 5 weeks away from their workplace; students unable to live away from home for a 5 week period etc). This module allows students to fine tune their research skills and to critically explore the nature of evidence informed practice and its influence on healthcare delivery. This pathway does not lead to membership of the MACP (Musculoskeletal Association of Physiotherapists).

- 7005 SOH Evidence Based Practice

The award title for the course is **MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**, irrespective of which pathway is chosen.

Students who achieve a total of 180 credits (comprising 8 core modules and one pathway module) can be awarded a **Masters degree in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**.
Students who achieve a total of 120 credits (comprising the CRB module and all SOH modules except the 40-credit dissertation module and the pathway module 7005 SOH or 7112 SOH) can be awarded a **Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**. Students achieving 120 credits comprising a different combination of course modules can be awarded a **Postgraduate Diploma (unnamed)**

Students who achieve a total of 60 credits (comprising 7109 SOH; 7110 SOH and 7111 SOH) can be awarded a **Postgraduate Certificate in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**. Students achieving 60 credits comprising a different combination of course modules can be awarded a **Postgraduate Certificate (unnamed)**

The MSc course is designed to be completed in one year for full time mode of study and two years for part time mode of study. Full time students will normally attend the university two days per week. Part time students will normally attend the University one day per week.

The modules required of each course, the level that they are studied at and their credit value are identified in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit level</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Value</th>
<th>Mandatory for which course</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course Learning Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7109 SOH</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Management for Advanced Practice</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>MSc PgDip PgC</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7110 SOH</td>
<td>Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Practice</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>MSc PgDip PgC</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7111 SOH</td>
<td>Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (MSK)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>MSc PgDip PgC</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7006 SOH</td>
<td>Research Methods, Methodology and Design</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>MSc PgDip</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7103 SOH</td>
<td>A Clinical Approach to Pain for Health Professionals</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>MSc PGDip</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7126 SOH</td>
<td>Developing Expertise for Professional Practice</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>MSc PgDip</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3, 4, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7049 CRB</td>
<td>Leading Diverse Workforces (10 credits)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>MSc PgDip</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7104 SOH</td>
<td>Applied Research for Advanced MSK Practice</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Specific module for Non-MACP Pathway</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7112 SOH</td>
<td>Clinical Practice in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7005 SOH</td>
<td>Evidence Based Practice</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3, 4, 7, 8, 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Requirement for awards**
To be eligible for the award of **MSc in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**, students must obtain pass grades for the following modules:

- 7109 SOH Musculoskeletal Management for Advanced Practice
- 7110 SOH Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Practice
- 7111 SOH Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (MSK)
- 7006 SOH Research Methods, Design and Methodology
- 7126 SOH Developing Expertise in Professional Practice
- 7103 SOH A Clinical Approach to Pain for Health Professionals
- 7049 CRB Leading Diverse Workforces
- 7104 SOH Applied Research for Advanced MSK Practice

and passed the required modules for their chosen pathway as follows:

**MACP Pathway**
- 7112 SOH Clinical Practice in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy

**Non-MACP Pathway**
- 7005 SOH Evidence Based Practice

To be eligible for the award of **PgDiploma in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**, students must obtain pass grades for the following modules:

- 7109 SOH Musculoskeletal Management for Advanced Practice
- 7110 SOH Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Practice
- 7111 SOH Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (MSK)
- 7006 SOH Research Methods, Design and Methodology
- 7126 SOH Developing Expertise in Professional Practice
- 7103 SOH A Clinical Approach to Pain for Health Professionals
- 7049 CRB Leading Diverse Workforces

To be eligible for the award of **PgCertificate in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**, students must obtain pass grades for the following modules:

- 7109 SOH Musculoskeletal Management for Advanced Practice
- 7110 SOH Specialist Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Practice
- 7111 SOH Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (MSK)

Students who successfully complete module 7049 CRB Leading Diverse Workforces, and meet the CMI learning outcomes will gain a **Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice** based on the following CMI units: Leading and developing people to optimise performance (unit 702); Strategic approaches to diversity and Inclusion (unit 715).

Students who successfully complete this module will be awarded Foundation Chartered Manager status and be able to use the designation ‘fCMgr’ after their name.

**Fall back awards**

The course award is **MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**, however, should students not progress to complete the course, fall back awards are available as follows:

**PgCertificate (unnamed)** – on completion of 60 credits

**PgDiploma (unnamed)** – on successful completion of 120 credits
15 Criteria for Admission and Selection Procedure

General Entry Requirements:
The general requirements are in line with University Policy https://www.coventry.ac.uk/study-at-coventry/apply-now/admissions-policy/

Applicants should...

