

For general undergraduate
enquiries contact:

The Enquiry Centre
t: +44 (0)115 951 5559
e: undergraduate-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/faqs

Nursing

Undergraduate study 2015

www.nottingham.ac.uk/healthsciences



Contents

- 2 Welcome
- 3 Why study nursing at Nottingham?
- 6 Degree courses
- 11 The nursing fields of practice
- 17 How will I study?
- 19 How will I be assessed?
- 21 Career and employment prospects
- 23 Graduate profile
- 25 Your student experience
- 29 Applying for a place
- 32 Frequently asked questions
- 33 Visiting and contacting us

Front cover image:
A student nurse learning with their mentor.



Welcome to the Division of Nursing

This is an incredibly exciting time to become a nurse. Our profession is undergoing a radical educational and professional transformation, with nurses taking on greater responsibilities and enjoying more opportunities than ever, to progress in a range of fascinating specialist areas.

Nursing today is dynamic, challenging and rewarding, and needs graduates who not only have the passion to care for people, but a high level of analytical and decision-making skills, underpinned by the latest contemporary evidence in order to provide high-quality care.

To meet these ever changing demands and create this new generation of healthcare professionals, from 2016 all new registered nurses must be educated to degree level. This requires fundamental changes in education – changes pioneered by The University of Nottingham.

Our innovative nursing degrees blend novel teaching methods, exciting clinical experiences and rigorous academic knowledge, all designed to prepare you for a professional nursing career.

As one of the world's leading universities and one of the largest nursing schools in the UK, we have a hard-earned reputation for teaching and research excellence. Nottingham is in the top ten for nursing in *The Guardian University Guide 2015*. The most recent Research Assessment Exercise placed us in the top five UK universities for nursing research.

Students based in Nottingham or Derby will learn in a stimulating environment, with access to great facilities and support from experienced practitioners. We are based in the dynamic settings of the Queen's Medical Centre, and the newly built Royal Derby Hospital, with exciting healthcare placement opportunities available through our healthcare provider partners in the East Midlands, around the UK and overseas.

We welcome people from a diverse range of backgrounds: whether they're young adults leaving school, mature students, or those simply looking to retrain for a more rewarding career.

More and more students are considering a career in nursing, and with so many opportunities, a new, higher level of training and no course fees, there really has never been a better time to enter the profession.

We look forward to welcoming you to The University of Nottingham and the start of an incredible career.

Elaine Cook
Head of the Division of Nursing
School of Health Sciences



Undergraduate students studying in the
Students' Union, Derby Medical School.

Why study nursing at Nottingham?

The University of Nottingham is a pioneer in nursing education. As one of the largest nursing schools in the UK, we offer innovative courses informed by powerful research and delivered by high-quality teachers in an inspiring environment.

At any one time, 2,500 students from all walks of life are learning and growing with us, developing their skills with one clear aim in mind: to be the best healthcare practitioners they can be and improve the lives of patients wherever they work.

As a university, we have an impressive worldwide reputation for academic excellence. Not only are we part of the Russell Group of 20 leading UK universities, but we are also placed in the top 1% of universities globally, according to the QS World University Rankings.

In the latest Research Assessment Exercise, Nottingham was ranked 7th overall in the UK in terms of research power (5th for nursing research). This in turn informs our teaching, which is excellent.

We are immensely proud of our students, some of whom are award winners. At the 2014 Student Nursing Times Awards, student Emily Gartshore was named Student Nurse of the Year in the Adult Nursing category. Student Natasha McVey won the NHS Emerging Leader of the Year award at the East Midlands Leadership Academy Awards Ceremony, 2013, the only student nurse in the national shortlist.

Our international links mean you will have the opportunity to develop a global perspective of nursing and, on some courses, experience healthcare abroad.

Highly skilled graduates

We are renowned for producing graduates who are highly skilled and much sought after. Our employment record is one of the best in the country, with The University of Nottingham the most targeted university by Britain's leading graduate employers.* Our approach to blending practical experience with sound academic knowledge, makes our nursing graduates very attractive to employers locally, nationally and internationally.

In addition to their studies, students are encouraged to build a broad range of outside interests – an important part of becoming a well-rounded individual. We are proud to have one of the most active students' unions at any UK university, with over 250 societies and sports clubs where you can have fun, gain new skills and meet like-minded people. Students can also participate in the Nottingham Nurses and Midwives (NUMID) Association, aiding interprofessional collaboration.

* *The Graduate Market in 2014* – High Fliers Research.



Studying on University Park Campus.



Studying in the Medical School Foyer, Queen's Medical Centre.

Degree courses

Degree title	Branch	UCAS code	Duration	A levels	IB	Location	Places*
Single honours							
BSc (Hons) Nursing	Adult	B740	3 years	BBB	30	Nottingham	264
BSc (Hons) Nursing	Child	B730	3 years	BBB	30	Nottingham	44
BSc (Hons) Nursing	Learning Disabilities	B768	3 years	BBB	30	Nottingham	16
BSc (Hons) Nursing	Mental Health	B767	3 years	BBB	30	Nottingham	63
MSc Graduate Entry Nursing	Adult	3010	2 years	See detailed requirements on page 12		Derby	75
MSc Graduate Entry Nursing	Child	3310	2 years	See detailed requirements on page 12		Derby	20
MSc Graduate Entry Nursing	Mental Health	3110	2 years	See detailed requirements on page 12		Derby	44

The **BSc (Hons) Nursing** course is carefully designed to meet the needs of a new generation of nurses for a changing healthcare landscape. It will give you everything you need to launch an amazing, rewarding career.

