

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### KEY FACTS

Programme name	Introduction to Health Sciences
Award	Certificate of Higher Education
School	School of Health & Psychological Sciences
Department or equivalent	School of Health & Psychological Sciences
UCAS Code	B70F
Course Code	HEUHSC
Programme code	HECEHSC01
Route Code	USHESC
Type of study	Full Time
Total UK credits	120
Total ECTS	60

### PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Introduction to Health Sciences is offered as a one-year full-time programme of study. The programme will offer an introduction to clinical and professional healthcare. Your programme of study will equip you with an introduction to the appropriate knowledge, skills and values to meet the changing needs of complex healthcare in the 21st Century across a range of healthcare disciplines. You will be expected to demonstrate professional values, champion diversity and challenge inequalities.

The programme provides a thorough education in the core components required to study one of the following health related BSc (Hons) programmes at City, University of London:

- BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult Nursing)
- BSc (Hons) Nursing (Children's Nursing)
- BSc (Hons) Nursing (Mental Health Nursing)
- BSc (Hons) Radiography (Radiotherapy and Oncology)
- BSc (Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic Imaging)
- BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy
- BSc (Hons) Nutrition and Food Policy

The programme comprises the following modules:

- HS1926 Introduction to Science Related to Health Care
- HS1927 Academic Skills
- HS1928 Key Skills in Health Sciences
- HS1929 Personal and Professional Development
- HS1930 Introduction to the Healthcare Professions

In 'Introduction to Science Related to Healthcare' you will be introduced to some of the concepts and principles of science that inform health care. This will prepare you for future health science studies at BSc level.

In 'Academic Skills' you will receive thorough preparation in the academic skills you will need for successful study at university level.

In 'Key Skills in Health Sciences' you will develop your knowledge of the main sources of research evidence and data in relation to health and social care. This will enhance your intellectual and practical skills in the collection, interpretation, and evaluation of such data in preparation for future studies at BSc level.

In 'Personal and Professional Development' you will develop as an independent and reflective learner. This will enhance your ability to work effectively and collaboratively with others.

In 'Introduction to the Healthcare Professions' you will be acquainted with the roles of different providers of health and social care services. You will have the opportunity to select five out of the seven BSc health related programmes on offer for taster sessions related specifically to that discipline.

#### Aims

The educational aims of the programme are to:

- Provide you with the knowledge and skills to prepare you for entering one of the aforementioned health related (Hons) programmes
- Provide a supportive environment, which fosters academic and personal development and uses appropriate learning resources
- Enhance the development of your interpersonal skills
- Use a variety of appropriate teaching and learning methods, to provide education and training that is relevant, intellectually challenging and enjoyable
- Develop your analytical, critical and problem-solving faculties

By completing the Introduction to Health Sciences programme, you will develop skills of enquiry in your subject and develop different approaches to problem solving as well as identify the limitations of your knowledge. This will enable you to develop a range of key transferable skills needed to work effectively within the current and future health and social care environment. The programme will provide you with an entry route to a wide variety of health-related studies at BSc level.

The overall aims and objectives of this programme are consistent with City, University of London's strategic aims, in particular 'to provide high quality education which meets the needs of our students and their employers'.

#### **WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?**

**On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:**

##### Knowledge and understanding:

- Discuss the key principles of science that inform health care
- Discuss the key principles of the Key Skills in Health Sciences

- Describe a range of interdisciplinary approaches to the collection, interpretation and analysis of healthcare data
- Examine the roles of different providers of health and social care services

Skills:

- Demonstrate an ability to comprehend new knowledge
- Access and use a range of learning resources
- Review and present experimental data
- Use numerical methods in solving problems
- Operate collaboratively as part of a team
- Communicate using multiple media including verbal, written, presentation, and word processing skills
- Apply Information Technology skills relevant to the activities of health care professionals
- Accurately record observations in various contexts, which can be transferred to this key aspect of a health professional's life
- Demonstrate that you have acquired a wide range of transferable, lifelong and independent learning skills

Values and attitudes:

- Use appropriate interpersonal and communication skills
- Demonstrate respect of the cultural needs of others
- Behave in a responsible and professional manner
- Show integrity and promote diversity, equity and dignity in all encounters with other students and staff

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA FHEQ for the Certificate of Higher Education.

**HOW WILL I LEARN?**

The Introduction to Health Sciences programme is designed to satisfy the academic development needs of potential BSc healthcare students. Teaching and assessment methods are tailored to the learning objectives of each module component. The range of teaching methods used is wide and includes lectures, tutorials and practical classes. Lectures are used to communicate core material and as a foundation for further reading. Lectures are based around presentations and hand-outs provide core notes e.g. definitions and diagrams. Interaction with you in lectures is encouraged. Lecture notes are provided on the virtual learning environment Moodle. However, you are expected to take your own notes too. In addition, during your self-directed study time you will undertake thorough background reading. Reading lists are provided for this purpose. Tutorials develop problem-solving skills in an environment that encourages an interactive approach to learning. Practical classes provide opportunities to develop clinical skills and to give demonstrations of techniques covered in lectures. Your self-directed study time will also be used to prepare for the practical sessions, and also to

practice the techniques being taught during the labs. Formative feedback (oral or written) will be provided based on online exercises or in class tasks to aid you with your progress.

The programme consists of around 30% contact time and 70% self-directed independent study time. Independent study times are for you to revise and prepare for teaching sessions, including preparation of coursework. This programme will include an average of 16 contact hours per week - around 336 contact hours per year. In addition, you will be expected to undertake 30 independent study hours per week (around 900 per year). Some of these hours will include use of online learning tools such as Moodle.

