

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Aim and Title	FdSc Nursing Associate Apprenticeship and Self-Funding routes
Intermediate Awards Available	CERT HE Health Studies (This does not lead to eligibility for NMC registration)
Teaching Institution(s)	University of East London
Alternative Teaching Institutions (for local arrangements see final section of this specification)	N/A
UEL Academic School	HSB
UCAS Code	
Professional Body Accreditation	Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statements	<p>Foundation Degree Characteristics Statement (QAA 2015)</p> <p>This FdSc Nursing Associate Apprenticeship programme has been designed to meet:</p> <p>The Nursing Associate Apprenticeship Standards (NMC 2018) https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/nursing-associate-nmc-2018/</p> <p>https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/media/2889/st0508_nursing-associate-level-5-epa-for-publication-05042019.pdf</p> <p>The Standards for Pre-registration Nursing Associate programmes (2018) https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/standards-for-nursing-associates/standards-for-pre-registration-nursing-associate-programmes/,</p> <p>The Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment (2018) https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards-for-education-and-training/standards-for-student-supervision-and-assessment/ and the Standards of Proficiency for nursing associates (NMC 2018) https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/standards-for-nursing-associates/standards-of-proficiency-for-nursing-associates/,</p>

Additional Versions of this Programme	N/A
Date Specification Last Updated	October 2019

Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

1. Develop as a compassionate, competent, and confident Nursing Associate with the values and behaviours of the NHS constitution to practice safely within their parameters of practice.
2. Engage in a learning environment that integrates the theoretical and practical elements of the Nursing Associate curriculum to achieve the 6 platforms and 2 annexes (NMC 2018) and learning outcomes of the programme and the 10 Occupational Duties of the Apprenticeship Standard.
3. Provide opportunities for you to gain the knowledge, skills and behaviours across health and social care to support health and well-being and the physical and mental health needs of individuals across the lifespan.
4. Support you to be situationally competent in your primary workplace and gain new knowledge through external authentic placements in hospital, at home or close to home.
5. Develop as a person-centred Nursing Associate and work as part of a multi-professional team supporting self-care and the individual needs of service users, their families and carers.
6. Develop excellent communication skills that are non-judgemental and have respect for equality and diversity.
7. Support you to develop leadership skills that support research informed evidence-based practice, service improvement and innovation in healthcare.
8. Develop you as a critically reflective practitioner with a passion for life-long learning and high-quality care.

Learning and Teaching

The programme uses the Standards of Proficiency for Nursing Associates (NMC, 2018) and the Nursing Associate Apprenticeship Standards (2018) to act as a structure on which to build learning. The six platforms and annexe A & B from the Nursing and Midwifery Council proficiency guidelines for Nursing Associates are visited across the following theoretical, work-based and work-related learning modules:

1. Being an accountable professional
2. Promoting health and preventing ill health
3. Provide and monitor care
4. Working in teams
5. Improving safety and quality of care
6. Contributing to integrated care
 - A. Communication and relationship management skills
 - B. Procedures to be undertaken by the nursing associate.

The Nursing Associate (NMC 2018) Apprenticeship standard- Reference number ST0827 do not apply to Self-Funding students.

Occupation duties

Duty	Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours
<p>Duty 1 Be an accountable professional, acting in the best interests of people, putting them first and providing nursing care that is person-centred, safe and compassionate</p>	<p>K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 S6 B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 2 Communicate effectively, recognising and working within the limits of competence and being responsible for their own actions</p>	<p>K6 K7 K8 S5 S7 S8 S9 S10 S11 S12 B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 3 Promote health and prevent ill health to improve and maintain the mental, physical, behavioural health and well-being of people, families, carers and communities</p>	<p>K9 K10 K11 K12 K13 K14 S13 S14 S15 S16 S17 B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 4 Contribute to the ongoing assessment of individuals nursing care needs, recognising when it is appropriate to refer to others for reassessment</p>	<p>K15 K16 K17 K18 K19 S18 S19 S20 B1 B2 B3</p>