Both of our dynamic courses are pathways to becoming a qualified, registered nurse.

* Places are for 2015 and may be subject to change.

For those who already have a degree and are looking for a fast way into nursing, our two-year postgraduate **MSc Graduate Entry Nursing** is a popular choice.

BSc (Hons) Nursing

Our innovative three-year full-time degree course is carefully designed to create highly-skilled nurses who are ready to make a real difference to people's lives.

Why choose this course?

In today's healthcare environment, nurses have a pivotal role to play as part of a multi-professional team, caring for a diverse range of patients and working in a wide range of specialist areas.

This course has been specially developed to give you the wide-ranging, high-level skills you need: not just in terms of the physical work you will do, but also by sharpening your creativity, critical judgement and ability to lead. Nursing is, and always will be, about caring for people – it's just that nurses will now be operating at a much higher level.

What will I learn?

The course is an integrated blend of modules reflecting the field of practice you would like to work in, whether that's caring for adults, children, people with mental health problems or those with learning disabilities.

Each module is informed by the latest academic thinking and has been designed to develop the real skills and knowledge you will need to become a registered nurse. Half of the course is dedicated to working in practice, giving you broad experience in a variety of healthcare settings at each stage of a patient's journey.

Over the three years, you will study in a challenging yet incredibly supportive environment. Alongside the huge range of University support services that all students enjoy, great time and care has been given to developing a course that supports you as you become more confident and independent.

In the first year, you will take part in personal tutorial groups, while getting more clinical supervision in years two and three. You will also have plenty of guidance during your placement.

When and where will I study?

The course starts in September and follows similar dates as the majority of University undergraduate courses, with extra time required in the summer.

You will study at our Nottingham centre where you will enjoy high levels of teaching facilities and support. Lessons take place at the Queen's Medical Centre next to University Park Campus.

You will also have the exciting opportunity to work in nursing practice in another country for four weeks, broadening your perspectives on how healthcare delivery varies internationally.

Ready for the challenges ahead

At the end of the course you will be a highly qualified, registered nurse ready to work in your chosen field. Not only will you have developed confidence and competency in areas such as delivering and managing care, but also in communication and leadership.

Financial support

Your tuition fees will be paid for by the Department of Health. All eligible students will get a non-means-tested grant, a means-tested bursary and a non-means-tested Reduced Rate student loan.

Selection and interview

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a selection day, where you will be able to find out more about the course, chat to lecturers and also take part in a group interview. We will be looking for you to demonstrate your potential for academic progression and fundamentally sound communication and interpersonal skills that are so important to nursing.

Typical modules		
Year one	Year two	Year three
Core modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Personal and Professional Effectiveness for Nursing Practice (Level 1)Communication, Innovation and Leadership (Level 1)Person-Centred Nursing Practice: Foundations (Level 1)	Core modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Personal and Professional Effectiveness for Nursing Practice (Level 2)Innovation, Communication and Leadership (Level 2)Person-Centred Nursing Care: Delivery and Decision Making (Level 2)	Core modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Personal and Professional Effectiveness for Nursing Practice (Level 3)Leadership, Innovation and Communication (Level 3)Person-Centred Nursing Care: Leadership and Management (Level 3)

Entry requirements

We accept the following qualifications:

- Five GCSEs at grades A-C including English, maths and a science **plus** one of:-

A levels

- Three A levels at grades BBB

BTEC Extended Diploma in Health Studies

- Overall DDM

International Baccalaureate Diploma

- Minimum score of 30

Access to HE Diploma

- 45 credits at level three (including 30 credits at merit, with minimum of 15 from science, social science or psychology units). The Diploma must include maths in a nursing context at level two. Plus GCSE English and maths or acceptable equivalents.

We also warmly welcome mature applicants who have experience and qualifications equivalent to the ones listed above. Please get in touch if you have any queries, using the contact details on this page.

Additional requirements such as age on entry, occupational health and English language requirements are on our website.

How to apply

Please apply online at www.ucas.ac.uk

The UCAS codes for this course are:

- B740 adult
- B730 child
- B768 learning disabilities
- B767 mental health

More information

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about the course, please contact us:

t: +44 (0)115 823 0839 or +44 (0)800 316 8974
e: nursing-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/healthsciences

MSc Graduate Entry Nursing (GEN)

This is a two-year full-time course for those who already have an honours degree and are looking to become qualified, registered nurses.

Why choose this course?

This course is for those who already have a degree and want to become a registered nurse in just two years. Your prior undergraduate degree and relevant practical experience is accredited to enable you to complete the course in two years. This programme leads to a masters level qualification and registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). There are excellent career prospects in a range of avenues including clinical practice, management, research and education. Previous graduates from this programme have performed extremely well in competing for sought after positions within the nursing profession.

