

# Programme Specification for

## MSc Mental Health Studies



1. Programme title	MSc Mental Health Studies
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	
6. Year of validation	MSc
Year of amendment	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time or part-time

### 9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Students admitted to this programme must have:

- A good Honours degree (2:2 or above) in mental health or a related subject area
- If a mental health professional – at least one year postqualifying experience working in mental health **and** a good honours degree
- If a non-mental health professional, two years experience in the mental health field **and** a good honours degree
- **And** be currently working with mental health service users

*Exceptionally, students who do not have a degree but who have successfully completed level 7 CPD modules or who can provide evidence of their ability to pursue successfully the PG Diploma or MSc may be considered.*

#### Criteria for admission to the MSc Mental Health programme top up pathway

Students admitted to this programme must have:

- PG Diploma in Mental Health Nursing from Middlesex University;
- PG Diploma in Mental Health Practice from Middlesex University.

## 10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

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1. Enable the student to plan an individualised pathway of post graduate study designed to meet previously identified mental health related professional and service development objectives.
2. Demonstrate mastery in mental health related skills and knowledge in order to contribute to enhanced professional mental health practice and service development
3. Facilitate the acquisition, critical understanding and utilisation of advanced research skills and knowledge in order to conduct mental health related research

## 11. Programme outcomes

### A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

#### Postgraduate Certificate

1. Own future personal, professional and service development needs;
2. The critical analysis and evaluation of mental health practice in light of evidence based findings.

#### Postgraduate Diploma – as PGCert and in addition:

1. The critical evaluation of mental health research
2. Advanced level research methodologies

#### MSc – as PGDip and in addition:

1. The advanced skills and knowledge needed to undertake a large scale mental health related research or work based learning project;
2. How to make evidence based recommendations, in the context of the complex and multi-faceted factors affecting mental health care, for future mental health research or service development.

**Teaching/learning methods** Students gain knowledge and understanding through the use of a variety of teaching and learning strategies, informed by the University and School Teaching and Learning Strategies and which vary according to the type and focus of each module but

which may include: - lectures, seminars and workshops, small group work and feedback, case studies, problem based scenarios and role-play, use of video, use of debates, practice based learning, use of e- learning, one-one tutorials to develop the research proposal and ideas for writing the research dissertation.

#### Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by the use of a variety of methods, which are informed by the University and School policies, and which vary according to the type and focus of each module.

**Formative assessment** may include: case presentations, action plan presentations, on-line-quizzes, reflective discussions, to help prepare students for summative assessment.

**Summative assessment** may include: case studies, service reviews, reports, on-line examinations, critical reflection on practice.

For the MSc, the student carries out a research or work based project and communicates their findings in the form

<p><b>B. Cognitive (thinking) skills</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p>Critically analyse evidence based mental health practice;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Evaluate and synthesise information in order to gain new insights into aspects of mental health practice;</li> <li>4. Utilise advanced problem solving;</li> <li>5. Reflect on and critically appraise personal, professional and service development needs.</li> </ol>	<p>of a dissertation.</p> <p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b> Students learn cognitive skills through the use of a variety of teaching and learning strategies, informed by the University and School Teaching and Learning Strategies and which vary according to the type and focus of each module but which may include: seminar preparation and presentation, use of web-based materials.</p> <p>For the MSc, this will include preparation for dissertation/project supervision and the production of the dissertation/project.</p> <p><b>Assessment methods</b> Students' cognitive skills are assessed by the use of a variety of methods, which are informed by the University and School Assessment policies and which vary according to the type and focus of the module but which may include:</p> <p><b>Formative Assessment</b> Study skills workshops, seminars, case study presentations, debates, literature review, to help prepare students for summative assessment.</p> <p><b>Summative Assessment</b> Reflection on practice, critical review of evidence, reports, research/project proposal.</p>
<p><b>C. Practical skills</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to: <b>PG Diploma</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engage in sophisticated research/project planning in the context of the complexities of mental health care provision</li> <li>2. Select and utilise advanced research skills and techniques</li> <li>3. Work with a range of ICT applications such as library databases</li> </ol> <p><b>MSc</b></p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b> Students learn practical skills through the use of a variety of teaching and learning strategies, informed by the University and School Teaching and Learning Strategies and which vary according to the type and focus of each module but which may include :</p> <p>Workshops, individual and group tutorials, self-directed study, seminar presentations, project/dissertation development and planning</p> <p><b>Assessment methods</b> Students' practical skills are assessed by the use of a variety of methods,</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Utilise advanced/or complex practically-based research skills to successfully undertake a research/work-based mental health related project.</li> <li>2. Communicate the results of a research or work-based mental health project to an audience of professional peers.</li> </ol>	<p>which are informed by the University and School Assessment policies and which vary according to the type and focus of the module but which may include:</p> <p><b>Formative Assessment</b> Reflective journals, seminar presentations, peer and session leader feedback, to help prepare students for summative assessment.</p> <p><b>Summative Assessment</b> Assessment of practice, project/dissertation proposal and, for the MSc, project/dissertation</p>
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## 12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

### 12.1 Overall structure of the programme

A pre-accreditation meeting with the Programme Leader will determine the relevant pathway. At the commencement of the Programme, an induction and programme planning meeting will assist students to determine the optional modules to be undertaken that will clearly demonstrate the mental health pathway.

