This exciting Master’s programme in Physiotherapy is designed to produce “the academic clinician” with the skills and knowledge to achieve success in the contemporary health settings of today.

The programme will provide you with both an excellent academic experience grounded in the latest research and evidence base and an excellent clinical experience.

The course offers you the opportunity to acquire advanced theoretical knowledge and a deeper understanding of research and shows you how to integrate knowledge with clinical skills and experiences.

The School of Health Sciences and Social Care is one of the largest schools in the University, and attracts funding from a range of national and international sources. School research and teaching is recognised by the Government as being amongst the highest for Health and Social Care in the country.
COURSE DETAILS
The programme explores all the major topics of pathology and patient management essential to the physiotherapist including the fundamental foundation sciences of anatomy, physiology, kinesiology and exercise prescription. All elements of learning are supported by a review of the evidence base to produce cutting edge contemporary clinical practice.

The programme includes a strong theme of professional development and an emphasis on developing high levels of professional communication. 1,000 hours of clinical practice give students the opportunity to put their theory into practice and to consolidate and expand their skills repertoire.

Students are encouraged and helped to develop critical and analytical thinking about current theory and practice in physiotherapy. This process culminates in the students undertaking original research in fulfillment of their final dissertation.

Successful completion of the programme provides eligibility to apply for registration with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC) and to practice as a state registered Physiotherapist in the UK.

The programme consists of 14 taught modules, a number of study modules, a research dissertation and 30 weeks of clinical practice. It is delivered on a full-time basis only and runs for 46 weeks per year for each of the two years.

MODULES

Anatomy 1
In this module you will study the normal structure and functional anatomy of the lumbar spine, pelvis and lower limb. You will also start to consider aspects of disorder and dysfunction.

Rehabilitation 1
In this module you will study the theoretical basis of human movement and exercise prescription. The module includes the study of muscle physiology, aspects of exercise physiology and movement analysis.

Pathophysiology
This module allows you to study the key pathological processes that affect bone, muscles and joints either through trauma or disease.

Professional development
The professional development modules run throughout all terms of each of the two years of the programme. They are designed to raise students’ awareness of the appropriate codes of professional standards of conduct and ethics pertinent to the physiotherapist and the physiotherapy student both on campus and out in clinical practice. We expect our students to behave with appropriate professionalism towards their studies, their peers, the staff, and their patients at all times. In addition this module will help you to develop the skills you need for effective lifelong learning and to promote professional development. Professional development will also include the study of specialist areas of physiotherapy, for example:

1. Paediatrics
   This study block provides you with the opportunity to develop your knowledge of early motor development and common paediatric conditions. Through exploring theoretical and practical aspects of paediatric physiotherapy, you will be able to understand the basis of assessments and interventions used within the paediatric services.

2. Ageing Studies
   The aim of this study block is to enable you to effectively plan and deliver interventions that meet the needs of older people. You will gain an understanding of ageing from the cellular level, through individual human ageing to social policy. You will consider how health promotion can enable people to age happily, healthily and without disability, and you will also consider the specific health care needs of elderly people.

3. Women’s Health
   In this study block you will explore the role of the physiotherapist in women’s health.

4. Oncology and Palliative Care
   This study block will promote your understanding of the medical and holistic care of oncology patients and of patients requiring palliative and end-of-life care.

5. Falls Services
   This study block will enable you to effectively plan and deliver interventions within an interprofessional falls service. You will develop your understanding of the risk factors associated with falls and the assessment of individuals who fall. Current clinical guidelines and literature will be used to explore the key issues in the provision of falls services.

6. Mental Health
   The aim of this study block is to enable you to effectively plan and deliver physiotherapy interventions that meet the needs of individual service users with mental health problems. You will also develop an understanding of common mental health problems and the key issues encountered during the provision of healthcare services for this population. You will also consider how the health promotion role of the physiotherapist can contribute to a sense of well-being in people with mental health problems.
Anatomy 2
In this module you will study the normal structure and functional anatomy of the cervical spine, thorax and upper limb. You will also consider aspects of disorder and dysfunction.

Rehabilitation 2
This module provides the opportunity for you to develop your knowledge of the theoretical basis of motor control, motor learning and skill acquisition. You will be able to build on knowledge and skills attained in Rehabilitation 1 to further develop movement analysis skills, learning, for example, to analyse normal and abnormal posture and gait.

