

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

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| 1 | Awarding body | Glyndŵr University |
| 2 | Teaching institution | Glyndŵr University |
| 3 | Award title | BSc (Hons) Acupuncture |
| 4 | Final awards available | BSc (Hons) Acupuncture
Diploma of Higher Education (unattributed)
Certificate of Higher Education (unattributed) |
| 5 | Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation | The programme is to be professionally accredited with the Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine (ATCM) allowing graduates, upon successful completion of the programme, to apply for Ordinary Membership in Category One (Acupuncture and Tui Na), and The Federation of Holistic Therapists (FHT) |
| | Please list any PSRBs associated with the proposal | Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine (ATCM)
Federation of Holistic Therapists (FHT) |
| | Accreditation available | "Ordinary Members in Category One (Acupuncture and Tui Na)" |
| | Please add details of any conditions that may affect accreditation (e.g. is it dependent on choices made by a student?) | None Known |
| 6 | JACS3 code | B343, B300 |
| 7 | UCAS code | B341, 32K (FD YR) |
| 8 | Relevant QAA subject benchmark statement/s | QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Health Studies (2008) |
| 9 | Other external and internal reference points used to inform the programme outcomes | Acupuncture Programme - TCMAB Educational Requirements see Part Six (ATCM)
National Occupation Standards (including CNH1 and CNH2)
Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
University Modular Framework
QAA Benchmark Statements |
| 10 | Mode of study | Full & part time |
| 11 | Language of study | English |

Office use only
Approved August 2016
Modified March 2018 – changes to programme team

12 Criteria for admission to the programme

Standard entry criteria

UK entry qualifications

Applicants for undergraduate bachelor Degrees require 240+ UCAS tariff points
The UCAS points can be counted from a wide range of qualifications

- BTEC Higher Diploma in a health related area.
- NVQ/GNVQ Level 3 advanced level in a health related area.
- Scottish Qualifications of Advanced Higher level
- Irish Leaving Certificate Higher Examinations
- A relevant Access to Higher Education Programme.

International entry qualifications

Qualifications outlined on the National Academic Recognition and Information Centre (NARIC) as equivalent to the above UK entry qualification.

Programme specific requirements

Recruitment and admission procedures remain in line with the University's *Regulations for Bachelor Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and Foundation Degrees*.

Applicants are normally interviewed by two members of the team prior to being admitted onto the programme to allow the admission team to assess academic ability and student expectations. The interview process also allows us to ensure that all students are aware of the demands of the programme.

Selection to join the programme will be in accordance with the University's Equal Opportunities Policy and with the programme's Admission and Recruitment policy. The criteria for selection is based upon;

1. academic ability (application form),
2. communication skills (verbal & written),
3. the ability to cope with both the academic and emotional demands of the programme,

All applicants are also required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance (previously known as CRB) and pay the appropriate fee, so that a check can be made on their suitability for working with children and vulnerable adults.

Non-standard entry criteria

(e.g. industry experience)

Applications are welcome from anyone who exhibits the ability and experience to manage the demands of the programme. We welcome applications from those with Access to H.E. Diplomas; relevant work experience and other higher education or professional qualifications.

The Foundation Year

The Kick-Start year will be offered where an applicant does not meet the entry requirements for the honours degree or where the Admissions Tutor/applicant feel they would benefit from an additional year to gain some additional experience before progression to the full three year degree. Upon successful completion the student will automatically progress to their chosen degree course.

Entry to the four year kick-start programme will be conditional on interview and review of applications to confirm that students are able to satisfactorily complete the programme. The principal criteria for entry will be based on the academic judgement of the Admissions Tutor and members of the programme team in the relevant subject area that the applicant will be able to satisfactorily complete the programme.

All applicants however must be able to demonstrate a minimum level of competence in English /Welsh Language and in Mathematics, with a pass at Grade C or above in GCSE or an equivalent qualification.

Therefore, this route is aimed at:

- Those who do not meet the entry requirements for a full degree.
- Those who have been out of education for a while and feel they would benefit from the extra year of preparation.
- Those looking to undertake a degree in an entirely new subject area and do not have the subject specific experience necessary to go straight to a degree.

English language requirements: (See Section 22 Welsh Medium Provision for Welsh Speakers)

For applicants whose native language is not English or Welsh they need to demonstrate English language proficiency.

