



**Bournemouth
University**



#BUopenday
#Belongatbu
#HSSatBU

BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing MSc Mental Health Nursing

Steven Trenoweth

Department of Nursing Science

Mental health nursing

- One of the most complex and demanding areas of nursing.
- As many as one in four people are thought to suffer some form of mental health problem at any one time.
- The context of mental health care is slowly changing – community and integrated care



Working as a mental health nurse

A diverse range of roles are open to you as a qualified mental health nurse.

You can work within the NHS or the private sector (or for yourself!) and be based in a hospital environment (in-patient or out-patient departments) or in a community setting.

New and enhanced roles such as therapists, consultant, prescribers and in schools, public health and primary care, supporting mental health and wellbeing of individuals, groups and communities

What skills do you need?



You will need good communication skills and the ability to empathise with people and to show warmth and that you care



You will need to have a good understanding of health and wellbeing across the lifespan



You will need to develop good academic and study skills and be able to use best evidence in your practice



You will need to have good personal resilience and positive coping skills under challenging circumstances



You will need to be generally in good health and of good character (Occupational Health clearance and Enhanced DBS checks are mandatory)

On your course

- You will work with people right across the lifespan
- You might be based in a community mental health team, a day hospital, a specialist unit, a prison, a police station, or a school.
- You will work as part of a team that includes psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, occupational therapists, art therapists, and healthcare assistants.
- You will need to be able to respond to the needs of people experiencing mental health challenges, working collaboratively in a person-centred way

BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing course content

- Three-year programme
- Foundation Year (four years)
- Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship (RNDA)
- Advanced Standing

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Foundations for professional practice and research	Research for Professional Practice	Team Working for Service Improvement
Nursing Theory and Application 1	Improving safety and quality of care	Clinical Leadership and Management
Applied Health care Sciences 1	Nursing Theory and application 2	Applied Health Care Sciences 3
Communication skills for Nursing Practice	Applied Health Care Sciences 2	Developing a Literature Review
Developing skills for promoting health and wellbeing	Acute and long-term health challenges	Therapeutic Communications and Interpersonal skills for nursing practice
Nursing Practice and Nursing skills 1	Clinical Pharmacology and Medicines Management	Caring for People with Complex Health Care Needs
	Nursing Practice and Nursing Skills 2	Nursing practice and nursing skills 3

Foundation year option



If you do not meet the entry requirements for the three-year degree programme, consider the Foundation Year option.



One-year course that will prepare you for degree-level study



48 - 72 UCAS tariff points (September 2024).



Combination of grades and qualifications is accepted to meet the overall tariff requirement. Use the UCAS calculator to see how your qualifications equate to UCAS tariff points.



Numeracy and Literacy requirement: No GCSE requirements. The foundation year will cover these skills in preparation for degree study.

Foundation year option

1

You will need to pass an Occupational Health (OH) check and an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

2

These checks will be undertaken during your Foundation Year.

If you do not pass these checks you will be able to continue the Foundation Year, but you will not be able to progress onto a full degree

3

Following successful completion of the Foundation Year, you can progress onto the full, three-year BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing course

MSc Mental Health Nursing

- 
- Already have a degree in any subject at 2:2 or above?
 - Able to evidence 720 hours of direct nursing care experience and mental healthcare experience?
 - You could be eligible for the MSc and become a registered nurse in two-years.
 - It is a route to dual registration for those already on the NMC register.
 - The MSc will prepare you for leadership and research roles in healthcare and higher education.
 - Join a growing community of Post-Graduate Entry Nurses.