What will I learn?

All students study their chosen field of nursing, selected from adult, child or mental health. Our dynamic curriculum is underpinned by enquiry-based learning, developing your clinical leadership skills and preparing you for practice.

Practice-based learning is a key part of the course and you will experience a comprehensive range of placements, working with healthcare professionals in a variety of areas. You will spend 50% of your time in a clinical practice setting.

Our innovative curriculum incorporates service users and carers involvement within taught sessions. You will also take part in an engaging virtual exchange project, broadening your perspective on global healthcare.

As with all our courses, you can expect to experience a stimulating blend of learning activities, from lectures and clinical skills workshops through to innovative web-based activities.

When and where will I study?

This intense course is delivered at our Derby Centre at the Royal Derby Hospital, where you will enjoy a high standard of teaching, facilities and support. The course will start in January.

You will undertake practice placements predominantly throughout the Derbyshire region in a comprehensive range of inpatient and community settings.

Ready for the challenges ahead

By the end of the course you will have the essential practical skills and theoretical knowledge to join a new generation of nurses delivering outstanding healthcare.

Financial support

Your tuition fees will be paid for by the Department of Health. All eligible students will get a non-means-tested grant and a means-tested bursary, but not the student loan.

Selection and interview

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed, and selection made based on academic qualifications and personal attributes suitable for nursing. Candidates will take part in multi mini interviews for selection. As part of this process, they will be required to present a short account of how their prior learning and experience relates to nursing practice. Healthcare experience is essential to meet NMC advanced standing requirements for this course. This will involve demonstrating a basic level of care experience (under supervision) through the submission of an online portfolio of evidence. Examples could include experience as a healthcare assistant, mental health support worker, or volunteer with a healthcare charitable institution.

Typical modules	
Year one	Year two
Core modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Foundations for Professional and Personal Effectiveness in NursingDiverse Perspectives on Care Assessment, Planning, Delivery and Decision Making for Nursing PracticeThe Social Context of Health Care Provision and DeliveryResearch Proposal (Research 1)	Core modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Complex Care Delivery and Decision Making for Nursing PracticeField specific module in either adult, mental health or child nursingProfessional Development, Leadership and Innovation for Nursing PracticeResearch Dissertation

Entry requirements

You should have:

- An honours degree (2:2 or higher). At your interview you will be asked to demonstrate how your knowledge, skills and experience are transferable to nursing.

and

- GCSEs including English, maths and a science at grade C or above.

You will also need to have some paid or voluntary experience in a healthcare related environment.

How to apply

Please apply online at www.ucas.ac.uk

The UCAS codes for the course are:

- 3010 adult
- 3310 child
- 3110 mental health

More information?

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about the course, please contact us:

t: +44 (0)115 823 0839 or +44 (0)800 316 8974
e: gen-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/healthsciences

You can also get in touch with our Derby Centre course staff:

t: +44 (0)1332 724 949
e: derbynurseeducation@nottingham.ac.uk

The nursing fields of practice

Alongside learning the fundamentals of nursing, you will be asked to specialise in a particular area when you apply.

Each field of nursing brings its own challenges and rewards, and enables you to develop vital skills and experience. You will learn to deliver care in a range of setting and contexts, in both clinical and community environments.

The four fields explored over the next few pages are:

- Caring for adults
- Caring for children and their families
- Caring for people with learning disabilities
- Caring for people with mental health problems



Students in the Clinical Skills Centre.

Caring for adults

Nurses who provide care for adults must be critical thinkers, reflective practitioners and effective communicators, using clinical judgement to improve the quality of life of people with a broad range of conditions.

By providing care that is completely focused on the needs of the patient, you will help people manage long-term illnesses, regardless of their disease or disability.

As you probably know, nursing is not a career to be entered into lightly; it is demanding – physically, emotionally and psychologically. However, it is also incredibly rewarding and offers a genuine opportunity to make a difference to people's lives.

The role of a nurse is diverse and there are many career opportunities. For example:

Community nurses

As more care is offered in patients' own homes, the role of the community nurse is expanding. As a community nurse, you will meet the needs of an increasingly complex patient population, providing vital care up to, and including, the end of a patient's life.

Ward nurses

Working on a ward opens up a diverse range of settings. For example, in Nottingham these include a regional cardiac centre, a specialist haematology and bone marrow transplant unit, an ophthalmic specialist unit and a regional trauma unit. In Derby the new Royal Derby Hospital provides a modern working environment and an emergency department with a purpose built helipad, the first in the East Midlands.

You will have the chance to specialise in one particular field of healthcare, becoming a nurse specialist or nurse consultant. These roles require you to study at a higher academic level, so you can develop advanced clinical skills in areas such as non-medical prescribing and clinical assessment.

For more details on adult nursing and the range of career opportunities available, visit www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/nursing

Caring for children and their families

Working with children of all ages, with a variety of conditions, brings a unique set of challenges, including the provision of a high level of support for often very worried families.