- In addition to the academic entry requirements, all applicants whose first language is not English/Welsh require a UKVI Approved Secure English Language Test (SELT) achieving an overall score of 6.0 with no component below 5.5
- If arranging a test, applicants must ensure they book an 'IELTS for UKVI' test. For further information see: <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/ielts-ukvi/book-ielts-ukvi>. Applicants are asked to note that only an IELTS for UKVI test result will be accepted.

13 Recognition of Prior (Experiential) Learning

Applicants may enter the programme at levels 4 and 5 with Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) or Recognition of Prior Experiential learning (RPEL) in accordance with the University General Regulations. Any programme specific restrictions are outlined below.

Programme specific requirements

The applicant will be invited to attend an informal interview with the Admissions Tutor to assess if the application is appropriate in accordance with the University regulations on RPL/RPEL as laid out in the Academic Quality Handbook. The student is then advised that if they are successfully admitted to the programme and the application for RPL/RPEL is granted against a module(s) at level 4 and/or 5 that they will not normally be awarded credit for that module(s) but will be deemed to have satisfied the requirements of the module(s).

14 Aims of the programme

Each of these innovative and dynamic undergraduate programmes is aimed towards applicants who are seeking to advance their education, that share an interest in health, well-being and exercise and who aim to work with different patient or client groups within complementary therapies practice, sport and the wider community.

The aims of the Acupuncture programme are to:

- Enable students to gain both the qualities and skills required to register as independent, autonomous and competent practitioners, in acupuncture practice.
- Provide a student-centred learning and teaching environment that is both supportive and stimulating.
- Equip the student practitioner with the skills and opportunities required to later engage in the process of lifelong learning.
- Enable graduates to identify personal strengths, qualities and limitations and to develop a reflective approach to their practice.
- Enable graduates to apply for independent membership to the appropriate professional body of their choice

15 Distinctive features of the programme

Although the strategy for statutory regulation in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) is still, after more than 15 years of discussions, at the early stages of development within the UK, the programme team have endeavoured to provide a provision that will continue to be comparable to other programmes of this nature across the U.K. Drawing upon references such as QAA Subject Benchmark Statements, National Occupational Standards (NOS) and TCMAB Educational Requirements and

Core Curriculum (ATCM) the programme is developed with the primary aim of producing CAM practitioners who are fit for purpose, practice and award.

The BSc (Hons) Acupuncture programme is aimed at producing graduates who have developed knowledge, skills and competencies to practice as qualified practitioners within the field of Complementary Medicine. Having built on the broad expertise currently held within the team has demonstrated that it adds strength and cohesion to the overall delivery. The team hope that this should also assist with the possible growth of further programme initiatives.

A programme of study such as this is an extraordinary journey into a new way of understanding health, well-being and disharmony (ill-health). To be a practitioner qualified in acupuncture can be one of the most fascinating, challenging but ultimately rewarding career paths that a student can embark upon. The learning does not end upon graduation as the graduate practitioner, equipped with the skills and opportunities required to engage in the process of life-long learning, may choose to enter into independent practice or continue to enhance their knowledge with further study accessing post-graduate level programmes to MSc and PhD level.

The programme will continue to enable the graduate to apply for independent membership of the Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine (ATCM) or to the appropriate professional body of their choice. As the professional bodies and the ATCM have previously offered membership to graduates of both programmes who achieve a degree classification of 3rd or above the team do not propose that an ordinary degree will be offered in this programme as it is felt that this may disadvantage students who exit the programme with 300 credits.

Finally, the Onsite Clinic Facility provides students with real world opportunities to observe, rehearse and practice on patients with acute and chronic conditions whilst assisting in the promotion of health and wellbeing.

Benefits of study the programme

- All programmes within this provision aim to produce, upon successful graduation, practitioners who are suitably prepared to enter directly into the industry.
- Glyndŵr University has a well-established clinical facility that is run by clinical supervisors with a wealth of experience in the field of Complementary and Orthodox medicine, as a result students get to draw on and learn from qualified practitioners in the field.
- Having an established clinical facility means that unlike similar programmes offered in other HEI's students are not required to seek out any clinical placements of their own.
- All equipment is provided for students during their time of study which is also quite dissimilar to similar CAM programmes offered within other HEI's.

16 Programme structure narrative

Structure

The BSc (Hons) Acupuncture degree programme has been carefully designed to ensure that the divide between theoretical and clinical work is one of balance. As students' progress through the programme the combination of the theoretical and

practical elements undertaken at each level is essential to enhance the employability of the graduate practitioners on successful completion of the programme.