- Be a registered and fully qualified physiotherapist normally with a minimum of two years’ experience in the MSK speciality.
- Normally hold a good honours degree in Physiotherapy (2:1 or 60% and above) or equivalent and evidence of continuing professional development that shows an ability to study at master’s level.
- Students whose first language is not English are normally required to have IELTS >6.5 or equivalent for the Non-MACP Pathway or IELTS > 7.0 for the MACP Pathway (HCPC requirement).

Applications from individuals who do not meet the above entry requirements may be considered and assessed for suitability.

There is a requirement for students to undertake work-based placements as part of the Clinical Pathway of MSc Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy course. This can occur in a variety of settings. Students are required to have met conditions for entry on to placement including an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, Occupational Health (OH) Screening and Manual Handling (MH) training. Students will be instructed about the DBS /OH and MH processes during the placement briefing/induction sessions and will have to confirm requirements have been met before starting the placement.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Recognition of Prior (Experiential) Learning RP(E)L

The recognition scheme provides the opportunity for applicants to make claims for both certificated and experiential (non-certificated) learning, in accordance with the University Regulations (Section 4: Regulations for the Admission of Students). The learning claim submitted by the applicant may be against credit or exemption. The claims made will be against the fulfilment of the learning outcomes associated with specific modules of study. Applications for RPL or RP(E)L must be made on application, the Course Director will advise further.

16 Academic Regulations and Regulations of Assessment

This Course conforms to the standard University Academic Regulations Postgraduate Mode R.

17 Indicators of Quality Enhancement

The Course is managed by the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Board of Study of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences. The assurance of the quality of modules is the responsibility of the Board of Study which contribute modules to the course. The Progression and Awards Board (PAB) for Postgraduate is responsible for considering the progress of all students and making awards in accordance with both the University and course-specific regulations.

External Examiners have the opportunity to moderate all assessment tasks and a sample of assessed work for each module. They will report annually on the course and/or constituent modules and their views are considered as part of the Course Quality Enhancement Monitoring (CQEM).

Students are represented on the Student Forum, Board of Study and Faculty/School Board, all of which meet regularly throughout the year.

Student views are also sought through module and course evaluation questionnaires.

The QAA’s review of higher education undertaken in February 2015 confirmed that Coventry University meets UK expectations in:

- the setting and maintenance of the academic standards of its awards;
- the quality of student learning opportunities;
- the quality of the information about learning opportunities;
- the enhancement of student learning opportunities.
Coventry University was awarded a 5-star overall rating by the QS stars awards system for 2019, confirming the breadth of the university’s excellence across teaching, research and other key indicators. It achieved 12th place in the Guardian university guide 2018; Gold for outstanding teaching and learning by the Teaching Excellent Framework 2017 and it came 1st in the Complete University Guide as the UK’s Top New University 2018.

Results of the 2019 Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) for the postgraduate MSK education provision are very positive. The overall student satisfaction was 100% with 45 out of a total of 47 metrics scoring between 93-100%.

The course team continues to maintain a strong reputation with students and employers locally, regionally and beyond evidenced by excellent formal and informal feedback and evaluation from students and employers. The postgraduate MSK provision structure, content and outcomes are highly regarded because they consistently produce effective practitioners, fit for purpose who make significant contributions to high quality services.

Members of the teaching team are Senior Fellows of the Higher Education Academy as well as members of the Musculoskeletal Association of Chartered Physiotherapists (MACP). They are all registered with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC) and the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP). All members of the course team have higher degrees, including PhDs. Innovative teaching and assessment strategies are incorporated into modules and courses, reflecting staff interest and expertise. Continual staff development is actively encouraged, in addition to developing research activity relating to physiotherapy and education. Research areas include male and female pelvic health; psychologically informed physiotherapy; cervical spine; shoulder; clinical reasoning in physiotherapy; mechanism of action of MSK Physiotherapy and the advanced practice role.

18 Additional Information
Enrolled students have access to additional, key sources of information about the course and student support including:

- Post Graduate Faculty Handbook;
- Student Handbook;
- Module Guides;
- Module Information Directory;
- Study Support information;
- Online Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).
- 24-hour IT support
- Centre for Academic Writing (CAW)
- SIGMA
- Student HUB Welfare Team