Focusing on quality care and developing cutting-edge clinical skills, the child field explores the pivotal roles and interactions between you as a nurse and the child and their family, building your knowledge of professional and ethical practice.

Your studies will be informed by the very latest research, ensuring that everything you learn is right up to date.

To be a good children's nurse, you will need to understand how a healthy child develops into adulthood, as well as how to minimise the impact of illness or hospital admission on a child. As you can imagine, not only can health problems have a serious effect on a child's development, but there can also be a lot of stress placed on the patient and their families. It can be very scary, and your care and support right from the start will play a huge part in helping them cope with the situation.

Working closely with families is a major part of the role. Not only will you provide clinical care to the patient, you will give reassurance and confidence to worried parents, siblings and other carers, learning when to stand back and when to become more involved. You will require a special set of attitudes and open-mindedness to people's different ways of relating to their children.

While most adults can express the way they feel or what they need, a child may not be able to communicate so easily. Therefore, children's nurses must be skilled communicators, interpreting behaviour and reactions intelligently while being able to spot when a patient's health may take a turn for the worse. You may also need to teach parents or carers how to provide treatment at home. Such support is invaluable.

Technological advancements, the modernisation of the NHS and changes in public expectations, mean you will be expected to acquire a variety of skills and the flexibility to care for children with ever more complex needs in constantly evolving settings. As with other fields of modern nursing, care is becoming more community-based, so alongside hospital care, nursing also takes place in daycare centres, child health clinics and patients' homes.

For more details on child nursing and the range of career opportunities available, visit www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/nursing

Caring for people with learning disabilities

It's widely believed that around 2% of the UK population has some form of learning disability, ranging from people who need a lot of assistance, to those who may require occasional support to help them get through the challenges of daily life.

Working with people with learning disabilities can be very rewarding but nurses must be able to engender trust and have a good understanding of the people they work with. In particular, you will need to have a genuine interest in individuals' development and be committed to ensuring people with learning disabilities feel included in society.

Some people with various conditions may not have had the opportunity to develop the skills of independence to access the services they need. Similarly, a family may need help and support to make sense of the situation they face and the services that are available to them. Therefore, a great deal of empathy and understanding is needed to work with a wide range of people, their families and carers, and a complex range of care packages may be required.

For nurses working in this fascinating field of care, there are many opportunities to work with individuals and their families at all stages of life. You will also discover many routes, not limited to healthcare, in which you can further develop your career. The skills and knowledge you acquire and develop during your time at Nottingham will open up avenues in specialist social care services, education and the private and voluntary sectors, alongside more mainstream health services.

You can also specialise in particular areas, such as forensic nursing, specialist health promotion work, challenging behaviour services, family therapy and other psychotherapeutic interventions. Alternatively, you could see yourself involved in the management of services or even contributing to cutting-edge research.

For more details on learning disabilities nursing and the range of career opportunities available, visit www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/nursing

Caring for people with mental health problems

Mental health problems affect one in three of the UK population, and presents major challenges not only for the individual but also their friends, families and the health services supporting them.

Despite such prevalence there remains a lot of prejudice, with many people struggling to find employment, being viewed with fear and even feeling completely excluded from society. The majority of people with mental health problems are more likely to harm themselves than other people and need professional help if they are to recover and have an improved quality of life.

Mental health services provide care for people who experience common problems such as depression, anxiety and dementia and other, rarer problems such as schizophrenia.

As a mental health nurse you will have the rich and rewarding opportunity to progress your career in a number of settings and specialist areas. Although the majority of services are delivered in the community, you could work in a hospital ward, special unit, charitable trust or private-sector care home. You could even find yourself working in accident and emergency, as part of a team assessing patients' mental health.

Alongside the different settings, there are various specialist areas open to you, such as working with children and adolescents, families, women with postnatal depression, older people, people with drug and alcohol issues, or forensic services.

Some choose to go on to specialise in particular therapeutic interventions, such as cognitive behavioural therapy, counselling or one of the other many and varied psychosocial approaches.

The course you choose at Nottingham will develop your clinical skills and give you invaluable experience, but you will also need to develop a broad range of personal qualities in order to be a mental health nurse. You will need an interest in working with people, good listening and communication skills, a compassionate nature and a willingness to help people develop the skills they need to live their lives. Sometimes, people who experience mental distress lose some of the simple abilities many of us take for granted, such as getting on a bus, doing the shopping or cooking a meal. Helping someone regain such skills and live independently can be highly rewarding.

Mental health nurses work in close partnership with many other healthcare professionals. Social workers, occupational therapists, psychiatrists, psychologists, physiotherapists and many others contribute to the team approach in facilitating the recovery, social inclusion and comfort of the person in mental distress.

For more details on mental health nursing and the range of career opportunities available, visit www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/nursing

How will I study?

We believe that teaching should be inspiring, engaging and challenging. That's why we employ a variety of learning methods and exploit the latest innovative technologies to create a fresh, vibrant study environment that will enhance your university experience.