Guided by the Subject Benchmark Statements and the National Occupational Standards the learning outcomes of this programme are designed to meet the changing needs of CAM education. To ensure a curricula that is of academic rigor the programmes have been based upon the knowledge, skills and competencies required by the graduate practitioner.

Programme Routes

The programme will be offered on a full and part time basis and will follow the normal academic year in terms of entry and assessment points. There will be only one entry point which is in September. Where possible timetabling is structured to avoid students attending the University for short periods and typically lectures are scheduled over 3 days for the full time route and 1:5 days for the part time route.

Programme Expectations

All students are expected to attend the scheduled lectures and tutorials, that are timetabled within both Trimester 1 and 2 teaching weeks and, to demonstrate, that they have the ability to pursue their studies through independent study and research in addition to staff contact time. Many of the skills learned and then practiced are later applied by the student practitioner in the clinical sessions. Students then evaluate their own development through reflective journals, portfolios and through engaging in the process of personal development planning (PDP).

Students are also expected to include action planning and evaluation of their progress to allow them to monitor their own progress at regular intervals through the personal tutoring system. Learning outcomes in modules are developed to provide a focus for students to monitor their own learning. Supportive feedback to students is an important element of the learning process. Review of assessment through workshops and individual tutorials is also offered at each level of the programme.

Progression and Completion

Progression will be via the completion of all modules at each level of the programme. Students who do not pass all elements of the programme will have the opportunity to exit the programme with an award (see below). The classification of the BSc (Honours) award will be based upon the student's performance at Level 5 and Level 6 as defined in the Academic Regulations.

Students are required to complete:

- 120 credits at Level 4 to exit with a Certificate of Higher Education*.
- 120 credits at Level 5 (having achieved 120 credits at level 4) to exit with a Diploma of Higher Education.*

***Neither of the points listed above permits the practice of acupuncture or any other modality studied on the programme upon exiting the programme.**

- 120 credits at Level 6 (having achieved 120 credits at Level 4 and 120 credits at Level 5) to exit with a BSc (Hons) in Acupuncture.

17 Programme structure diagram

The programme is structured to share a number of generic modules with the BSc (Hons) in Complementary Therapies for Healthcare and the BSc (Hons) Rehabilitation and Injury Management programmes to ensure that the students are exposed to a rich learning environment providing the opportunity to draw on the learning experiences of their peers.

Level Four						
Trimester 1	Mod title	Foundations in Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture	Mod title	Anatomy and Applied Physiology	Mod title	Learning to Learn in Higher Education
	Mod code	CMP410	Mod code	CMP413	Mod code	CMP414
	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	Exist	New/Exist	New
	Credit value	40	Credit value	20	Credit value	20
	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core
	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain	Mod leader	Vic Graham	Mod leader	Vic Graham
Trimester 2	Mod title	Foundations in Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture	Mod title	Nutrition	Mod title	Introduction to Evidenced Based Practice
	Mod code	CMP410	Mod code	CMP415	Mod code	CMP409
	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	New
	Credit value	40	Credit value	20	Credit value	20
	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core
	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain	Mod leader	Liz Mahon	Mod leader	Julian Ayres

Level Five						
Trimester 1	Mod title	Acupuncture	Mod title	Understanding Common Conditions	Mod title	EvidenceBased Practice
	Mod code	CMP516	Mod code	CMP520	Mod code	CMP514
	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	New
	Credit value	40	Credit value	20	Credit value	20
	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core
	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain	Mod leader	Gemma Jones	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain
Trimester 2	Mod title	Acupuncture	Mod title	Safeguarding Patients and Self	Mod title	Therapeutic Interventions for MSK Injuries
	Mod code	CMP516	Mod code	CMP515	Mod code	CMP519
	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	Exist
	Credit value	40	Credit value	20	Credit value	20
	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core
	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain	Mod leader	Gemma Jones	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain

Level Six						
Trimester 1	Mod title	Application of Acupuncture in Clinical Practice	Mod title	Dissertation	Mod title	Setting Up in Business
	Mod code	CMP613	Mod code	CMP604	Mod code	CMP611
	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	Exist	New/Exist	New
	Credit value	40	Credit value	40	Credit value	20
	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core
	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain	Mod leader	Victoria O'Donnell	Mod leader	Neil Pritchard

Trimester 2	Mod title	Application of Acupuncture in Clinical Practice	Mod title	Dissertation	Mod title	Contemporary Application for Practitioners
	Mod code	CMP613	Mod code	CMP 604	Mod code	CMP612
	New/Exist	New	New/Exist	Exist	New/Exist	New
	Credit value	40	Credit value	40	Credit value	20
	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core	Core/Opt	Core
	Mod leader	Richard Chamberlain	Mod leader	Victoria O'Donnell	Mod leader	Gemma Jones