MSc Mental Health Nursing

Entry Requirements:

- Min 2:2 honours degree or equivalent.
- A science degree (biological science, psychology or social science) is preferred but not essential.
- A minimum of 4 GCSEs (minimum grades C/ 4) including Maths and English language or literature, or appropriate Key Skills Level 2. A science subject is preferred.
- If English is not your first language, you will require IELTS (Academic) 6.5 with minimum 6.0 in writing and 6.5 in all other components, or equivalent.
- Demonstrate that you have relevant experience and learning prior to entering the course via a portfolio of evidence which the template can be found here <https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/study/courses/msc-mental-health-nursing>

MSc Mental Health Nursing (portfolio)

- Your portfolio will include evidence demonstrating that you have undertaken 720 hours of direct practice experience as a nursing assistant or equivalent and will display insight into mental health practice to show you have good skills, knowledge, and understanding of the profession; ideally, this will be paid experience.
- It may be possible for some applicants to gain the required experience in a voluntary capacity. Personal/family caring responsibilities will not be considered.
- Your practice experience must be within two years of the commencement of the course. For example, for the September 2024 intake, your experience should have been gained after September 2022.
- If your portfolio does not sufficiently evidence all the entry requirements, your application may be unsuccessful.

MSc Mental Health Nursing course content

Year 1	Year 2
Applied Health Care Sciences 2	Team Working for Service Improvement
Clinical Pharmacology and Medicines Management	Making Change Through Clinical Leadership and Management
Foundations of Nursing	Critical Health Care Sciences
Meeting Acute and Long-Term Health Challenges	Advanced Therapeutic Communication and Interpersonal Skills for Nursing Practice
Making Improvements to Safety and Quality of Care	Critical Analysis of Caring for People with Complex Health Care Needs
Principles of Enquiry and Evidence Based Practice in Health and Social Care	Advanced Principles of Enquiry and Evidence Based Practice in Health and Social Care
Nursing Practice and Nursing Skills 2	Nursing Practice and Nursing Skills 3

At BU, we have a range of support services to help you develop your study skills, including:

- Support from Personal Tutors
- Access to Library Staff 24/7
- Additional Learning Needs Support
- 1:1 Tutorial Support
- Study Skills and IT Workshops
- Online Resources and Support
- Support for Revision and Exams

Key features of both courses

- Extended academic year (typically 45 weeks)
- Mental health cohort established from outset
- 50% theory + 50% practice
- All students based in Bournemouth for key theoretical components.
- Placement circuits in Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire
- Accredited by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

Clinical placements (important points to note)

- At the interview you will be asked for a **preferred locality (Trust)** that you would like to work in **but please note this cannot be guaranteed.**
- It is important that you consider this before the interview.
- **Once you receive your offer letter – check the locality you have been offered.**
- It is **very unlikely** that we can change your locality once you have accepted a place on the programme.

Clinical placements (important points to note)

- **Clinical placements** will be in a variety of areas within either Dorset, Wiltshire and Hampshire in order to provide the necessary breadth of experience.
 - This **will involve travel** and may require you to find short-term accommodation in order to participate in placements.
 - When on placement you are required to work **150 hours every 4 weeks** and experience the **full 24 hour shift pattern to include 12-13 hour shifts, weekends and night shifts.**
 - **There is no part-time option**
 - Although your term-time address and method of transport are taken into consideration when allocating your placements, there is an expectation that all students will have to **travel across large areas including some of a more rural nature to reach their placements.**

Placement providers

Students spend 50% of their course in practice placements

Dorset HealthCare **NHS**
University NHS Foundation Trust

Avon and Wiltshire **NHS**
Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust

Southern Health **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust



Things to consider

- Have I considered my finances and funding that I may be entitled to?
- Have I considered my current mental/ physical health?
- Might I have to work to support my studies? If so, where? For how long?
- Where should I base myself? Which locality?
- What support might I need on the course?
- How might I access this? Who might be able to help me?
- How can I build social networks?
- How can I maintain a good work/life balance?



Faculty of Health & Social Sciences

Bournemouth Gateway Building





**Bournemouth
University**

Please note: The detail, dates and additional fees stated are correct at the time of presentation. The latest information can be found at www.bournemouth.ac.uk/courses



Questions? We've got answers.
01202 961916
futurestudents@bournemouth.ac.uk

Instagram
@hss_bu