Students taking the MSc Mental Health Studies generic pathway undertake the first core module, either IPL 4001: Social Research Methods (30 credits) or WBS 4630 Advanced Practitioner Enquiry (30 credits).

Optional modules will then be undertaken over a period of time that meets individual students' needs. The total number of credits required from these and any pre-accredited learning is 90 (with up to 30 credits at level 6).

Programme review meeting will be held every term to support and guide students. Should students exit at this point, they will be awarded the PG Dip Mental Health Studies.

To be awarded the Masters degree in Mental Health Studies, students will have to complete the second core module, either IPL 4095 MSc Dissertation (60 credits) or WBS 4760 Negotiated Work Based Learning Project (60 credits).

Students taking the MSc Mental Health Studies top up pathway will take IPL4050 Combined Research Methods and Dissertation pathway only and will be awarded the MSc on its successful completion.

### 12.2 Levels and modules

#### MSc Mental Health Studies; generic pathway

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

<p>Students must take the following:  IPL 4001 Social Research Methods  <b>or</b>  WBS 4630 Advanced Practitioner Enquiry  And  IPL 4095 MSc Dissertation  <b>or</b>  WBS 4760 Negotiated Work Based Learning Project</p>	<p>Modules from the School CPD provision relevant to Mental Health Studies.  (Maximum of 30 credits at level 6)</p> <p>APL and credit transfer may be possible</p>	<p>To exit with the Post-graduate Diploma Mental Health Studies, students must pass <b>either</b> IPL 4001 <b>or</b> WBS 4630 plus optional modules totalling 90 credits (30 credits may be at level 6)</p> <p>APL and credit transfer may be possible – at least one third of the programme must be completed under Middlesex University control.</p> <p>To progress to the MSc Mental Health Studies, students must successfully complete <b>either</b> IPL 4095 <b>or</b> WBS 4760</p>
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<b>MSc Mental Health Studies; top up pathway</b>				
<p><b>Pre-accreditation</b>  PG Diploma Mental Health Nursing  OR  PG Diploma Mental Health Practice  =120 credits @ level 7</p>	+	<p>IPL 4050  Developing Research Capability  (Combined research methods and dissertation/project) module  60 credits @ Level 7</p>	=	<p><b>MSc</b></p>

See Appendix 2

- The programme will adhere to Middlesex University assessment regulations;
- The pass mark for all modules is 16;
- No compensation of a failed module is allowable.

Not applicable

Students who successfully complete the Postgraduate Certificate/ Diploma/MSc Mental Health Studies will be able to demonstrate commitment to CPD, lifelong learning, and practice research and development. Students may choose to undertake doctoral level study which will underpin advanced level practice

Students will be able to map the learning outcomes from their optional modules plus the programme outcomes against their own career and development pathway. Within the NHS, this will include using the Knowledge and Skills Framework to develop their Personal Development Reviews.

- Programme planning support;
- Programme review meetings;
- Learning Resources workshops;
- Study skills workshops;
- Each student will have a designated supervisor for the dissertation/project module;
- University English Language and Learning Support.

**18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)** B760

**19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)** Nursing

**20. Reference points**

- From Values to Action: The Chief Nursing Officer's Review of Mental Health Nursing (DH 2006);
- Knowledge and Skills Framework (DH 2004);
- Mental Health National Service Framework and the NHS Plan: Workforce Planning, Education and Training: Final Report (WAT 2001);
- Modernising Nursing Careers (DH 2006);
- National Service Framework for Mental Health (DH 1999);
- The NHS Plan (DH 2001).

For any additional information contact the Programme Leader  
Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the programme handbook and the University Regulations.



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## Appendix 2:

### Curriculum map for MSc Mental Health Studies

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

#### Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	Own future personal, professional and service development needs	C1	Engage in sophisticated research/project planning in the context of the complexities of health care provision
A2	The critical evaluation of nursing related research	C2	Select and utilise advanced research skills and techniques
A3	The critical analysis and evaluation of nursing practice in light of evidence based findings	C3	Work with a range of ICT applications such as library databases
A4	Advanced level research methodologies	C4	Utilise advanced/or complex practically based research skills to successfully undertake a research/work-based related project.
A5	The advanced skills and knowledge needed to undertake a large scale mental health related research or work based learning project	C5	Communicate the results of a research or work-based nursing related project to an audience of professional peers.
A6	How to make evidence based recommendations, in the context of the complex and multi faceted factors affecting mental health care, for future mental health research or service development		
Cognitive skills			
B1	Critically analyse evidence based mental health practice		
B2	Evaluate and synthesise information in order to gain new insights into aspects of mental health practice		
B3	Utilise advanced problem solving		
B4	Reflect on and critically appraise personal, professional and service development needs		

Programme outcomes													
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	
Highest level achieved by all graduates													
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

a)

Module	Code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	C6
Social Research Methods	IPL 4001	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Advanced Practitioner Enquiry	WBS 4630	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
MSc Dissertation	IPL 4095	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Negotiated Work Based Learning Project	WBS 4760	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

b) Curriculum map for PGDip Nursing (Mental) students

Module	Code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7
Developing Research Capability	IPL 4050	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