18 Intended learning outcomes of the programme

Knowledge and understanding

On completion of levels 4/5/6 the student will be able to

	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6 Honours Degree
A1	Demonstrate an understanding of anatomical and physiological processes from both the Eastern and Western perspectives.	Recognise and reflect upon cultural diversities that lie within health and wellbeing.	Critically analyse moral, ethical and legal implications within the areas of health and professional practice.
A2	Interpret theories that underpin the practice of modalities embraced within the system of Chinese medicine.	Demonstrate an awareness of the diversity of the experience of health and wellbeing.	Appraise contemporary issues at the forefront of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture.
A3	Recognise the place of research activity in the development of Chinese medicine and Acupuncture.	Identify professional limitations to refer patients appropriately so that they can receive the necessary investigations and tests to eliminate or confirm the diagnosis of serious underlying pathology.	Demonstrate an awareness of equal opportunities and diversity issues in context.
A4	Understand the diversity of values associated with health and wellbeing.		Critically evaluate treatment choice and where appropriate offer evidence based alternatives
A5	Explain health as a contested concept.		

Intellectual Skills

On completion of levels 4/5/6 the student will be able to

	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6 Honours Degree
B1	Apply self-motivational skills for autonomous learning and continuous professional development.	Apply analytical thought to describe, interpret and summarise key theoretical aspects.	Demonstrate analytical skills to evaluate the principles and outcomes of care from the perspectives of both patient and practitioner within the clinical environment of Chinese Medicine.
B2	Demonstrate the ability to draw upon the personal and lived experience of health and illness through the skills of reflective practice.	Implement clinical decision-making and problem solving skills necessary to diagnose, assess and formulate an effective treatment plan within the clinical environment of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture.	Articulate reasoned arguments and challenge traditionally held assumptions relating to health and well-being.
B3	Formulate questions, initiate, and carry out health related projects.	Interpret the outcomes of research to assist in an evidence base for practice within the clinical environment of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture.	Utilise a range of research strategies for improving personal and professional standards in the practice of Acupuncture.

Subject Skills

On completion of levels 4/5/6 the student will be able to

	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6 Honours Degree
C1	Demonstrate the ability to communicate with others in a clear and articulate manner, using words and numbers, through written work using appropriate academic conventions.	Internalise and differentiate between values, ideals and beliefs which relate to others and certain situations.	Synthesise coherent arguments from a range of theories relating to health and health issues
C2	Work independently and identify personal needs for skill development on an ongoing basis.	Draw upon the lived experience of health, wellbeing and illness.	Demonstrate competence and skills to treat the wide range of commonly seen disharmonies which have no formal biomedical diagnostic label.
C3	Reflect upon and review progress in students' own studies and seek assistance or guidance as appropriate in order to enhance their own personal development.	Utilise information technology to store, retrieve and produce material for health related coursework, drawing on skills in the use of word processing, databases and spreadsheets as appropriate to the task.	Identify the appropriateness of treating with acupuncture, knowing when and how to refer, thereby minimising the risk of missing any symptoms that might indicate serious underlying pathology
C4	Work with peers in groups, taking responsibility for an agreed area of an activity.	Present ideas and arguments verbally in formal presentations and seminars, and informal discussions in a variety of environments	Succinctly and clearly communicate their findings, disease-diagnosis, treatment plan and prognosis to the patient in everyday language, in such a way that the patient's own needs, expectations and commitment to treatment are taken into consideration.
C5		Identify the key lifestyle factors, such as nutrition and exercise, that are either causing the patient's condition or are limiting potential recovery, and know how and when to give appropriate advice.	Be aware of their limit of competence. In the context of medical science, the practitioner should be able to recognise clinical situations where it would not be adequate to use only Chinese medicine methods. In this situation, the practitioner should be able to provide suitable suggestions to assist the patient in seeking appropriate medical care.

