

## Programme Specification for Postgraduate Programme Leading to: PG Cert in Musculoskeletal Ultrasound

Applicable for all postgraduate students starting in 2021/22

Version No.	Date	Notes – QA USE ONLY	QA
1.0	May-21	2021/22 version of programme spec created with no changes	BT

Postgraduate Taught Programme	
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London
3. Home College/Department/Division	College of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences/ Department of Health Sciences
4. Contributing College/Department/Division/ Associated Institution	None
5. Programme accredited by	Consortium of Sonographic Education (CASE) ONLY FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED UK BASED SITUATIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	FHEQ Level 7 PG Cert Musculoskeletal Ultrasound
7. Programme title	PG Cert Musculoskeletal Ultrasound
8. Programme type (single honours/joint)	N/A
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	PGCert: Part-time only, 12 months (1 year)
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	Normal length of programme plus one year
11. Variation(s) to September start	Jan
12. Modes of study	part time
13. Modes of delivery	Standard
14. Intermediate awards and titles and FHEQ Level of Award	None
15. UCAS Code	N/A
16. HECoS Code	101330 Ultrasound
17. Route Code	B800PMUSULSO
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design	<a href="#">UK Quality Code for Higher Education</a> which includes the English Framework for Higher Education Qualifications within Part A on Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards  <a href="#">Master's Degree Characteristics Statement</a>

V1.6 Maintained by Quality Assurance. Owned by UEC

Location: <https://intra.brunel.ac.uk/s/QSO/Team/Programmes/Programme Specification Master Proformas and Guidance/Postgraduate>

UNCLASSIFIED

	<a href="#">Brunel 2030</a>
19. Admission Requirements	<p>Details of <a href="#">PGT entry requirements</a> are provided on the University's and College website.</p> <p>Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's <a href="#">language requirements</a> pages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The legal requirement to be registered to practice as an allied health or medically trained professional</li> <li>• Registered with the HCPC or GMC in one of the relevant allied health professions, or equivalent for other professionals.</li> <li>• Be able to demonstrate support from their employer / sponsor including confirmation that the entrant will have appropriate supervised practice in the clinical area in which they are expected to use ultrasonography.</li> <li>• Have sufficient relevant post-qualification experience in the clinical area in which they will be scanning.</li> <li>• Be able to demonstrate that clinical governance arrangements are in place to support safe and use of diagnostic ultrasonography.</li> <li>• Have demonstrable DBS checks and immunisations</li> <li>• English language requirements - IELTS: 7 (min 6.5W, 6.5L, 6.5R, 6.5S), Pearson: 64 (58 in all subscores).</li> </ul>
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	The PGCert Musculoskeletal Ultrasound will be delivered through a partnership agreement with the Ultrasound Site Ltd.
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 3. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 3 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	None
22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.	<a href="https://www.brunel.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/musculoskeletal-ultrasound-pgcert">https://www.brunel.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/musculoskeletal-ultrasound-pgcert</a>

### 23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The aim of this programme is to provide high quality training and education to the varied professional backgrounds that are now utilising musculoskeletal ultrasound in their practice. Teaching not only the core skill of musculoskeletal ultrasound image generation, interpretation and reporting but also understanding the impact this can have on patient care.

### 24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

Level	Category (K = knowledge and understanding, C = cognitive (thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes)	Learning Outcome	Masters Award Only	Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)	Associated Study Blocks Code(s)	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)

	K	Appropriately and safely justify the integration of ultrasonography into a holistic management pathway for patients with musculoskeletal conditions				PH5638/39
	K	Critically evaluate the current evidence base surrounding ultrasonography and apply this to relevant clinical contexts				PH5638/39
	K	Develop knowledge scientific and technological basis of sonographic image creation, including a depth of physics to apply this to image creation and the safety aspects of ultrasonography.				PH5638/39
	K	Develop advanced knowledge and understanding of the clinical governance of musculoskeletal ultrasonography.				PH5638/39
	C	To apply advanced investigative and analytical skills to interpret sonographic imaging to differentiate and evaluate musculoskeletal tissue types.				PH5638/39
	C	Develop an understanding of the limitations of musculoskeletal ultrasonography in comparison to other treatment options within a theoretical and clinical contexts.				PH5638/39
	S	Apply advanced knowledge of peripheral musculoskeletal anatomy to improve safety and effectiveness when performing an ultrasound scan				PH5638/39
	S	Develop skills of report writing and communicating performance of an MSK ultrasound to other clinicians and patients with an advanced skills level.				PH5638/39
	S	Perform competently musculoskeletal sonographic investigations for musculoskeletal pathologies of the lower and upper limb demonstrating this highly specialised skill.				PH5638/39

**Learning/teaching strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments**

The programme will include a range of lectures, tutorials, seminars and workshops that cover broad subjects, providing an interdisciplinary perspective on important topics, as well as specialist lectures to enhance the advanced clinical practitioner's development of academic and clinical expertise.

