



Course Specification Part A

**Course Title MSc Public Health Nutrition
Course code: HLST 225**

**Faculty Health and Life Sciences
School of Nursing Midwifery and Health
Academic Year: 2021/2022**

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

We regularly review our course content, to make it relevant and current for the benefit of our students. For these reasons, course modules may be updated.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the Module Information Directory (MID), student module guide(s) and the course handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Coventry University's accreditation with CMI is currently ongoing for the relevant modules and is regularly reviewed and monitored by the CMI through their quality systems. Whilst Coventry University anticipates that these reviews will continue to be successful, if they were to be unsuccessful, the relevant module in this course would no longer be accredited and we would notify applicants and students of this change as soon as possible.

PART A Course Specification (Published Document)

MSc Public Health Nutrition

1. Introduction

The MSc Public Health Nutrition at Coventry university equips students to consider public health nutrition dilemmas by leading a culture that engages a shared responsibility for health, developing organised efforts to promote and maintain nutrition-related health / wellbeing and encourage the informed choices of society. The course adds to the suite of health and nutrition courses within the faculty including dietetics, sports nutrition, food and nutrition and public health.

This course provides students with foundational skills and knowledge across the three pillars of public health: prevention, protection, and promotion, as well as underpinning knowledge of nutrition science and metabolism, disease prevention and the wider determinants of health.

The course journey will focus on methods to assess health needs of populations, deliver disease prevention programmes, design health interventions, behaviour change techniques and disseminating evidence based public health nutrition information through a variety of media, communications, creative thinking and leadership strategies.

The aim of the course is to produce public health nutrition professionals who will be able to access a wide range of careers including; leadership and consultancy as a public health nutritionist, academia, commercial, industrial, freelance and healthcare applications of nutrition. This course will also be an excellent foundation for those wishing to pursue research in public health nutrition at PhD level.

Food and nutrition is also increasingly popular within the international market and there is a particular need to develop nutrition professionals with intercultural knowledge and a global awareness. Students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills in journalism and media to disseminate key public health messages to the public with the aim to influence public health behaviours at a population level.

The competitive advantage of this course is that it brings together the science of nutrition, consultancy and creativity to expand student's horizons beyond the more traditional approaches to public health nutrition. The course aims to develop entrepreneurship and support students to develop consultancy skills in order to market themselves to gain employment or freelance work within a highly competitive arena. This will enable students to be engaged at a higher level and with a view to students becoming leaders in public health nutrition.

This course will utilise links with local stakeholders in public health nutrition, for example the City Council, local foodbank and charity organisations. Working with such stakeholders will enable students to develop 'real-world' work experience.

As part of this course students will undertake a professional development module which is currently accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). Upon successful completion of the module, students will gain the CMI Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice at no additional cost.

Key features of this course include:

- Equipping students with the confidence and skills to become entrepreneurs within the highly competitive nutrition sector
- Underpinning theories and a grounding in journalism to allow students to understand the key principals of nutrition journalism
- Visits to local food banks, community cafes, focus on food insecurity and sustainability
- Taught by experienced lecturers including those who are registered dietitians or nutritional professionals and public health specialists from both academia and practice.

2 Available Award(s) and Modes of Study

Title of Award	Mode of attendance	UCAS Code	FHEQ Level
MSc Public Health Nutrition <u>The following are offered as fall back awards only</u> Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health Nutrition Post Graduate Certificate (unnamed)	FT over 3 semesters PT over 6 semesters	N/A	7

3 Awarding Institution/Body	Coventry University
4 Collaboration	Not applicable
5 Teaching Institution and Location of delivery	Coventry University – Main Campus
6 Internal Approval/Review Dates	Date of latest review: March 2019 Date for next review: Academic Year 2022/23
7 Course Accredited by	Not applicable
8 Accreditation Date and Duration	Not applicable
9 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external factors	The Masters in Public Health nutrition has been benchmarked to the QAA Master's Degree characteristics which can be found at: http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Masters-degree-characteristics.pdf To benefit international employment and allow students eligibility to register as Associate Nutritionists (with the Association for Nutrition – UK), the course has been designed and mapped to meet:

	<p>The Association for Nutrition core competencies (2016) which can be found at: http://www.associationfornutrition.org/</p> <p>The Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework (PHSKF 2013) which can be found at: http://www.phorcast.org.uk/page.php?page_id=313</p> <p>The World Public Health Nutrition Associations Core Competencies (2012) which can be found at: https://www.wphna.org/our-profession/competency-standards</p>
10 Date of Course Specification	<p>March 2019</p> <p>Updated March 2021</p>
11 Course Director	<p>Joanne Mainwaring</p>

12 Outline and Educational Aims of the Course

The main aims of the MSc Public Health Nutrition are to:

- Provide students with subject-specific knowledge, as well as a critical, flexible, collaborative and creative approach to problem solving in the area of public health nutrition.
- Provide students with enhanced practical and professional skills and thus prepare them effectively for professional employment or doctoral studies in the field of public health nutrition.
- Enable students to work independently and use initiative to solve the diverse problems that they may encounter.
- Instill a critical awareness of advances at the forefront of public health nutrition.
- Equip students with the skills to design, conduct and critically appraise research and professional practice.
- Students who successfully complete the 10 credit CMI module and meet the CMI evidence requirements will gain a Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership.

