

Psychiatry Application Handbook 2019-2020



Courses:

Masters Psychiatry

Postgraduate Diploma Psychiatry

Postgraduate Certificate Psychiatry

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Introduction

The Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert), Diploma (PGDip) and the Masters (MSc) in Psychiatry have been developed as part of the Clinical Specialties Programme within Brighton and Sussex Medical School and are jointly validated by the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex. The courses are designed for part-time study. The MSc course provides the opportunity for students to gain academic qualifications at Postgraduate level and have a structured research experience.

In year one, students study modules covering the scientific basis of psychiatry which maps onto the curriculum for Paper A of the Royal College of Psychiatrists professional examinations. This takes place at the Sussex Education Centre, Hove.

In the second/third year of study, professional development modules are based at the Falmer campus of University of Brighton and the student group will comprise a wide range of professionals including: doctors, nurses, managers and professionals in the voluntary and private sectors. As the course has been designed as a multidisciplinary module framework, it is intended that students will share their occupational experiences, thereby enhancing multidisciplinary working and in doing so promote successful inter-professional practice. The individual content and assessments of these modules will be applied to psychiatry.

The subsequent dissertation module is completed before the end of the period of registration for the course.

Aims and Learning Outcomes for Course

Aims

The programme aims to:

- Provide robust education on the principles and underlying science of psychiatry for academically gifted clinicians practising in this field
- Train students to be high achieving clinicians and leaders of the future by providing a blend of clinical knowledge with learning in the three key professional domains of Research, Leadership and Communication & Learning, along with the development of research and publishing skills
- Contribute to the NHS to develop the vibrant academic community essential for first class healthcare

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme, students will:

1. Have a systematic and critical understanding of the principles of assessment, classification, epidemiology and aetiology of psychiatric disorders and their clinical application (MDM84)

2. Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of the core principles of behavioural science and psychological interventions, and a critical understanding of their application to psychiatric aetiology and therapeutics (MDM85)
3. Have a systematic and advanced knowledge of modern psychopharmacology including a critical understanding of clinical application and the underlying principles of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics (MDM86)
4. Have an up to date critical understanding of the relevance of findings from neuroscience investigations, covering disciplines of neuro-chemistry, physiology, anatomy, endocrinology, pathology and genetics, as applied to psychiatry (MDM86)
5. Identify organisational and policy context and the drivers for change which enable clinicians to contribute more effectively to improving the design, delivery, outcomes and cost effectiveness of service (MDM110)
6. Communicate effectively with patients and colleagues of all levels (MDM122)
7. Demonstrate an understanding of research methods and critical appraisal (MDM10)
8. An ability to identify a research question, plan, conduct and report/publish a research project in their chosen area of psychiatry (MDM164)

Entry Requirements

The course is open to post-registration doctors and other senior qualified practitioners. Applicants will normally be employed in a clinical setting where psychiatry is considered a principle part of its activity, or have arranged for such employment to be in place prior to commencing the course. Those with a first degree will usually have gained at least one year post-registration experience in clinical practice; those without a first degree (or higher) require a minimum of three years.

Course Structure

Students studying for the PG Dip and MSc Psychiatry will undertake six modules in years one to three (a total of 120 credits) and in the third/fourth year the latter group will undertake a 12,000 word dissertation to obtain the remaining 60 credits required for the award. Those studying for the PG Cert will take three modules (a total of 60 credits).

Postgraduate Certificate in Psychiatry (60 credits)

Module	Status
MDM84 Core Principles of Psychiatry	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM85 Behavioural Science and Psychotherapy	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM86 Biological Sciences in Psychiatry	Mandatory (20 credits)

Postgraduate Diploma in Psychiatry (120 credits)

Module	Status
MDM84 Core Principles of Psychiatry	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM85 Behavioural Science and Psychotherapy	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM86 Biological Sciences in Psychiatry	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM122 Communication, Learning & Teaching in Health & Social Care	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM110 Leadership and Change Management in Clinical services	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM10 Research Methods and Critical Appraisal	Mandatory (20 credits)

Master of Science in Psychiatry (180 credits)

Module	Status
MDM84 Core Principles of Psychiatry	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM85 Behavioural Science and Psychotherapy	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM86 Biological Sciences in Psychiatry	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM122 Communication, Learning & Teaching in Health & Social Care	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM110 Leadership and Change Management in Clinical services	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM10 Research Methods and Critical Appraisal	Mandatory (20 credits)
MDM164 Dissertation (12,000 words)	Mandatory (60 credits)

Core Module Descriptions

MDM84 Core Principles of Psychiatry

The module aims to advance the students' understanding of the core principles of psychiatry including assessment, diagnosis, epidemiology, aetiology and basic management of disorders. The module will enable development of critical awareness of the advances in this field of study.

MDM85 Behavioural Science and Psychotherapy

The objective of the module is to enable students to gain a comprehensive and critical understanding of core behavioural science principles, their application to psychiatry and an awareness of the principles of measurement in this field.

MDM86 Biological Sciences in Psychiatry

The objective of the module is to enable students to gain a comprehensive and critical understanding of the current uses of medicines in psychiatric disorders and the application of their knowledge of neuroscience to clinical practice.

