



# MSc Advanced Clinical Practitioner Apprenticeship (ACPA) Programme

The University of Worcester offers an MSc. Advanced Clinical Practitioner Apprenticeship (ACPA) Programme.

This route will combine the best aspects of higher education and vocational training and are an effective means of upskilling existing members of staff using the employer Apprenticeship Levy.

The Advanced Clinical Practitioner Apprenticeship (ACPA) offers a mix of work-based supervision, practice and academic study, delivered face-to-face and online. Each module has taught theoretical hours and self-directed study. For each 15 credit module there will be 36 hours theoretical teaching and 114 hours of self-directed study.

You will be allocated a Personal Academic Assessor from the University and you will identify a Clinical Supervisor in your workplace. Throughout the ACPA you will meet regularly and review your progress, demonstrating the knowledge, skills, behaviours and capabilities of an ACPA, that are relevant to occupation and scope of practice. Part of this process includes an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) which will enable the apprentice to evidence progression and future development needs.

Apprentices will spend at least 23% of their time off the job to support their academic study and practice hours. The remaining time is spent developing the knowledge, skills and behaviours on the job.

During your Apprenticeship you will study alongside a multi-professional group of Apprentices and Students enrolled on the MSc Advanced Clinical Practice. In year 3, you will complete a shortened dissertation module and a mandatory exit point assessment (EPA) module (MACP4017). This final EPA confirms that you are meeting the requirements of the ACPA occupational standard.

## What will you study?

### Year 1

Exploring and Challenging Advanced Clinical Practice (15 credits)  
Complex Decision Making in Advanced Clinical Practice (15 credits)  
Health and Social Needs Assessment for Advanced Clinical Practice (30 credits)\*  
\*Pharmacists will complete Health and Social Needs Assessment for Pharmacists (30 credits)

Advanced Clinical Practice Capability Document – this runs as a 0 credit module throughout your Apprenticeship.

### Year 2

Leadership, Education and Developing Others (15 credits)  
Research Methods in Advanced Clinical Practice (15 credits)  
Independent and Supplementary Prescribing (30 credits)\*  
\*Pharmacists will complete Principles and Practice for Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists (30 credits)

\*\*Optional modules (30 credits) for those that cannot prescribe in their ACP role, from those below. Students can only take one Negotiated Learning Module in either Semester 1 or 2 of year 2

Negotiated Learning (15 credits)  
Professional Advocate (15 credits)  
Newborn Physical Examination (15 credits)  
Research Analysis in Advanced Clinical Practice (15 credits)  
Negotiated Learning for Advanced Clinical Practice (30 credits)

### Year 3

Dissertation (40 credits)  
Knowledge Skills and Behaviours (20 credits)

## Admission criteria

Before an applicant can be accepted onto the course the applicant must hold:

- Professional registration with Professional Statutory Regulatory Body e.g. NMC/HCPC/GPhC
- A lower second-class Honours degree (2:2) in a health-related subject (or equivalent)
- A Contract of Service with your employer (at least 30 hours per week)
- A degree Apprentice can not be self employed
- An Apprenticeship Agreement with your employer
- A signed commitment statement from your employer compliant with the funding rules
- A completed UW ACP declaration of good character form from your employer
- Level 2 English and Maths (recognised equivalent)
- Applicants whose first language is not English should have an IELTS of 7 overall, with no component lower than 6.5
- Applicants must have the right to live and work in the UK

See [Admissions Policy](#) for other acceptable qualifications.

When assessing a non-standard entrant's suitability for entry onto the programme candidates will need to demonstrate their potential to achieve the aims and outcomes of the programme. The candidate will also need to demonstrate that their experiences are equivalent to having achieved a 2.2 at undergraduate level.

The following criteria may be taken into consideration:

- Evidence of successful academic study at level 6 or equivalent
- Experience of working in a health setting, the roles undertaken and the level of decision making undertaken
- Awareness of the demands of studying at postgraduate level
- Interest and motivation for successful study on the Apprenticeship

The Independent and Supplementary Prescribing modules (MACP4007 and MACP4014) have specific entry criteria, as they are associated with an award from a regulatory body (NMC, GPhC and HCPC). Applicants wishing to undertake these optional modules must also complete a separate regional prescribing application form.

## Clinical supervision

Workplace practice and assessment is necessary to complete the Advanced Clinical Practice Apprenticeship and therefore, applicants must have identified an appropriate Clinical Supervisor for the duration of the course.

## Find Out More

Please contact your line manager who will be able to liaise with your apprenticeship lead. They will be able to advise you of the selection process for ACPA in your organisation.