13 Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course a student will be able to:

1. Critically understand the underpinning science of nutrition and its application to promote health behaviour change in populations and groups.

2. Use knowledge of food and nutrition, epidemiology and disease risk to critically analyse and interpret community or population nutrition needs and to evaluate how this relates to public health nutrition policy and practice.
 3. Comprehend public health research and policy in order to critically appraise and evaluate the research or policy considering rigour, generalizability theoretical concerns and practical issues.
 4. Self-reflect regarding professional development and be aware of legal and ethical obligations involved in practicing as a public health nutritionist
 5. Critically consider global health issues and evaluate the importance of cultural sensitivity and sustainability within public health settings and other professional contexts.
 6. Critically evaluate the principles for leading and developing people and a culture of organisational health and wellbeing
 7. Integrate knowledge and understanding from the disciplines of public health, nutrition and psychology of behaviour change to identify or propose solutions through research, creative media, public health and commercial outputs
 8. Justify choice of research design and methods to investigate (under supervision) a research question or hypothesis of relevance to public health nutrition and present this in a way that would stand up to critical review and scrutiny in academic and professional settings.
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14 Course Structure and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards

All modules on the MSc Public Health Nutrition are mandatory. During the course, students study a range of modules that carry 10 – 50 credits.

For an MSc award students are required to complete 180 credits, including the 50 credit Masters Dissertation – Public Health module. To achieve the necessary number of credits for all awards, graduates must achieve the necessary 40% pass mark for all modules contributing to the award.

Students who achieve a total of 120 credits can be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health Nutrition. Students who achieve a total of 60 credits can be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate (unnamed).

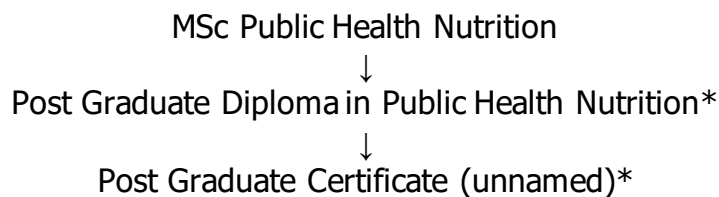
Students who successfully complete module 7052CRB Leading and Creating Organisational Health and Wellbeing, and meet the CMI learning outcomes will gain a Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice based on the following CMI units: Leading and Developing People to Optimise Performance (unit 702); Strategic Approaches to Mental Health and Wellbeing (unit 716). Students who successfully complete this module will be awarded Foundation Chartered Manager status and be able to use the designation 'fCMgr' after their name.

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Full Time 60 Credits per Semester		
7064SOH Science of Nutrition for Public Health (20 credits)	7067SOH Entrepreneurial Nutrition – Media and Business (20 credits)	7052CRB Leading and Creating Organisational Health and Wellbeing (10 credits)
7065SOH Psychology of Eating Behaviour (20 credits)	7068SOH Disease Prevention: Public Health Nutrition Approaches (20 credits)	7063SOH Masters Dissertation – Public Health Nutrition (50 credits)
7066SOH Influencing Action: A Review of Public Health Policy (20 credits)	7006SOH Research methodology, Design and Methods (20 credits)	

Example course structure for part-time students based on a September intake. Please note that for January intake students this structure may vary

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	Semester 5	Semester 6
7064SOH Science of Nutrition for Public Health (20 credits)	7066SOH Influencing Action: A Review of Public Health Policy (20 credits)	7006SOH Research methodology, Design and Methods (20 credits)	7052CRB Leading and Creating Organisational Health and Wellbeing (10 credits)	7067SOH Entrepreneurial Nutrition – Media and Business (20 credits)	7063SOH Masters Dissertation – Public Health Nutrition (50 credits)
7065SOH Psychology of Eating Behaviour (20 credits)	7068SOH Disease Prevention: Public Health Nutrition Approaches (20 credits)				

Cascade of Awards:



*available as fall back only

Modules within the course, their status, the levels at which they are studied, and their credit value are identified in the table below.

