



MSc Clinical Research Methods

Recruiting now for September 2017, full and part-time programmes available

Application deadline 31st May 2017



This scheme is designed for professionals who aspire to a career that combines continued clinical practice with independent research, and provides a comprehensive grounding in, and experience of, clinical research.

How will I benefit from this programme?

The programme provides clinical research training – which can then be used as the basis for a career in research, whether working towards a PhD or to provide an understanding of clinical research to underpin management of research in the NHS.

A bespoke masters degree

The programme has been designed to be student - centred, providing the opportunity to shape learning to specific training needs and clinical settings. For example, by tailoring option modules, assessment, and a clinically focused research dissertation.

Flexible delivery

The programme will be delivered full-time (one year) or part-time (two years). Most modules are delivered as full-day blocks, which allows students the opportunity to plan their time in order to meet competing demands of clinical practice and academic studies.

Funded places

There will be 5 full-time and 5 part-time places available. Each place is supported by a bursary to meet the programme fees of £10,000 and full backfill to employing NHS organisations.

NB The bursary is subject to securing an HEE/NIHR Tender to meet programme fees and full salary backfill.

Specialist support

All students will be allocated an academic supervisor who will assist students in identifying their academic training needs. They will assist personal development, incorporating promotion of reflection utilising a Personal Development Profile, towards a clinical research career. Students will also be supported by the Programme Leader who will also be their Personal Tutor.

University facilities

Students will be able to access a broad range of specialist facilities including the University Medical Library, the Virtual Learning Environment, as well as the Learning Zone in the School of Healthcare and access to the award-winning Student Union facilities. University life is rich and diverse with exhibitions, concerts and clubs to explore, as well as our state of the art health and fitness centre, The Edge.

About the programme

This Masters programme is an innovative collaboration between the School of Healthcare and the Leeds Institute of Health Sciences. You can learn more about our world leading research here:

<http://medhealth.leeds.ac.uk/info/130/research>

Why study this programme?

MSc Clinical Research Methods is specifically designed to meet the requirements of the HEE/NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic Programme <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding/nihr-hee-cat-programme-mres.htm>.

Course Modules

The MSc Clinical Research Methods comprises a range of challenging and stimulating modules delivered by the School of Healthcare and Leeds Institute of Health Sciences, in the Faculty of Medicine and Health. Overall, this is a 180 credit Masters (135 core plus 45 optional). Students can choose modules relevant to their

area of clinical practice and future career ambitions (see table). The programme is based on a 45 week academic year. Full-time students will be required to study 37.5 hours per week and part-time students 18.5 hrs, either on or off-campus.

CORE MODULES	ASSESSMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting Started in Health Research. An orientation to the important knowledge and skills related to disseminating research 	Problem schedule: architecture of research (30%); Critical appraisal of a paper (30%); Hypothetical Research Project (40%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capturing and Handling Data in Research. Introduction to the collection and handling of research data. 	Problem schedule: proportions, ratios, rates, risks and odds (30%); Critical Appraisal of a Paper (40%); Statistics Assignment (30%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Qualitative Research. Introduction to theory and practice of qualitative research in healthcare. 	3,000 word critical essay of qualitative research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accrediting Learning from Study Days. Student led providing recognition of learning gained from a personal learning contract. 	3,000 word critical essay on subject knowledge and effectiveness of learning contract
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Management. Development of research management knowledge and skills for clinical research. 	2000 word research protocol (70%); oral presentation (30%); Good Clinical Practice Pass / Fail
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Dissertation. An in-depth independent clinical research study. 	12,000 word dissertation addressing an area relevant to clinical practice
OPTIONAL MODULES	ASSESSMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research in Action. Development of applied research knowledge and management skills in research practice 	2,500 word critical report on research placement (60%) and verbal presentation (40%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mixed Methods Research. Introduction to the principles of combining qualitative and quantitative methods. 	3,000 word critical essay of mixed methods research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytic Research. Introduction to analytic quantitative health research. 	Completion of problem-based workbook (34%); critical appraisal of cohort study (33%); critical appraisal of case-control study (33%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intervention Research. Introduction to the research of health care interventions. 	Problem-based workbook (30%); critical appraisal of clinical trial (40%); critical appraisal of systematic review of trials (30%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statistical Inference in Research. Develops students' statistical knowledge. 	Reflective completion of workbook (20%); completion of question sheet based on practical sessions (50%); critical appraisal of publication (30%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical Trials. Equips students with knowledge about how a trials unit operates. 	Summary of a grant application (75%), Standard Operating Procedure (25%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statistical Modelling in Research. Introduces students to statistical modelling. 	Reflective completion of workbook (20%); completion of question sheet based on practical sessions (50%); critical appraisal of paper (30%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systematic Reviews. Equips students with skills in completing a systematic review. 	Writing a systematic review protocol (100%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Economics. Provides students with thorough understanding of the role and application of economics in health care. 	1000 word essay (25%); 2½ hour unseen examination (75%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCHI5010M Informatics in Healthcare. Introduction to health informatics applied to healthcare. 	3000 word assignment relating to informatics in healthcare
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elective research module e.g. Sociology 	Variable.