<p>Duty 5 Provide and monitor nursing care to individuals and groups, providing compassionate and safe nursing interventions</p>	<p>K20 K21 K22 K23 K24 K25 K26 K27 K28 K29</p> <p>S5 S21 S22 S23 S24 S25 S26 S27 S28 S29 S30 S31 S32</p> <p>B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 6 Improve safety of individuals by identifying risks to safety or experience of care and taking appropriate action, putting the best interests, needs and preferences of people first</p>	<p>K30 K32 K35</p> <p>S33 S34 S35 S36</p> <p>B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 7 Improve quality of care by contributing to the continuous monitoring of people's experience of care</p>	<p>K31 K33 K34</p> <p>S37</p> <p>B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 8 Contribute to the provision of complex nursing and integrated care needs of people at any stage of their lives, across a range of organisations and settings</p>	<p>K36 K37 K38 K39 K40 K41</p> <p>S38 S39 S40</p> <p>B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 9 Work in teams collaborating effectively with a range of colleagues</p>	<p>K42 K43</p> <p>S43 S44</p> <p>B1 B2 B3</p>
<p>Duty 10 Support and supervise others in the care team</p>	<p>K6 K42</p> <p>S38 S41 S42</p> <p>B1 B2 B3</p>

What you will learn:

1. Key skills to be a learner in higher education
2. Care and communication (encompassing therapeutic relationships) (NMC Appendix A and Duty 2)
3. Safeguarding and contributing to risk monitoring (NMC Platform 3 & 5 and Duty 6 and 7)

4. Resilience
5. Professional values and accountability (NMC Platform 1 and Duty 1 and 5)
6. Life, social, health and behavioural sciences
7. Physical and mental health assessment & escalation (NMC Platform 5 and Duty 4 and 6)
8. Clinical decision making and problem-solving skills
9. Inter-professional learning and team working for integrated care (NMC Platform 4 & 6 and Duty 8, 9 and 10).
10. Working in partnership with service users and carers
11. Promoting health and well-being and preventing ill health. (NMC Platform 2 and Duty 3)
12. Use of research to inform practice and evidence-based practice
13. The application of theory to practice
14. Leadership and management of care
15. Reflection, preparation for registration and lifelong learning

Successful completion of your programme will be achieved over a 2-year (2 years and 3 months for apprentices) period of 45 weeks

Learning and Teaching

The teaching and learning methods which will be employed to facilitate achievement of the aims and learning outcomes of the programme are detailed below:

- Blended Learning
- Learning in Simulation and Practice
- Learning from Service Users and Carers
- Inter-professional Learning
- Personal and Professional Development Portfolio (PPDP)

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by:

- Coursework
- Essays
- Examinations (MCQ and short answer drug calculations)
- Case studies
- Practice Assessment Document in clinical/simulated practice

Thinking skills are assessed by:

- Coursework
- Examinations
- Project work
- Practice Assessment Document in clinical/simulated practice

- Research informed knowledge and application of evidence-based practice.

Practical skills are assessed by:

- Practical reports
- Practice Assessment Document in a clinical/simulation environment
- OSCE's in simulated practice and critical reflection on practice.
- Posters

Skills for life and work are assessed by:

- Project work
- Group work
- Oral presentations
- Practice Assessment Documents (PAD)
- Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE)
- Use of information literacies (databases)

If you have a disability and/or a particular learning need, you should discuss assessments with your Programme Leader and /or Academic Advisor. The programme will allow flexibility for reasonable adjustments to be made and can be supplied with our partners in practice.

The specific learning outcomes for each of the modules are detailed in the Module Specifications (Section 6). 7

For more information, see visit the NMC website on reasonable adjustment.
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/eandd/reasonable-adjustments-policy.pdf>

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Programme Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the programme.

Work or Study Placements

Assessment of work-based learning

For students on an Apprenticeship pathway, successful completion of your programme will be achieved over a 2 year (and 3 month period to meet the EPA requirements) of 45 weeks per year and will comprise of 1200 hours each year totalling a minimum of 2400 hours exclusive of annual leave.

For Self-Funding students, successful completion of your programme will be achieved over a 2 year period, 45 weeks per year. This will also comprise of 1200 hours of theory and 1200 hours of practice exclusive of annual leave.

Apprentice Nursing Associates (NMC Option B- Protected Learning)

For Apprentices, the programme comprises of a minimum total of 2400 learning hours. Practice hours are in a primary placement for a minimum of 370 hours and in external placements for 230 hours per year. Theoretical hours (200 hrs for a 20-credit module), consist of face-to-face contact, directed learning and self-directed learning. Practice hours comprise learning in primary and external placements and in simulated practice.