Credit level	Module Code	Title	Credit Value	Course Learning Outcomes
7	7064SOH	Science of Nutrition for Public Health	20	1,2,5
7	7065SOH	Psychology of Eating Behaviour	20	1,2,3,7
7	7066SOH	Influencing Action: A Review of Public Health Policy	20	2,3,5,7
7	7067SOH	Entrepreneurial Nutrition – Media and Business	20	2,4,5,7
7	7068SOH	Disease Prevention: Public Health Nutrition Approaches	20	1,2,3,5,7
7	7006OH	Research methodology, Design and Methods	20	2,3,4,5,7
7	7052CRB	Leading and Creating Organisational Health and Wellbeing	10	6
7	7063SOH	Masters Dissertation – Public Health Nutrition	50	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8

15 Criteria for Admission and Selection Procedure

The general requirements are in line with University Policy
<https://www.coventry.ac.uk/study-at-coventry/apply-now/admissions-policy/>

The requirements for admission to the MSc Public Health Nutrition are as

follows: Students must have one of the following:

1. An Honours degree in a Nutrition/Dietetic/Health Science/ Sports and Exercise Science undergraduate course – and students will normally have achieved a second class (2.ii) classification or above;

2. Or equivalent appropriate qualification.

Students whose first language is not English are normally required to have an IELTS score of 6.5 or above, with no lower than 5.5 in any component, or equivalent. Pre-sessional English is available if required.

Applications from students who do not meet the above entry requirements may be considered, but their degree and experience will be assessed for appropriate content by the Course Director.

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) and Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning AP(E)L

The Accreditation scheme provides the opportunity for applicants to make claims at the start of their course for both certificated and experiential (non-certificated) learning, in accordance with the University Regulations (Section 4: Regulations for the Admission of Students). The learning claim submitted by the applicant may be against credit or exemption. The claims made will be against the fulfilment of the learning outcomes associated with specific modules of study.

16 Academic Regulations and Regulations of Assessment

This Course conforms to the standard [University Academic Regulations](#) Postgraduate Mode R

17 Indicators of Quality Enhancement

The Course is managed by the Allied Health Professions (AHP) Board of Study of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

The Programme Assessment Board (PAB) for School of Nursing Midwifery and Health is responsible for considering the progress of all students and making awards in accordance with both the University and course-specific regulations.

The assurance of the quality of modules is the responsibility of the Board of Study which contribute modules to the course.

External Examiners have the opportunity to moderate all assessment tasks and a sample of assessed work for each module. They will report annually on the course and/or constituent modules and their views are considered as part of the Course Quality Enhancement Monitoring (CQEM).

Students are represented on the Student Forum, Board of Study and Faculty/School Board, all of which normally meet two or three times per year.

Student views are also sought through module and course evaluation questionnaires.

The following are key indicators of quality standards:

The QAA's review of higher education undertaken in February 2015 confirmed that Coventry University meets UK expectations in:

- the setting and maintenance of the academic standards of its awards;
- the quality of student learning opportunities;
- the quality of the information about learning opportunities;
- the enhancement of student learning opportunities.

Coventry University was awarded Gold for outstanding teaching and learning by the Teaching Excellent Framework 2017. It achieved 12th place in the Guardian university guide 2018 (<http://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2014/jun/02/university-league-tables-2015-the-complete-list>) (<http://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2015/may/25/university-guide-2016-league-table-for-health-professions>). It came 1st in the Complete University Guide as the UK's Top New University 2018 (<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings?g=University+Alliance>).

Members of the teaching team are Associate Fellows/Fellows/Senior Fellows of the Higher Education Academy. A significant number of academic staff have higher degrees, including PhDs. Innovative teaching and assessment strategies are incorporated into modules and courses, reflecting staff interest and expertise. Continual staff development is actively encouraged, in addition to growing, research activity within Nutrition & Dietetics. Research areas cover public health nutrition, food poverty, behavioural medicine, spirituality and health, coeliac disease and weight management.

Members of Academic staff work closely with a range of key partners in public health locally and the third sector. Staff are engaged in continuing professional development including membership of professional bodies such as the British Dietetic Association, Institute of Food Science and Technology and the Higher Education Academy (HEA). Staff appraisal and regular peer observation, which improves practice and quality of staff teaching within the department, occur annually. Consultation with external stakeholders is integral also to course quality and enhancement

The External Examiner Report in 2018 states that the course includes "innovative assessment tasks which sets the course apart from its competitors" and that the course "easily exceeds the learning demands of professional currency and fit-for-purpose programme"

18 Additional Information

Enrolled students have access to additional, key sources of information about the course and student support including,

Faculty Handbook

Student Handbook

Module Guides

Module Information Directory

Online Virtual Learning Environment with 24 hour IT services support

Sigma Maths Support

Centre for Academic Writing