

AECC

Updated: April 2017

Master of Science Advanced Professional Practice (Paediatric Musculoskeletal Health)



Bournemouth University is the awarding body for this degree at present.

Please note: Programmes starting in September 2017 will be validated by AECC and not BU. This means that the qualification you receive at the end of your studies will be made in the name of this institution. Currently we are applying for University College title and we hope our new name will be in place by September 2017. In this case, our current name of AECC will be replaced by our new name, which will incorporate the University College title.

COURSE INFORMATION (Enrolment October 2017)

The MSc Advanced Professional Practice (APP) degree, awarded by Bournemouth University, has been developed by the AECC to support professional development. The programme provides a unique opportunity for healthcare professionals to attain the generic skills and attitudes of continuing professional development, experiential learning and reflective practice, and to develop advanced clinical and practical skills in specialised areas of practice. The MSc APP is a part-time, 'at a distance', programme enabling healthcare professionals to combine professional learning in the workplace with a postgraduate academic qualification. To reflect the areas of specialised practice, three pathways are available:

- **MSc Advanced Professional Practice (Clinical Sciences)**
- **MSc Advanced Professional Practice (Paediatric Musculoskeletal Health)**
- **MSc Advanced Professional Practice (Functional Musculoskeletal Health)**

Entry requirements: the Paediatric Musculoskeletal Health course is intended for healthcare professionals in professional practice, including clinicians, teachers and researchers. Applicants must have a recognised professional qualification in line with the admissions regulations. Credit for prior learning is possible on approval by the Pathway Leader. Students who have successfully completed the PgCert Professional Development (Chiropractic) will be exempted from part of the programme (as specified in the individual pathways). Admission is at the discretion of the Pathway Leader.

Applicants for whom English is not their first language, must offer evidence of qualifications in written and spoken English, IELTS (academic) 6.0.

Length: the course consists of three progressive levels: the Postgraduate Certificate, the Postgraduate Diploma and the MSc. Exit qualifications are available at each of these stages.

PgCert (60 Level 7 credits)
PgDip (120 Level 7 credits)
MSc (180 Level 7 credits)

Normally one year
Normally an additional year
Normally an additional one to two years

Part-time study
Part-time study
Part time study



ANGLO-EUROPEAN
COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC

Enrolment: Once a year in October.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION RELATES TO ENROLMENT ON THE MSc ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (PAEDIATRIC MUSCULOSKELETAL HEALTH).

Programme Units:

Professional Clinical Practice (20 credits)

This unit underpins the programme and develops self-direction through an understanding of experiential learning and reflective practice in a professional context. This unit is taught in conjunction with the Induction Seminar in one weekend seminar.

Assessment is through a critical reflective account, supported by evidence of the student's review and evaluation of advanced clinical, professional and/or academic practice - 2500 word equivalent (50%) and through a case study (that may detail and critically evaluate the management plan initiated with a patient(s))- 2500 word equivalent (50%).

Evidence-based Practice (20 credits)

In today's healthcare environment, practitioners must not only keep abreast of current research evidence, but also incorporate it where appropriate into clinical practice. In this unit, skills will be developed in the search and retrieval for research evidence in paediatric practice, critical appraisal of research evidence, and how research findings can be applied to an individual paediatric patient in an evidence-based case report. This is an attendance-based unit.

Assessment is through a 2500 word Evidence-based Case Report (50%) and a 2500 word Critical Appraisal of a given published research paper (50%).

Musculoskeletal Health of the Neonate (20 credits)

This unit aims to develop knowledge of neonatal musculoskeletal health including the impact of intra-uterine factors and birth processes, focusing on the common and rare musculoskeletal problems of the neonate. This course highlights the need for care for the musculoskeletal system of the newborn, including one the most common problems of biomechanical inability for optimal feeding and methods of treatment as well as inability to lie comfortably supine, a key aspect to sustained health of the infant, not generally recognized or treated by other health care professionals.

Assessment is through two 2500 word reflective accounts (100%).

Musculoskeletal Health of the Infant and Toddler (20 credits)

This unit focuses on current and detailed knowledge of musculoskeletal health in early childhood, the age groups most often presented to health care professionals: infants and young toddlers. This course includes all aspects of the musculoskeletal system of early childhood that can be diagnosed and treated conservatively. Early normal growth and development along with developmental and key aspects of nutrition for optimal health are included. The content of this course covers nutrition,



feeding, sleeping and crying disorders, common and rare orthopaedic conditions of early childhood including suboptimal movement and ambulatory problems, growing pains and management options.
Assessment is through two 2500 word reflective accounts (100%).