Hours protected for learning in primary placements are set out as:

- released for at least 20 percent of the programme for academic study
- released for at least 20 percent of the programme time, which is assured
- protected learning time in external practice placements, enabling the student to develop the breadth of experience required for a generic role, and
- protected learning time assured for the remainder of the required programme hours.

External placement attendance models differ between placements and employers. More general information from each NHS Trust is published on the FdSc Nursing Associate Moodle site when external placements are allocated. External placement information is provided as part of preparation for starting a new placement.

Self-Funding Students- Nursing Associate students will be Supernumerary while learning in practice (NMC Option A)

In the Self-Funding mode, the programme comprises of a minimum total of 2400 learning hours which will be 50% theory and 50% practice. Practice hours are in a primary (Host) placement for a minimum of 370 hours and in other external placements for 230 hours per year. Theoretical hours (200 hrs for a 20-credit module), consist of face-to-face contact, directed learning and self-directed learning. Practice hours comprise learning in placements and in simulated practice.

The 120 credits in each year of the programme, will constitute 6 modules (4 theory modules and 2 practice/ work related modules). Each year of the programme is divided into three terms. The structure of each year is shown below:

Theory Modules:

6 x 20 credit modules (undertaken in year 1)

6 x 20 credit modules (undertaken in year 2)

Students must complete 120 credits to progress onto year 2.

Students will receive support from:

Practice supervisors, a Practice Assessor and an Academic Assessor

Students will be supported by Practice Supervisors who can be any registered Healthcare professional working within a scope of practice. They will also have a designated Practice Assessor who must be a Registered Nurse or Registered Nursing Associate and an Academic Assessor (one for each year of the programme) who must also be a Registered Nurse or Registered Nursing Associate.

There will be opportunities for formative and summative assessment of clinical skills and tasks to ensure progression through the programme which will be closely monitored to assure the outcomes are achieved. Close monitoring of student progression will be achieved through tri-partite arrangements between the student, the Practice Assessor and Academic Advisor in their primary placements to facilitate a robust model of supervisory support. For apprenticeships, this will also include the employer.

Tri-partite review is a requirement of the Nursing Associate Apprenticeship standard (NMC2018). However, tripartite reviews will also be undertaken for Self-Funding Students to support high quality learning experiences.

The assessment of competence via the NAPAD 1 and 2 is pass/fail. Summative assessment of work-based learning occurs once a year and requires a minimum of 370 hours in primary placement and a minimum of 230 hours in an external placement (Apprenticeship pathway) and 370 hours in a host placement and 230 hours in an external placement for Self-Funding Students. Students must comply with submitting records of attendance for a pass grade to be awarded

Students will also keep a reflective portfolio which provides evidence of successful achievement of the module learning outcomes. This can also be utilised to support the End Point Assessment (EPA) for the higher apprenticeship standard. The EPA is an oral presentation where you will be expected to discuss how the evidence in your portfolio meets the domains and outcomes to become a Nursing Associate. You will need to pass both elements of the assessment to pass the EPA.

The Nursing Associate Standards of Proficiency (NMC 2018) places significant emphasis on the importance of numeracy and medicines management to ensure patient safety. You will be given access to 'Safe Medicate' which is a specific e-learning tool to develop these skills. This package allows you many opportunities for practice through online testing in preparation for your exam included in your work-based learning module Developing as a Nurse Associate (NS4205). For students struggling to meet the required level of numeracy; support from the Academic Advisor, module team and practice supervisor are available. Importantly, UEL's Centre for Student Success specialises in supporting students with numeracy skills.

It is recognised that using experiences from work environments in learning and assessment strategies can raise ethical issues, for example confidentiality or questioning of work practices. You will be made aware of the processes for raising and escalating concerns and your professional responsibilities around duty of

candour. Due to the nature of reflective practice and work-based and placement learning, you must also abide by the confidentiality policies of your employer, placement provider and UEL

Programme Structure

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 3 Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme.
- 4 Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme.
- 5 Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme.
- 6 Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme.
- 7 Equivalent in standard to a Masters degree.

Programmes are made up of modules that are each credit weighted.