Our teaching is among the very best in the UK and you'll learn from a wide variety of experienced lecturers and practitioners. You will take part in lectures, demonstrations, dynamic small group projects, debates, tutorials, workshops, computer-based projects, seminar presentations and simulated skills lessons; at times working alongside medical and pharmacy students.

In addition to interactions with your lecturers and peers, you will be expected to take part in directed and self-directed independent learning. We invest greatly in new technologies and innovative online teaching methods so that this independent learning is enhanced and supported. These include: lecture podcasts; novel bite-sized chunks of elearning on specific healthcare topics; a virtual portfolio tool that allows you to access an online central resource for course material; and a virtual exchange programme.

There is a dedicated team within the school who help to create bite-sized reusable learning objects which are award winning, peer-reviewed and used by healthcare professionals globally. They are completely free to use. Visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/helmopen

“We have outstanding staff here at The University of Nottingham. They have a passion that permeates teaching...and our curriculum is really informed by some of the leading research in the country.”

Patrick Callaghan, Head of School

Structured support at every stage

Support is a vital part of the learning process and we have spent a lot of time learning from previous student experiences to create an integrated structure that supports you as you become a more confident, independent learner and practitioner.

All students have a personal tutor who works with them for the whole course. Regular one-to-one meetings with tutors are common, giving you the opportunity to discuss academic progress and assessment feedback, or seek confidential help and advice.

Don't forget you can also access a wealth of University support on a wide range of issues at www.nottingham.ac.uk/student-services

The Students' Union is also a great place to find help. Find out more at www.su.nottingham.ac.uk

Key Information Sets

Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full- or part-time undergraduate courses and are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students. All KIS data is published on the Unistats website: www.unistats.co.uk

For Nottingham's KIS data, please see individual course entries at www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

The practice learning experience

Nursing is a richly rewarding profession that will challenge and inspire you. One of the main reasons nurses love what they do is because they make a positive, and sometimes life-changing difference to people's lives on a daily basis.

Caring for people is not easy and although you can gain a lot of knowledge from the classroom, it's only by working in practice, with real patients and other healthcare professionals, that you can develop the skills and experience to become a competent nurse.

Your time on whichever course you choose will be split between study (50%) and practice placement (50%). The University has introduced an innovative hub-and-spoke model; your hub placement will be your main base and will provide you with experience in a particular area. In addition to this hub placement, the spoke placement allows you to go to a related area to see another aspect of the patient journey. For example, you may be based on a hospital ward, but you will also experience a GP's surgery and the care outpatients receive in the community once they go home. Patients could be adults or children and suffer a physical injury or psychological illness. This holistic approach will give you a wider perspective and demonstrate some of the challenges that both patients and healthcare professionals face at various stages.

Working in a practice environment is exciting, but it can also be a little daunting at first. We want you to get the most out of your time on placement, which is why we ensure you receive continuous support from a dedicated mentor and practice learning teams, made up of lecturers and practitioners. In recent evaluations students have rated the level and quality of support they get as exceptional.

We also run student forums in the first few weeks of year one, giving you and your peers the chance to meet and discuss your initial experiences and offer each other support.

A step-by-step experience

From day one of your practice experience you will start to gain the practical and clinical judgement skills needed to be a successful nurse. For example, students on our three-year degree course can expect the following:

Year one

You will develop essential care and assessment skills, learn safeguarding issues (such as infection control and detecting vulnerable people) and learn how to work in a professional setting.

Year two

Building on your experience, you will begin to take on more responsibility, progressing your clinical reasoning skills as you start to look after one or two patients of your own.

Year three

Under more distant supervision, you will be responsible for a small group of patients making confident, proactive decisions for their health.

International opportunities

If you are a student studying BSc Nursing you will have the opportunity to undertake an elective placement in either the second or third year. This placement gives you the opportunity to decide where you want to go; this might be a specialist area of your choice in the UK or you might choose to carry out your placement overseas. You can choose your placement so that it complements your career ambitions and interests. It is through these placements that many students discover their career trajectory of choice. Elective placements are self-funded unless you are taking part in the Erasmus+ scheme, through which you may have the opportunity to study in an EU country for up to 12 weeks at one of our European partner universities. A bursary is available for this and is dependent on academic and practice achievements commensurate with the stage of education.

How will I be assessed?

In order to complete any of our nursing courses successfully you must demonstrate that you are competent in both the practice and the theory of nursing.

Throughout the courses, modular assessments are based on the principle that theory and practice are strongly linked, and assignments will require you to integrate research-based knowledge with examination of nursing practice specific to your field of practice.

Assessment of your competence in practice will also include a system of continuous assessment while in practice placement against Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Competencies for your field of practice. Assessment will follow the requirements of the NMC and include requirements for assessment in Essential Skill Clusters.

As you progress through each module, we will assess your ability to integrate discipline-based knowledge and research with practical skills.

We do this through a range of methods including:

- essays
- journal papers
- presentations
- written exams
- clinical exams
- a portfolio of work
- case studies
- dissertations

Your performance and demonstration of clinical skills on your placements will contribute towards your final degree outcome.

A mentor and student going through an Ongoing Achievement Record.



Career and employment prospects

Nursing is changing. A whole new generation of passionate, caring, highly skilled and ambitious professionals are set to enter the profession and help improve the lives of millions of people.