Growth, Development and Nutrition (20 credits)

The content of this unit focuses on the growth and development of the paediatric patient through the growth cycle and includes how to weigh and measure the child and interpret growth charts in specific age groups. Nutritional factors through the paediatric life cycle is a key component along with developmental profiling and use of instruments to gauge both the nutritional and developmental profile of the child. Unique conditions to be recognised and treated by the conservative practitioner, such as growing pains and common and uncommon conditions are included.

Assessment through two 2500 word reflective accounts (100%).

Structured Learning Event (20 credits)

A feature of continuing professional development is the ability to identify professional learning needs, attend relevant formal learning events, and then apply the acquired learning experiences and outcomes in the workplace setting. This unit develops skills in reflection and critical evaluation of oneself as a learner in the formalised setting, application of new knowledge and skills in the complex and unpredictable professional setting, and reflection-on-action in evaluating change in one's own performance. Students will be required to attend an approved (by the Programme Leader) seminar, and base their assignment on their learning experiences and learning outcomes in practice. Payment for attendance at these seminars is NOT included in the course fee. Students wishing to attend seminars at the AECC will be charged at the student rate.

Assessment is through a 5000 word critical review of learning outcomes achieved through formal and informal learning events and their application in changing professional practice (100%).

Current Advances in Practice (20 credits)

The professional knowledge base moves at an alarming rate, and it is incumbent on practitioners to keep abreast of developments in all aspects of professional practice. This unit develops skills in finding and retrieving relevant information, and in the synthesis of complex and conflicting information to create useful and relevant knowledge. In this unit, individuals will identify an area of particular need or interest, and disseminate information at the forefront of knowledge in that topic area. There is no seminar attendance for this unit.

Assessment is through a 5000 word critical review of the literature (100%).



Masters Stage

Research Methods (20 credits)

To fully appreciate and implement evidence-based practice, practitioners must understand different types of clinical research designs, and the best designs to answer particular types of clinical questions. This unit not only develops skills in clinical research designs, data collection and data analysis, but prepares the individual to identify potential areas for research inquiry and systematically plan a research investigation. This is an attendance-based unit. *Assessment is through a reflective research protocol (approximately 5000 words) (100%).*

Dissertation (40 credits)

At Masters level, practitioners must have completed a research investigation in an area applicable to professional and paediatric practice. In many cases, the investigation will be carried out in the professional practice setting, collecting and analysing real-time clinical data. Facilities are also available at the institution for those wishing to conduct experimental investigations. The individual will be supported throughout his/her dissertation work by expert research supervision and with access to institutional research facilities and ethics approval boards.

Assessment is through a Research Dissertation (approximately 10000 words) (100%).

or

Audit Methods (20 credits)

To fully appreciate and implement evidence-based practice, practitioners must understand clinical audit and the role in clinical governance. This unit develops skills in data collection and data analysis based on audit findings, and ways to improve clinical practice. This is an attendance-based unit. *Assessment is through a reflective audit protocol, approximately 5000 words).*

Clinical Audit (40 credits)

For many healthcare professionals a clinical audit is very relevant to professional practice, allowing recommendations to be made to improve professional practice.

Assessment is through a Clinical Audit (approximately 10000 words) (100%).



Teaching and Learning:

This will take the form of tutorials, workshops, practical skills classes, seminars, small group work and lectures, as required within individual units, and to meet the needs of specific programmes of study developed for each student. Students will be required to undertake private study, reading, research, and prepare presentations and assignments, and should expect to spend, on average, 8 hours per week study time.

Formal attendance at the institution is kept to a minimum, and where it is required, will normally take place at weekends. Formal attendance is required on the following units:

- Professional Clinical Practice
- *Musculoskeletal Health of the Neonate
- *Musculoskeletal Health of the Infant and Toddler
- *Growth, Development and Nutrition
- Structured Learning Event
- Evidence-based Practice
- Research and Audit Methods

For all units, students will have identified contact with unit tutors through email/phone and pre-arranged, mutually convenient one-to-one tutorial sessions at the institution. Arrangements for submission of assignments and feedback on performance and progression will be provided throughout the programme through these tutor links.

Students will have ready access to web-based resources, including electronic databases and gateways, on-line journals and links to relevant web sites. A dedicated and secure website will house all relevant documentation for students enrolled on the programme, as well as up-to-date information and notices, details of deadlines for assignments, and a discussion forum for students to network amongst themselves.

*Paediatric units are taken in the order they are presented at the AECC, and are interchangeable between the Pg Cert (Stage 1) and the Pg Dip (Stage 2). Paediatric seminars will normally run on alternate years.