Musculoskeletal 1 – The Lower Quadrant
This module is the first of two practical orientated modules related to examination and treatment of musculoskeletal dysfunction. Specifically in this module you will study common pathologies/conditions affecting the lumbar spine, pelvis and lower limb and how to assess and manage patients with them.

Respiratory
In this module you will develop a theoretical understanding of normal respiratory physiology and the pathophysiology that underpins common respiratory disease. In addition you will learn to develop analytical assessment skills, and a physiotherapeutic knowledge base and skills repertoire which will enable you to treat and manage patients with a wide variety of symptoms associated with chronic and acute respiratory disease.

Musculoskeletal 2 – The Upper Quadrant
This module is the second of two practical modules related to examination and treatment of musculoskeletal dysfunction. Specifically in this module you will study common pathologies/conditions affecting the cervical and thoracic spine, shoulder girdle and upper limb and how to assess and manage patients with them.

Neurorehabilitation
In this module you will study key concepts in neurophysiology, neuroanatomy and the pathological processes underlying a range of neurological conditions. You will develop neurological physiotherapeutic assessment and treatment skills including the ability to reason clinically and to justify the decisions you make.

Clinical Preparation
This study block falls just prior to your first clinical placement. At this point you will have much knowledge and many new skills to draw on and to make your clinical placement a great experiential learning experience. This module is designed to provide an opportunity to investigate issues that affect therapy practice within the NHS, for example professional accountability, legislation, multidisciplinary team work, effective communication and documentation, culture, environment and the role of differing health beliefs and models of health care delivery. In addition, on a practical level, you will learn safe and effective manual handling and basic life support.

Cardiovascular Health and Health Promotion
In this module you will study cardiovascular physiology and pathology including vascular pathology of the coronary circulation and vessels to the lower limbs. In addition to developing an understanding of assessing and managing patients with cardiac pathology and lower limb amputation, you will also develop health promotion knowledge and skills.

Critical Care
This module allows you to develop a theoretical knowledge of the pathophysiology resulting in the critically ill patient on the intensive care unit. You will also develop the analytical assessment skills and physiotherapeutic skills necessary to effectively manage this patient group.

Research Methodology
This module will develop your knowledge of the principles and concepts which underpin quality research. It will also extend your understanding of evidence-based practice and the role of ongoing research in clinical practice.

Research Dissertation
The Research Methodology module provides you with a critical understanding of the research process, including the effective use of the literature review and selection of an appropriate research design relevant to a ‘physiotherapy-centred’ research question. This will enable you to produce original research – your final dissertation.

Clinical Placement
Embedded throughout the two year period are five clinical placements. Each placement lasts for six weeks. On each placement you will have the opportunity to apply and develop your skills of assessment and treatment to a variety of patients with a variety of health disorders. With appropriate guidance you will be able to identify patients’ problems and make informed decisions regarding the interventions you select. As you progress through the programme the complexity of patients, their conditions and therefore the appropriate management strategies you select will increase.
BRUNEL GRADUATE SCHOOL
Brunel Graduate School organises a range of activities and generic training sessions specifically for postgraduate students, providing students with the additional level of expertise required to complete a Master’s with flying colours. This includes SPSS training days, questionnaire coding and a host of activities designed to boost your chances of selection in the employment market.

BRUNEL INTERNATIONAL
Brunel University prides itself on its multicultural environment with students from over 110 different countries contributing to both our academic and social environment. Comprehensive advice and information is available for overseas applicants on our website at www.brunel.ac.uk/international

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY
We are one of the most optimistic, ambitious and forward-looking universities in the UK, and we have invested over £400 million in our campus facilities.

The campus is based to the west of London, close to Heathrow but with excellent transport links into central London. Brunel is one of the UK’s top universities for sport with a range of world class facilities available to all students with an interest in health, fitness and recreation.

FURTHER INFORMATION:
Please refer to our informative web pages

www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/physiotherapy-msc-pre-registration-programme

COURSE ENQUIRIES
If after having reviewed the web pages you have further questions please contact:

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this brochure and the University will take all reasonable action to deliver these services in accordance with the descriptions set out in it. However, the University reserves the right to vary these services, using all reasonable efforts to offer a suitable alternative. All costs, rates and prices stated in this brochure are subject to amendment and should be taken as a guide only.