Nursing is a richly rewarding and unique occupation that involves a diverse range of abilities, including being able to lead, make clinical decisions, communicate well and provide comfort and support to people in real need. How many jobs can say that?

One of the myths of nursing is that the profession lacks challenges or career progression. The reality is very different. Nurses have extensive knowledge and provide sophisticated levels of care in a wide range of settings including hospitals, surgeries, prisons, schools and even highly technical specialist units. Employment opportunities exist all over the UK – and even throughout the world.

As diseases and conditions become more complex, the opportunities for nurses to work in specialist areas is growing all the time. New roles have developed, such as clinical nurse specialists and consultant nurses, where practitioners have even greater autonomy and influence.

Nurses' work covers areas such as physical injuries, mental health problems, cancer and much more; they become managers of wards, health centres and hospitals; they branch out into areas of research, contributing to the body of knowledge that shapes healthcare policy and practice; and they become clinical directors, practice partners and departmental leaders.

The possibilities that lie ahead are wonderfully diverse. You can work with patients of all ages, and their families, from different types of communities, improving their health and quality of life.

As part of a dynamic, multi-professional healthcare team, you will have great responsibilities to contribute to that team, but also retain a degree of independence, trusted to make important decisions that could have far-reaching implications on a person's health.

As a nurse you will never stop learning. You will continue to develop your skills, broaden your horizons and move into new and challenging roles. There are few careers as worthy, rewarding and fascinating as nursing. This is your chance to be part of a truly special profession.

What can I learn as a nurse?

Another common myth about nursing is that pay is low and there are few opportunities to earn more. As a newly qualified nurse in the NHS, you can expect an annual salary of between £21,478 and £27,901. And that's just the beginning.

As you progress in your career you will earn considerably more. For example, a nurse specialist can be paid more than £35,000, while a team manager can have a salary of just over £40,000. Some nurse consultants earn around £67,000 a year.*

In 2012, 97% of first-degree graduates in the school who were available for employment had secured work or further study within six months of graduation. The average starting salary was £22,584 with the highest being £36,000.**

* These figures are based on band rates as of April 2014. By the time you graduate, salaries may well have risen.

** Known destinations of full-time home and EU first-degree graduates, 2011/12.

The University's Careers and Employability Service

Our Careers and Employability Service, which is based on University Park Campus, offers an extensive range of careers-oriented services, including CV-writing sessions, interview advice, presentations by major employers and general career advice. As a University of Nottingham graduate, you will receive lifelong support from the service. This means that you can ask a careers adviser to look over your job application by email or Skype, or in person, and you can also access a database of graduate vacancies. For more information see www.nottingham.ac.uk/careers

The University of Nottingham is the most targeted university by Britain's leading graduate employers, ahead of Oxford and Cambridge*.

* *The Graduate Market in 2014* – High Fliers Research.

Nottingham Advantage Award

The University's Advantage Award is a programme of activities developed to recognise and reward extracurricular responsibilities. It allows you to gain recognition for participating in a wide range of activities accredited by the University and shows employers that you have gained valuable skills. For further information, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/advantageaward

Postgraduate study

Some of our best students decide to stay on at Nottingham and join our lively community of postgraduate research students within the department, from MA level through to PhD.

“As a mature student I was worried about studying again but The University of Nottingham encouraged and supported me throughout, helping to make my time as a nursing student both enjoyable and interesting. I was able to go on placement to Malta as part of the Erasmus programme, as well as being selected to be a team leader.

In my final year the University held Q&A sessions on how to prepare your personal statement and mock interviews. These were very useful and helped me to secure interviews at both of my applied hospitals. Since qualifying 18 months ago I have worked at the Medical Assessment Unit at the Royal Derby Hospital, which is a fast paced, demanding, but interesting assessment unit, that gave me the key skills to secure my current job which is working in the community in Nottingham.”

Hayley Halstead/BSc Nursing graduate

Hayley Halstead, working as a nurse in the community.



Your student experience

– everything you need to know



Catching up in a bar
in the centre of Derby.

You've read lots about the degree programme you're interested in, now it's time to explore life outside of the lecture theatre. Read on to discover why being a student at The University of Nottingham is a truly exciting experience.

To coin an old phrase, there really is something for everyone, and you may be surprised at the sheer volume of activities and opportunities on offer, all designed to make your time at university as memorable as possible. University is not all work, work, work; there is much more to it than that!

Your University of Nottingham – at home and around the world

We are proud of our stunning campuses and are continually investing in our grounds, buildings and facilities to ensure that you have only the best surroundings in which to live and study. Our main UK campuses have all gained external recognition in the form of numerous awards over the years, and it's not hard to see why.

A free bus ride can transport you from the striking architecture and innovative technology of Jubilee Campus, to the rolling parkland and period buildings at University Park, to the beautiful setting of Sutton Bonington or the vibrant and accessible city of Derby. Combine this with features including sports centres, cafes, art galleries, shops, woodland, contemporary gardens and extensive wildlife, and you have an outstanding environment that inspires and excites students and visitors alike.