Entrants to the programme will attend for a week of induction at City, University of London. During this week, you will be given an introduction to the structure and organisation of the programme.

### **Registration Period**

- The normal length of this programme is 1 year;
- The maximum period of registration for this full-time programme is 2 years

### **Student Support**

At the start of the programme you will be assigned a Personal Tutor. Your Personal Tutor will support you in your academic and personal development, and is your first point of contact for any pastoral, professional or academic concerns you might have. Your tutor will invite you to both group and individual tutorials. Group tutorials are a chance to catch-up with your tutor and the other members of your tutorial group. Each student will also be invited to one 20-minute individual catch-up meeting per term.

## **WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

### Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Assessment on the Introduction to Health Sciences programme is through a variety of methods. Methods of assessment include: closed book summative examinations (i.e. written exams which may include multiple choice questions, short answer questions or essays) and coursework (e.g. writing or assessing a report, preparing a presentation). Theory examinations are utilised to ensure the core science concepts are understood and allow you to demonstrate your scientific knowledge. Coursework assessment permits you to spend time on compiling work, reflecting on the application of your studies and putting your knowledge into context.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order to achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module

specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

#### Feedback on assessment

Feedback on your work, as well as your mark will be provided to you. This may be in a number of different forms; including written feedback, discussion of feedback in a group, or individual verbal feedback. Feedback should be used to help you to improve on any areas of weakness and to support your progress. Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The full assessment policy can be found at:

[https://www.city.ac.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf](https://www.city.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf)

#### Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits.

The pass mark for each module is 40%. Individual assessment components within each module also carry a pass mark of 40%. Full details for passing each assessment component can be found in the individual Module Specifications. You must pass all modules to successfully complete this programme.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Resit: you will be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module (i.e. 40%). This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified the Assessment Board will require you to be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at:  
[http://www.city.ac.uk/\\_data/assets/word\\_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc](http://www.city.ac.uk/_data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc)

#### **WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?**

##### **Certificate of Higher Education:**

You need to successfully complete all core modules for this programme

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	100	With Distinction	70
				With Merit	60
				Without classification	40

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The Introduction to Health Sciences programme incorporates 5 core modules. The numbers of allocated credits indicate the relative proportions of subject matter for each module.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Introduction to Science related to Health Care	HS1926	30	C	N	4
Academic Skills	HS1927	30	C	N	4
Key Skills in Health Sciences	HS1928	15	C	N	4
Personal and Professional Development	HS1929	15	C	N	4
Introduction to the Healthcare Professions	HS1930	30	C	N	4

### TO WHAT KIND OF FURTHER STUDIES MIGHT I GO ON?

Successful completion of the Introduction to Health Sciences programme provides several career routes:

1. You will be eligible for progression to one of the aforementioned health related BSc (Hons) undergraduate programmes (listed on page 1) at City, University of London (Programme Stage 1) subject to all of the following:

- Achieving >60% overall with no failed modules
- Attendance >80% in all modules is strongly advised
- Successful admissions interview\*
- Satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. Please note, that for clinical BSc programmes an Occupational Health clearance for the relevant profession will also be required. A clinical visit form will also be required for BSc Radiography programmes.

You will be required to apply to one of the aforementioned BSc health-related clinical undergraduate programmes (listed on page 1) offered at SHS, either by direct application or via UCAS. Details of the application process will be provided by the programme team during Term 1.

*\*If you have had a successful interview for one of the health-related BSc programmes at City, University of London within the last 12 months, you will not be required to re-interview (e.g. if you were offered a place on one of the BSc programmes but did not achieve the required grades)*

2. It will provide you with an additional qualification to your academic achievements and CV for the application to higher education courses at other institutions nationwide.

Guidance will be made available to students who do not meet the admission criteria for BSc programmes via the careers Service at City University <https://studenthub.city.ac.uk/careers-and-volunteering>.

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: <http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates>.

#### **WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?**

There are no study abroad options available for this programme.

#### **WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

There are no placement opportunities available for this programme.

#### **WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?**

There is no professional recognition attached to this programme.

#### **HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

Admissions are considered from students with a wide range of backgrounds. In general, applicants for the Introduction to Health Sciences programme will require:

##### **A LEVELS:**

- 64 UCAS points from 2 A levels (grades CC) if applicants have a grade C or higher in one of the following subjects: Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Biology.
- 80 UCAS points from at least 2 A levels (Grades BB) in subject areas which fail to meet the entry requirements for their intended undergraduate degree programme.
- We do not accept A levels in General Studies or Critical Thinking

**Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma:**

- MMP (should be in Medical Science/Applied Science/Forensic Science or Health and Social Care). Contact the admissions team at City, University of London for details.

**Access to HE Diploma**

Pass in a QAA recognised Access to HE Diploma in a Nursing, Health, Science, or Social Care subject NOT Nutrition or Paramedic Studies with full award (60 credits) of which a minimum of 45 credits must be at Level 3 including 18 credits at Distinction.

**GCSE/National 4 / National 5**

All applicants will also require GCSE grade 4 (C) or above in five subjects to include English Language and Mathematics. Functional Skills level 2 in Maths and English will also be considered.

**Overseas qualifications** are considered on a case-by-case basis. In addition to the above, English Language requirements must include one of the following:

- GCSE: English Language Grade 4 (C)
- IELTS: 7.0 overall, with at least 7.0 in the listening, reading, writing and speaking sections

All students are required to complete, and pass, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in advance of registering for the programme.

Prospective students who do not meet the above criteria may be considered on an individual basis and will be called for interview.

**Tier 4 visa applications**

We welcome applicants on Tier 4 visa applications. If you have any queries we recommend that you speak to the admissions tutor before applying.

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