

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	120 Credits at level 7
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years
Intended Award	PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care
Named Exit Awards	PgC Professional Practice: Integrated Care
Entry Requirements ⁴	<p>An Honours degree normally at 2:2 or above</p> <p>Or Evidence of the student’s ability to work at master’s level</p> <p>Currently working or volunteering in the field of health and social care</p> <p>This course is not open to visa sponsored students (those students sponsored by the University under the student route)</p>
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2025-26 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This PgD programme is designed to enable students to transform integrated care services to enhance quality outcomes for people, professionals and organisations. Students will develop enhanced leadership, coaching skills and a critical understanding of public health and care complexities in both a regional and national context.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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Working together with other students will provide an opportunity to generate insights and explore professional experiences to enrich learning and insights from the health and care arena.

The programme has a step-off point at certificate level to provide a flexible approach to studying and working and provides options for students to meet both personal and professional requirements.

Course Aims

- To advance student's knowledge and critical awareness of contemporary integrated care theory and practice.
- To develop critical evaluation skills through competent debate to enable the student to enhance their communication skills in the professional arena
- To promote a high level of autonomy and self-direction within a student's area of practice, incorporating a strong emphasis of evidence-based practice.
- To enable students to apply their knowledge in the evaluation of professional practice and lead in complex situations.
- To explore the concepts of contemporary public health issues and apply knowledge to current practice
- To develop a range of academic and intellectual skills reflecting the rigor required at master's level to include research and independent scholarly activity to promote innovation in integrated services

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

On completion of the PgD students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding and awareness of knowledge of the current issues and dilemmas impacting integrated care.
- Critically reflect upon the impact of the integrated care agenda on stakeholders and self.
- Critically reflect upon the scope and limitations of their role within integrated practice with respect local / national policies and frameworks.
- Critically evaluate the impact of public health and well-being issues in health and social care.
- Disseminate effective practice that supports the delivery of evidence-based interventions within integrated care.
- Disseminate effective communication strategies to support contemporary leadership
- Critically evaluate and appraise theory and practice.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)
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- Actively engage with colleagues to discuss and critically debate a variety of issues and perspectives
- Take a lead in promoting a culture of evidence-based practice in integrated care provision
- Critically evaluate and appraise existing sources of information to facilitate problem solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical settings
- Work collaboratively with others to enhance the understanding of effective integrated care delivery.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

QAA Master's Degree Characteristic's Statement

Course Structure

Module Title	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Optional modules*	20	Optional
*Communication and Coaching in Contemporary Integrated Care Delivery Or		
*Emotional Needs and Resources: Mental Health Foundations Or	20	Optional
*Professional Advocate for Healthcare Practitioners	20	Optional
Public Health and Epidemiology	20	Mandatory
Effective Leadership in Integrated Care	20	Mandatory
Research Methods	20	Mandatory
Leading Integrated Service Innovation	40	Mandatory

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care.

Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a Postgraduate Certificate Professional Practice: Integrated Care on successful completion of 60 credits consisting of the Communication and Coaching in Contemporary Integrated Care Delivery *or* the Emotional Needs and Resources: Mental Health Foundations module *or* the Professional Advocate for Healthcare Practitioners module, the Public Health and Epidemiology module and the Effective Leadership in Integrated Care module.

Course Delivery

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#)

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The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying part-time on the PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care are likely to have approximately 3.5 tutor-structured learning hours per week. Tutor-structured learning will be a mix of blended learning and traditional and contemporary learning approaches. Examples include seminars; problem-based learning; enquiry-based learning; work-based learning; debate and case study analysis. Students will normally be expected to undertake 8 hours of independent study in an average week but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course will include essays, reports, presentations, group work, and research projects.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute to the programme.

Course Costs

Students undertaking PgD Professional Practice: Integrated Care will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Part-time UK	£1,017 per 20 credit module
Part-time EU/International	£1,690 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).