Lectures will be provided by academic and clinical staff on a range of key aspects of specialist clinical practice, research, and educational provision appropriate to the development of the advanced clinical practitioner's breadth and depth of knowledge for practice. The use of e-learning platforms and resources, such as recorded lectures and online materials in Blackboard Learn (BBL), will provide further up-to-date content and input relevant to programme and module learning outcomes, as well as provide flexible access to a wide range of resources to facilitate learning for students in employment. Critical reading and evaluation of policies, guidelines and relevant research will form the basis for seminars, debates and interactive workshops.

Learning and teaching strategies include:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Group work
- Portfolio development

**Formative assessment:**

Review of x10 ultrasound scans as part of the portfolio in Module 2.

**Summative assessment strategies and methods** to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated.

As this is a level 7 clinical programme the assessments are designed to assess the knowledge and theories at Level 7. This is also a clinical vocation programme and reflect the multidisciplinary student cohort that these clinicians are working in performing ultrasonography exams and as such the assessments are authentic. Unlike standard level 7 programmes, this is a clinical programme and therefore the assessments are competency based as well as knowledge and theory based; this is also a requirement of external regulation. To demonstrate the students' knowledge and theory based they are assessed on their physics knowledge via a written paper comprising of an MCQ section and short answer section giving the students the ability to demonstrate their breadth and depth of their knowledge. They also need to pass a viva and clinical case presentation demonstrating their knowledge to apply theoretical knowledge to a clinical environment; this also allows the examiner to be able to assess their level of communication. The practical examination allows the student to demonstrate their skill level at holding, performing and interpreting their ultrasound images they present. By completing the extensive logbook (250 scans) with 100 scans performed with their mentor in clinical practice the students are demonstrating their ever evolving skills to perform ultrasound scans, which is further validated by their clinical mentor 'signing off' on their competence during their situational learning, but also their final assessment is to perform an musculoskeletal ultrasound scan on 3 unseen patients whilst being assessed by their clinical mentor and an independent assessor (both of which have to agree to pass the student). All the assessment has been designed to reflect this highly specialised skill within a clinical context whilst being under pinned by an advanced level of theoretical knowledge essential to performing the scans and have been approved by the external accreditor CASE.

**25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements****The programme is structured over 2 x 30 credit modules:**

Module 1: The fundamentals of musculoskeletal ultrasound (PH5638)

Module 2: Integrating musculoskeletal ultrasound into practice (PH5639)

Both of which are compulsory.

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an 'option range'. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade C- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at C- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB5500 Project (40)  
Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at C- or better, these will be identified by listing each element that is core

e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)  
Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:

e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)  
Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade C- or better, but must D- or better in order to be eligible for the final award.

--

Level 7	
<b>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit</b>  None	<b>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</b>  None
<b>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</b>  <b>Students studying for the PGCert Musculoskeletal Ultrasound will complete 60 credits comprising of:</b>  (PH5638) The fundamentals of musculoskeletal ultrasound (30cr) (Core: All, Block)  (PH5639) Integrating musculoskeletal ultrasound into practice (30cr) (Core: All, Block)	<b>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</b>  None
<b>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</b>  None	<b>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</b>  None

**FHEQ Level 7 Progression and Award Requirements**

As per [Senate Regulation 3](#)

Progression:  
 In order to progress to PH5639 the student must pass all aspects of PH5638's assessments.  
 A student will be given the opportunity to re-sit once on failure on any aspect of PH5638 assessments. On their second failure they will be withdrawn from the programme.

Award requirements:  
 On successful completion of PH5638 but unsuccessful of PH5639 the student will be entitled to a letter stating they have completed the fundamentals of musculoskeletal ultrasound (PH5638) gaining 30 credits at FHEQ Level 7.  
 On successful completion of PH5638 and PH5639 the student will gain a PG Cert in Musculoskeletal Ultrasonography (60 credits at FHEQ 7).

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a modification occurs.