If you are a student on the Graduate Entry Nursing course, you'll be based at our Derby centre. The centre is fully equipped with academic, social and administrative facilities and provides a unique opportunity to promote interprofessional learning. You'll have the opportunity to join in with activities and events at Derby, many of which are organised by the students themselves. It's a friendly, enthusiastic community that caters for students of all ages and backgrounds and is complemented by easy access to a lively city and beautiful countryside.

Your new home from home

The University of Nottingham offers a guarantee of University accommodation for one year to all new full-time undergraduate students, subject to the following conditions: you make Nottingham your firm choice, return your accommodation

application by the set deadline*, accept your offer of accommodation by the deadline given, and have an unconditional status no later than August 2015. Rooms are available as single or shared, en suite or shared bathroom, all the way through to studio flats. We have halls of residence on campus or off-campus if you'd prefer. Prices reflect the room and facilities chosen.

For more information, including a breakdown of the pricing, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

* For details of the deadline, please check www.nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

Your support network

Throughout your university journey there will be numerous people on hand to support you, including tutors and dedicated staff who will be able to advise you on various aspects of life as a student.

In addition, our Student Services Centres, found on all three UK campuses, provide a range of support, information and specialist services to enhance your student experience. They form part of a comprehensive network of services at the University, designed to support you through your studies.

Academic Support provides a personal and practical approach to academic study – the service also provides specialist academic support for students with dyslexia, dyspraxia and other specific learning difficulties; Disability Support coordinates support and access arrangements for students with a disability or long-term medical condition; Financial Support provides information on the sources of finance available from government agencies and the University itself, and gives advice about financial matters.

Student Services also advises on issues ranging from childcare, counselling and health to international student support, chaplaincy and faith support, as well as offering advice on paying your tuition and accommodation fees. Whatever you may need support with, they will either be able to help or point you in the direction of someone who can. Find out more:

www.nottingham.ac.uk/student-services

Getting involved in your Students' Union

As soon as you start at The University of Nottingham, you are automatically a member of our Students' Union, considered one of the best in the country. There are literally hundreds of activities that you could be part of, providing you with the perfect opportunity to take up a new hobby or pursue existing interests. Choose from over 200 student-run societies, covering all interests and abilities, more than 70 sports clubs, as well as local and national volunteering projects, to which you can commit as much or as little time as you wish.

If you are a Graduate Entry Nursing student and based at Derby, in addition to the Students' Union you can also benefit from The University of Nottingham at Derby (UNAD) Committee which represents all students at Derby and works hard to ensure your experience there is the best it can be. That means organising events and activities, as well as putting forward any ideas or concerns you might have about life at the Derby Campus.

However you decide to become involved in the Union, you can be sure you will make new friends and learn new skills, all while having a lot of fun!

Find out more:
www.su.nottingham.ac.uk

Exploring your new city Nottingham

A short 10-minute bus ride from University Park Campus, Nottingham city centre has plenty to offer, whatever you like to get up to in your spare time.

For music lovers, you can take your pick from the world-famous Rock City, Capital FM Arena or one of the smaller gig venues for a more intimate musical experience. Nottingham is rich in performance venues, with comedy clubs and theatres catering for lovers of drama, musicals, ballet and panto. We are very proud of our sporting heritage, and with football clubs Nottingham Forest and Notts County in the city, as well as Trent Bridge and the National Ice Centre on your doorstep, you might just become a sports fan if you're not one already.

History and culture can be found in all corners of the city, with Nottingham Castle, the Galleries of Justice Museum, Nottingham Contemporary – one of the largest contemporary art spaces in the UK, art house cinemas and three of the world's oldest pubs all providing points of interest. If you enjoy shopping, Nottingham is perfect for you; independent boutiques and vintage shops in the bohemian area of Hockley mix with high street names in our large shopping centres to make Nottingham a veritable shopping haven.

Find out more:
www.nottingham.ac.uk/nottinghamlife

Derby

Derby will be your home if you are a Graduate Entry Nursing student. For a small city, Derby boasts a surprising variety of performance venues. The Assembly Rooms, the Guildhall, Derby Theatre, Deda (Derby Dance Centre) and the QUAD arts centre all have full programmes, while annual events include the Derby Folk Festival, Darley Park Concert and iD, an international film festival.

Different areas of the city offer different shopping experiences: there are boutiques in the Cathedral Quarter, traditional high street shopping in St Peter's Quarter and over 190 stores, restaurants and a cinema in the recently opened Westfield Centre.

For sports fans, Derby County's football stadium, Pride Park, is close to the city and there are facilities for fitness, cycling, rock climbing and sailing in and around the city.

Derbyshire is also known for its areas of natural beauty, for example, Darley Park, Kedleston Hall, and of course, the Peak District National Park.

Find out more:
www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/derby

Download our city guides:
www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/downloads

Explore the world of Nottingham through our GlobalNotts web app: www.globalnotts.co.uk

Students taking photos beside the Robin Hood statue, outside Nottingham Castle.