Assessment: Each unit will be individually assessed with methods appropriate to the unit of study. Assessment methods used on the course will normally consist of written assignments (approximately 5000 word per 20 credit unit).

Pathway Leader: Dr Joyce Miller jmiller@aecc.ac.uk



Seminar dates for units requiring attendance at the AECC (all dates are subject to change):

| | |
|---|--|
| Induction and Professional Clinical Practice | 04 Oct 2017 (08:45 – 16:00) |
| Evidence-based Practice | 05-07 Oct 2017 |
| Audit Methods (<i>normally attend in Year 2</i>) | 11 Oct 2017 or similar date in 2018 |
| Research Methods (<i>normally attend in Year 2</i>) | 12-14 Oct 2017 or similar date in 2018 |
| Musculoskeletal Health of the Infant and Toddler | 02-03 Dec 2017 (tbc) |
| Growth, Development and Nutrition | 10-11 March 2018 (tbc) |
| Musculoskeletal Health of the Neonate | 01-02 Dec 2018 (tbc) |

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Fees (subject to change):

The annual cost of the course including the cost to attend required seminars (October 2017-September 2018) is:

| | Annual fee if paid in full by 31st October |
|--|--|
| EU nationals who currently do not hold any Masters or other level 7 (M) degree (PgCert/PgDip) or higher | £2662 ⁺ |
| EU nationals who hold any Masters or other level 7 (M) degree (PgCert/PgDip) or higher | £3430 ⁺ |
| EEA (non-EU) or Swiss nationals | £3430 ⁺ |
| All other applicants | £4198 ⁺ |

Course fees may be subject to changes and annual increases. Fees are paid annually irrespective of the number of units completed. The course organisers reserve the right to make alterations to course fees and arrangements and dates for teaching and learning sessions, including the decision to run any or all parts of the course in the light of demand.



***All recent first qualification graduates (2012 - 2017) will pay half price tuition fee in the first year. Tuition will revert to the standard fees in subsequent years.**

AECC Graduate Loyalty Discount for AECC alumni:

For all new enrolments starting in 2017: we offer a 10% discount, to AECC alumni, on the annual tuition fee for the duration of your part-time MSc programme. (Note: for recent graduates where a 50% discount applies in Year 1 of the MSc Advanced Professional Practice programmes only, this 10% Graduate Loyalty Discount will apply only from Year 2 onwards.)

Fees for formal CPD seminars on which to base the Structured Learning Event unit are not included in the tuition fee however students attending AECC CPD seminars will pay the reduced student rate if available.

What you need to do:

To request further information or to apply please contact
AECC Admissions
admissions@aecc.ac.uk
44 (0)1202 436 200

Admissions Department
AECC, 13-15 Parkwood Road, Bournemouth, BH5 2DF.

**The final deadline for receipt of completed
applications is**

2 August 2017



PROGRAMME DIAGRAM

MSc Advanced Professional Practice (Paediatric Musculoskeletal Health)

Stage 3/ Level 7

Core Unit (Compulsory)

Research Methods (20)
Dissertation (40)

Or

Audit Methods (20)
Clinical Audit (40)

Exit qualification:

MSc Advanced Professional Practice (Paediatric Musculoskeletal Health)

Requires 180 credits at Level 7

Stage 2/ Level 7

Core Units (Compulsory) *(If not taken in Stage 1)*

Musculoskeletal Health of the Neonate (20)*
Musculoskeletal Health of the Infant and Toddler (20)*
Growth, Development and Nutrition (20)*

Option Units Choose 1 option unit to total 60 level 7 credits

Structured Learning Event (20) +
or
Current Advances in Practice (20) +

Progression requirements:

Requires 120 Level 7 credits to progress

Exit qualification:
PGDip Advanced Professional Practice (Paediatric Musculoskeletal Health)

Requires 120 Level 7 credits

Stage 1/ Level 7

Core Units (Compulsory)

Professional Clinical Practice (20)
Evidence-based Practice (20)

PLUS

Musculoskeletal Health of the Neonate (20)*
or
Musculoskeletal Health of the Infant and Toddler (20)*
or
Growth, Development and Nutrition (20)*

Progression requirements

Requires 60 Level 7 credits to progress

Exit Qualification:
PGCert Advanced Professional Practice (Paediatric Musculoskeletal Health)

Requires 60 Level 7 credits

* Units marked with an asterisk can be taken in Stage 1 or Stage 2.

+Units MUST be based in an area of paediatric musculoskeletal health and agreed by the Programme Leader.



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