The module structure of this programme:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Weighting	Core/Option	Available by Distance Learning? Y/N
4	NS4201	Professional Values (Mental Wealth)	20	Core	N
4	NS4202	Bioscience for Nursing	20	Core	N
4	NS4291	Nursing Practice in the Workplace	20	Core	N
4	NS4203	Promoting Health and Preventing ill Health	20	Core	N
4	NS4204	Communication	20	Core	N

4	NS4205	Developing as a Nursing Associate	20	Core	N
5	NS5201	Pharmacology for Nurse Associates	20	Core	N
5	NS5202	Team work for Inter-professional learning	20	Core	N
5	NS5291	Becoming a competent Nursing Associate	20	Core	N
5	NS5203	Evidence Based Research	20	Core	N
5	NS5204	Patient Safety and Quality Improvement	20	Core	N
5	NS5205	Professional Competence in the Workplace	20	Core	N

There are no optional modules for this programme.

Additional detail about the programme module structure:

The above module structure has been designed to meet the NMC standards for pre-registration nursing associate programmes, the Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment and the Standards of Proficiency for Nursing Associates.

For Students on the Apprenticeship route, they must also meet the Nursing Associate (NMC 2018) Apprenticeship Standards.

A core module for a programme is a module which a student must have passed (i.e. been awarded credit) in order to achieve the relevant named award.

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 240 credits. If for some reason you are unable to achieve this credit you may be entitled to an intermediate award, the level of the award will depend on the amount of credit you have accumulated. You can read the University Student Policies and Regulations on the UEL website.

Programme Specific Regulations

Self-Funding Students must have an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and Occupational Health Clearance.

For Apprentices, UEL will check for an up to date DBS with the Employing Organisation and all students on the Apprenticeship route will have complete an occupational health questionnaire.

The Programme also requires Mandatory Skills training which are listed in the Programme Handbook.

This programme must undertake approval by the Nursing and Midwifery Council and comprises of work based learning and taught theory.

The programme has requirements for a range of external placements that will support a generic and holistic experience in the workplace.

Reassessment arrangements – students complete their re-assessments within a 12-week period from completion of the academic year in which the assessment(s) were first attempted Failure to comply with the 12 week progression rule, means the student has to defer from the programme and re-join at a later date when all elements of assessment are completed.

Pass rates for self-medicate assessment components are 90% in the first year and 100% in the 2nd year.

Progression requirements (you must pass all level 4 modules before progression onto level 5)

APEL rules: Recognition of prior learning can be mapped to the NMC standards for Pre-registration nursing associates and programme outcomes, up to a maximum of 50% of the programme. This maximum limit does not apply to applicants who are currently an NMC registered nurse without restrictions on their practice and provide support where required to students throughout the programme in continuously developing their abilities in numeracy, literacy, digital and technological literacy to meet programmes. The maximum RPL would be 2/3rd of the programme.

Students who complete the FdSc Nursing Associate Programme will be eligible to APL onto the Pre-registration Nursing Programme for up to 50% of the Programme

Part 2, Sections 4 (Admission with advanced standing), 5 (Assessment of accredited certificated learning), and 6 (Assessment of accredited experiential learning).

Typical Duration

The typical duration of this programme is 2 years (2 years and 3 months for the Apprenticeship route to include the EPA) but students who are unable to progress for any reason may use the intermission process to catch up on their studies.

The Award will be a Foundation Degree Nursing Associate.

Students and Apprentices must pass 120 credits in Year one to progress to year 2.

The expected duration of this programme is 2 years full-time (2 years and 3 months for Apprentices). The minimum working hours for an Apprenticeship route are 30 hours per week.

A student cannot normally continue study on a programme after 4 years of study in full time mode unless exceptional circumstances apply and extenuation has been granted. The limit for completion of a programme in part time mode is 8 years from first enrolment.

Further Information

More information about this programme is available from:

- The UEL web site (www.uel.ac.uk)
- The programme handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of General Regulations (available on the UEL website)
- UEL Quality Manual (available on the UEL website)
- School web pages

All UEL programmes are subject to thorough programme approval procedures before we allow them to commence. We also constantly monitor, review and enhance our programmes by listening to student and employer views and the views of external examiners and advisors.

Additional costs:

Travel to placements

Textbooks

Stationary

Printing/Photocopying

Membership of a Union (Optional but advised)

NMC registration on completion of the programme.

Alternative Locations of Delivery

N/A