Applying for a place

We are looking for students who have the ability and motivation to benefit from our courses, and who will make a valued contribution to the School and the University. For more information on how to make your application stand out, have a look at our online prospectus: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/applying/applicationprocess

Entry numbers

For information on how many students the school plans to admit on each course, please see table on page 6.

Flexible admissions policy

All applicants must meet the minimum course entry requirements, though we recognise that some educational and personal circumstances affect achievement. If we judge that you have exceptional circumstances, we will consider them when assessing your academic potential. For the most up to date information about our offers, please see the course fact files in our online prospectus and for more information about this policy, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/applying

Deferred entry

Applicants who wish to defer their entry by a year will not be at a disadvantage. Please tell us something about your plans for your gap year in your UCAS personal statement.

Mature applicants

We encourage applications from mature students (which means all those aged 21 or over when the course begins). You should apply in the normal way. While we accept a range of qualifications, you should check our specific requirements on our course entry profiles. If in doubt, please contact the admissions tutor, who will be happy to answer any specific queries you have about applying as a mature student. Please email your questions to nursing-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk

For more information about being a mature student, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/mature

Equal opportunities policy

The University aims to create the conditions whereby students and staff are treated solely on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of gender, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, age, socio-economic background, disability, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, family circumstances, sexual orientation or other irrelevant distinction.

For tips and advice at every step of your application journey, visit our undergraduate applicants' area: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugapplicants

Selection and interviews

When applying for nursing courses at The University of Nottingham we are looking for you to demonstrate:

- why you want to be a nurse
- your commitment to your chosen field of nursing
- an understanding of the demands of the role
- academic achievements
- a caring and committed attitude
- teamwork, social, organisational and time-management skills
- the skills you've gained from relevant work, voluntary and other experiences

During interviews we are looking for candidates who can:

- explain why they want to be a nurse and offer evidence, in what they say, that they understand the role of a nurse in their chosen field
- demonstrate that they understand the demands of the course
- communicate clearly in spoken standard English
- convey their enthusiasm for nursing
- communicate effectively
- contribute to, and engage with others in the interview situation

Frequently asked questions

How much are the fees?

Fees will be paid directly by the NHS for all our nursing courses.

What bursaries are available?

Eligible students will receive a non-means-tested grant of £1,000, a means-tested bursary of up to £4,395 and a non-means-tested Reduced Rate student loan of £2,324 per year (Graduate Entry Nursing students are not entitled to the student loan). In the final year of study the maintenance loan is reduced. Additional allowances are available for students with disabilities and dependants. Further information is available at:

www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/students

What support do you offer for students with a disability or dyslexia?

The School, like the University, is committed to promoting access for students who have a disability, dyslexia or a long-term medical condition. Services provided by the University aim to enable students to fulfil the inherent requirements of the course as independently as possible. The University's Disability Statement, which lists services, facilities and opportunities available throughout the University can be viewed at www.nottingham.ac.uk/disability

Visit our website for more frequently asked questions:

www.nottingham.ac.uk/healthsciences

What support is available for students with children?

There is a range of services provided to support students with children, including a University day nursery, a playscheme and playcentre day care.

There is also a scheme to help students fund childcare. For more information, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/child-care



Mental health nursing students outside the Queen's Medical Centre.

Visiting and contacting us

Open days

If you're considering applying to The University of Nottingham we recommend that you attend one of our nursing specific open days. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/healthsciences/open-days

There are also University-wide open days, which are held in June and September each year. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/opendays

Mini open days

Mini open days are much smaller than the main open days and offer the opportunity to attend various talks and tours as well as speak to current students and academics. For further information or to book a place on a mini open day, please contact the Enquiry Centre on +44 (0)115 951 5559 or email undergraduate-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk

UCAS visit days

Candidates who receive an offer may be invited to a UCAS visit day, which is an opportunity for you to see the school and the University for yourself. You will hear about the School and its courses from members of academic staff and they will answer any questions you might have. You will also be given a short tour of the campus by current students.

This publication is available in alternative formats.

t: +44 (0)115 951 5559

The University of Nottingham has made every effort to ensure that the information in this brochure was accurate when published. Please note, however, that the nature of the content means that it is subject to change from time to time, and you should therefore consider the information to be guiding rather than definitive.

© The University of Nottingham 2014.
All rights reserved.

Other visits

If you wish to make an informal visit to the University prior to applying here, you are welcome to do so, but you should contact us in advance if you wish to visit the department or speak to an admissions tutor and we will do our best to oblige.

Contact us

Division of Nursing
School of Health Sciences
B Floor, South Block Link
Queen's Medical Centre
Nottingham
NG7 2HA
t: +44 (0)115 823 0839 or +44 (0)800 316 8974
e: nursing-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/healthsciences

You can also connect with fellow applicants and current students on our Facebook and Twitter pages:



UoNApplicants



@UonApplicants

Printed June 2014.



STUDY WHAT YOU LOVE

#STUDYWHATYOULOVE

Medicine and Health Sciences

Your passion can be your success. Study what you love.

Our creative responses help make us unique. Learn about the lives of others, their thought processes and their influences and explore your own reactions. We'll help you turn an inspiring degree into an inspiring career.

Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studywhatyoulove