MDM122 Communication, Learning and Teaching in Health and Social Care

This module aims to facilitate the development of practitioners as communicators and educators, promoting the development of knowledge, skills, attitudes and practices of a competent clinical practitioner.

MDM110 Leadership and Change Management in Clinical Services

This module will enable those interested in leading and transforming services to critically appraise how to work with and challenge reform programmes, examining their impact on service structures and relationships between: public and private providers; clinical commissioners and clinical providers; local authorities; third sector agencies; local communities; patients and the public. An overarching understanding of the organisational context for change in health & care service settings will enable managers, practitioners and professionals to contribute more effectively in leading and improving the design of service models and new organisational bodies, and the delivery, cost effectiveness, and outcomes of services.

MDM10 Research Methods and Critical Appraisal

The module aims to provide students with an understanding of how to conduct and appraise research in their specialist areas. It aims to provide students with an understanding of research methods in health and social care and the ability to relate appropriate methods to research questions. Students will be equipped to search and critically review the literature, to develop and justify a research proposal, and to anticipate potential ethical issues in their research proposal.

MDM164 Dissertation

If studying towards an MSc award you will choose a dissertation topic that is relevant to your professional interests and practice but will need to focus on issues relating to psychiatry. Your choice of topic must be discussed with the Course Leader and then agreed by the Division of Medical Education Dissertation Panel after a formal submission of your proposal to the Panel. Once your dissertation has been agreed, you will be assigned a dissertation supervisor.

Timetable

Year one psychiatry modules are based at Sussex Education Centre in Hove and run for a full day on alternate Thursdays. Year two/three professional development modules (MDM10, MDM122 and MDM110) are based at the Falmer Campus of University of Brighton and run several times per year. Year one module dates for 2018/19 are as follows:

Year one modules (every other Thursday on dates listed)	
MDM84 Core Principles of Psychiatry	26 Sep 2019 (Induction am) 10 Oct 2019 24 Oct 2019 7 Nov 2019 21 Nov 2019
MDM85 Behavioural Science and Psychotherapy	16 Jan 2020 (MCQ exam and teaching day) 30 Jan 2020 13 Feb 2020 27 Feb 2020 12 Mar 2020
MDM86 Biological Sciences in Psychiatry	23 Apr 2020 (MCQ exam and teaching day) 7 May 2020 21 May 2020 4 Jun 2020 18 Jun 2020 3 Sep 2020 (MCQ exam only at 12.30)

Teaching Staff

The course is delivered via close collaboration with Mental Health Trusts in Kent, Surrey and Sussex (KSS), the KSS Deanery and the Brighton and Sussex Medical School, the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex. Clinicians and internationally renowned academics provide teaching support. Staff from the Brighton & Sussex Medical School will provide additional academic input through teaching and academic support. Higher trainees in Psychiatry provide additional academic support and reflective learning sessions.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Teaching sessions will encompass lectures, group discussion, clinical assessment workshops and exam practice sessions. There will also be opportunities for students to give presentations. Students are encouraged to contribute work-based experience to group work thus enabling the integration of the evidence base acquired through the course into the reality of clinical practice. Learning outside the classroom will include recommended scientific, clinical and research reading. Use of online media is integral to the course to enable study at convenient times and settings and will be integrated with

classroom sessions.

Assessment

Assessments are intended to ensure that learning outcomes for the modules have been achieved. It is usual for assessments to be relevant both to the module and individual personal and professional development needs.

Year one assessment for the psychiatry modules consists of unseen examinations (50 single best answer and extended matching questions). Year two/three modules are assessed by 3,000 or 4,000 word written assignments and one oral presentation. All students undertaking the MSc will be required to write a 12,000-word dissertation of primary or secondary research. You will be guided through the planning and development of your chosen dissertation and will receive supervisory support throughout.

Fees

For fee information please see the website: <https://www.bsms.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught-degrees/psychiatry.aspx>

In case of queries please contact: fees@brighton.ac.uk or visit the following link: <http://www.brighton.ac.uk/studentlife/money/>

Student funding arrangements for 2019/20

Students who are not employed by the Trust as trainee doctors will need to entirely fund themselves.

For September 2019/20 entry, it is expected that all Trust trainee doctors will apply and enrol for the *Postgraduate Certificate in Psychiatry* which will be fully funded by a combination of your Trust's study leave budget and a HEKSS bursary. Any Trust trainee who wishes to progress to the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc Psychiatry may be required to self-fund this portion of their study.

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellows in psychiatry are eligible for an annual bursary to enable them to take training courses and/or attend conferences to enhance their research awareness. This will directly support these trainees who are expected to enrol on this MSc. If you feel you are eligible for this support then please speak to your Medical Education Manager at the respective Trusts.

How to Apply

Please apply online via the following link:

<https://www.bsms.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught-degrees/psychiatry.aspx>

We do hope that you find that one of these courses meets your needs. If you are unsure, you can take a single module without taking it any further! If you have any queries about the right development for you, we would be pleased to discuss this with you. Please contact the Programme Administrator for this course for further information.

Please note details in this handbook are subject to periodic review and may involve minor changes.