

## Programme change proposals - **Offer Holders**

At York each degree programme has its own, tailored set of distinctive learning outcomes. These won't change, no matter what your location or mode of delivery, and our academics are working hard to ensure your programmes and modules next year continue to inspire and motivate you.

Your health and safety is our number one priority and in light of the Covid-19 pandemic we have needed to make changes to some of your programmes of study for the coming academic year. This document summarises the changes that are proposed.

Programme(s)	BSc (Hons) in Nursing (all fields of practice) M Nurse (all fields of practice)
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Summary of Overall Plans
<p>We are excited to be welcoming the incoming cohort of nursing students to our Future Nurse programme. Students on the programme will have the opportunity to engage in learning in a variety of ways, with flexibility built in to offer you face-to-face teaching in line with any shifts in the government guidance on physical distancing.</p> <p>Throughout the pandemic we have been consulting with our students every week. This has been in large, full cohort meetings, via email, student-staff partnership groups, and small working groups with student representatives that will continue to take place. This has meant that we can be responsive and inclusive in our discussions about changes and that key decisions are made in partnership. These consultations have shaped the way you will experience the first year of your programme with us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be a variety of exciting welcome activities, including those led by the central university, clubs and societies, colleges, the department and your programme.</li> <li>• Our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) will be reviewed to make sure that it is easy to navigate and that you can access support quickly and easily.</li> <li>• Lectures will be pre-recorded and put on the VLE.</li> </ul>

- We plan to incorporate face to face sessions where possible. We will prioritise clinical skills training sessions to help prepare you for your practice placements. To be able to teach you safely and in small groups this might involve sessions that run slightly earlier, or later than usual (for example starting at 08.30 or finishing after 17.00). Moving forwards, and in consultation, we may consider extended Clinical Simulation Unit opening hours.
- Small group teaching will be offered online with synchronous (in real time) seminars.
- Other learning activities will be regularly posted on the VLE, with clear instructions on what to do and how to do it.
- All of your assessments will be made suitable for electronic submission. For example that will mean that an exam that would have sat on campus will be done online. To support you with this we are reviewing the formative support, embedded within the modules, to help you to prepare and succeed in these assessments.

The module specific plans for theoretical assessment are:

- Biological and Pharmacological Aspects of Health and Wellbeing - examination to be changed to accommodate online completion and submission.
- Psychological and Sociological Aspects of health and Wellbeing - presentation to be recorded and uploaded electronically.
- Professional Development in Nursing - No change.

As always there will be plenty of support available to you:

- Support from staff will include your named Personal Supervisor, an Academic Assessor (who supports you with your practice placements) in addition to access to a dedicated Student and Academic Support Service, module leaders, and seminar group leaders.
- Support from peers is equally as important. This includes the people in your seminar groups but also more senior nursing students, your student representatives and departmental rep.

#### Programme Structures

We have been working with our practice partners, current students and staff to ensure that your first year remains as valuable and exciting as it has been in the past. The proposals and modifications we suggest are subject to current and future PSRB requirements. Standards and guidance may be subject to change and will also be informed by Government and University guidelines and regulations.

Over the upcoming academic year we plan to keep your course plan as advertised to you. You will take the same modules, in the same order as you originally expected. Although your course plan remains the same we are proposing one significant change to the way that you experience the first year of your pre-registration nursing programme.

During your first practice placement module (Knowledge Applied to Nursing Practice 1), rather than traditional practice experience you will undertake learning activities related to practice. This decision, made in consultation with practice partners and current students means that we can better prepare you for clinical practice in the current context. The practice related learning experiences will be designed to meet the Learning Outcomes for the module (for example learning about how to safely calculate medicine doses, considering the experiences of those we care for and developing your clinical skills). This will be undertaken with the support of the module team and your named Academic Assessor.

The learning activities will help you to work towards achieving the practice hours required for registration as a nurse at the end of the programme. The change means that it is likely that you do not achieve as many 'practice hours' as you would have done on a traditional placement. Contingency plans are already in place (as they are for other, more senior students) to support you to gradually make up these hours over the rest of your course.

Your second practice module (Knowledge Applied to Nursing Practice 2) will remain unchanged.

Our clear course structure means that many things will remain the same, for example:

- The clear assessment strategy, with theoretical assessment in theory blocks and practice assessment happening in practice blocks. This makes it easier for you to plan and progress.
- Modes of assessment, there is a relatively low assessment burden; three academic pieces of work and two placement modules a year. The assessments will still vary in types (exam, written and practical) every year to help you to develop your skills.

Most importantly, our department remains a warm, welcoming and supportive environment for learning.

#### Further changes or information of note

We are aware that some students may have health issues that do not normally exclude them from practice placements but could make them more vulnerable during the Covid-19 outbreak. We are working very closely with our Occupational Health providers and practice partners to put support mechanisms in place for these students. This includes risk

assessment and comprehensive guidance, support and adjustments in practice where necessary. For example, this might include a placement in a 'non patient-facing' role like telehealth.

Our Future Nurse programme incorporates the opportunity for both a 'Year Abroad' or a 'Year in Placement'. We are continuing to communicate with external stakeholders and hope to keep these opportunities available to you. Sadly, it is possible, due to travel restrictions or subject to Nursing and Midwifery Council, University or government guidelines, that these opportunities are limited or unable to go ahead.