Entry requirements

- A relevant first degree (minimum 2.1)
- Current professional registration
- A minimum of one year's experience in clinical practice
- Demonstrate development in current clinical practice or research
- Exceptional applicants who do not meet the aforementioned criteria may be considered through the University of Leeds' Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) procedures.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must meet the minimum requirements:
- British Council IELTS – overall score of 6.5 with no element less than 6.0;
- TOEFL iBT - overall score of 92 with 21 in listening and reading, 22 in writing and 23 in speaking.
- The applicant and manager need to provide a supporting statement setting out how the applicant would use their skills for the development of their clinical research career. This statement will form a contract between the student and employer specifying what is expected upon successful completion of the masters course.

Who is eligible for this course?

Healthcare Science professions
Healthcare scientists who are either statutory regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council or with recognised voluntary regulatory arrangements via the Academy for Healthcare Science in the following broad areas of practice covering over 45 different professional specialisms:

- Life Sciences/Clinical Laboratory Sciences;
- Physiological Sciences
- Clinical Bioinformatics; and
Physical Sciences (incorporating

Medical Physics) and Clinical Engineering.

These include clinical scientists, biomedical scientists, clinical physiologists and clinical technologists.

AHP Professions

- Art therapist
- Podiatrist
- Dietician
- Occupational therapist
- Orthoptist
- Orthotist and Prosthetist
- Paramedic
- Physiotherapist
- Radiographer (diagnostic and therapeutic)
- Speech and language therapist
- Dramatherapist
- Music therapist

Nurse/Midwife

- Nurse
- Midwife
- Health Visitor

Wider Dental team Professions

- Dental hygienist
- Dental nurse
- Dental therapist
- Operating department practitioners
- Clinical Psychologist
- Pharmacy professions
- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy technician

We will accept other applications on a case by case basis as long as you:

- belong to a statutorily registered profession;
- are a graduate (or have equivalent experience); and
- provide NHS services in England.

For roles supporting mental health, please be aware that these may be covered under the remit of the above professions e.g. psychiatric nursing. If you have any queries regarding eligibility, please email HEE.RI@nhs.net

International Students

Please note that although this MSc is open to international applicants, the bursaries are only open to national applicants, as they are provided by a national scheme.

How to apply

The deadline for applications for the September 2016 start is 31st May 2017.

For an application form, please contact admissions@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk

For further information please contact the Programme Leader:
Dr Janet Hirst: j.hirst@leeds.ac.uk or call 0113 343 1281.

Core Programme Management Group

The MSc Clinical Research Methods is led by a multi-professional Programme Management Group with representation from current students and module leaders.

Dr Susan O'Meara,
School of Healthcare,
Senior Research Fellow



Dr Bridgette Bewick,
Leeds Institute of
Health Sciences,
School of Medicine.



Dr Janet Hirst,
School of Healthcare,
Programme Leader



Dr David Owens,
Leeds Institute
of Health Sciences,
School of Medicine.