Practical, professional and employability skills:

On completion of levels 4/5/6 the student will be able to

	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6 Honours Degree
D1	Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of regional and surface anatomy and the location of internal organs, vessels and structures.	Acknowledge and respond to moral and ethical issues relevant to health and clinical practice.	Justify, propose and competently employ the appropriate treatment of care within clinical environment of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture
D2	Communicate effectively in written and oral presentation formats	Demonstrate appropriately to legal requirements and professional guidelines that relate specifically to health and Acupuncture practice.	Demonstrate clinical competency in the application of acupuncture and clinical practice in accordance with the ATCM and FHT Codes of Conduct and Professional Practice.
D3	Demonstrate an understanding of professional, ethical and legal issues in practice.	Develop an appreciation of the implications of setting up a clinical practice.	Correlate the results from observation and investigations to form a coherent diagnostic picture from which the pattern(s) of disharmony can be discerned and differentiated.
D4		Demonstrate the ability to accurately maintain all types of information pertaining to the patient, showing knowledge of the requirements of confidentiality and compliance with the current Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation.	Demonstrate competence in skills transferable to the workplace

19 Curriculum matrix

To demonstrate how the overall programme outcomes are achieved and where skills are developed and assessed within individual modules.

Guidance - Identify which module covers the programme learning outcomes above by ticking the appropriate box. Please note that the programme learning outcomes must be differentiated by award, including all final and exit awards proposed

	Module Title	Core or option?	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4		D1	D2	D3	D4
Level 4	Foundations in Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture	Core	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	
	Anatomy and Applied Physiology	Core	x			x	x			x	x	x	x	x		x	x		
	Learning to Learn	Core						x	x		x	x	x	x			x		
	Nutrition	Core								x	x	x	x						
	Introduction to EvidenceBased Practice	Core			x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x				x	
Level 5	Module Title		A1	A2	A3			B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	D1	D2	D3	D4
	Acupuncture	Core	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Understanding Common Conditions	Core	x	x	x					x		x	x	x	x	x			
	Evidenced Based Practice	Core						x		x			x	x	x	x			
	Safeguarding Patient and Self	Core			x					x	x							x	x
	Therapeutic Interventions for MSK Injuries	Core	x		x					x		x	x	x	x	x		x	
Level 6	Module Title		A1	A2	A3	A4		B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	D1	D2	D3	D4
	Application of Acupuncture in Clinical Practice	Core	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Dissertation	Core	x	x					x		x	x						x	
	Setting Up in Business	Core	x		x														x
	Contemporary Application for Practitioners	Core	x	x	x	x			x		x				x				

20 Learning and teaching strategy

The learning and teaching strategies employed in this programme enable the development of reflective and critical approaches to the study of health, ill health and wellbeing. These strategies reflect the contested and multi-dimensional nature of health and facilitate active student participation in recognition of the essential component that students bring to the learning and teaching process (QAA, 2008).

The approaches employed towards learning and teaching are based upon a student-centred paradigm of learning intended to facilitate and maximise the capabilities of the student to work within the field of CAM. As the student progresses through each level of the programme they move from methods of learning with a 'high' degree of support towards more 'autonomous and self-directing' methods of learning. Such methods enable the student to become an independent and reflective practitioner who is able to demonstrate the additional capabilities of cooperation and professionalism. This programme therefore provides the student with a qualification at undergraduate level that has embedded within its framework learning outcomes expected of those being professionally prepared to work within this field (QAA, 2008).

The philosophy that the programme adopts in relation to learning and teaching is in line with the University framework, focused upon learning as opposed to teaching, with the deployment of teaching methods that endorse effective student learning, reflective practice and personal development planning. Students will be expected to accept responsibility for their learning, so becoming self-directed and engaging in the process of life-long learning. It is anticipated that, as in previous years, a wide range of learning and teaching strategies will be employed to provide opportunities for progressive acquisition of subject-specific knowledge, understanding of skills, as well as generic and transferable skills.

Examples of the range of learning and teaching methods employed on the programme will include:

- **Lectures**; to convey substantial elements of the subject context, core themes and provide explanations for difficult concepts, whilst setting the scene for independent learning.
- **Practical/Clinical Sessions and Case Study Presentations**; these will consolidate and apply theoretical knowledge and skills.
- **Blended Learning Modules** for specific modules with workshop and tutorial support sessions.
- **Tutorials, Student-led Seminars and Oral Presentations**; which will provide a context for interactive learning and provide the forum for development of transferable skills such as information retrieval, problem solving and group work.
- **Reflective Accounts and Practice Portfolio Development**; to enhance personal and professional development.
- **Self-directed Study**; this is time spent on assignment work, project work and case studies, set alongside the themes selected by the individual for greater exploration of a given topic.

The full range of learning and teaching strategies are clearly identified within the individual module specifications.

The Programme also utilises Moodle, the organisational framework for the delivery of materials via a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Moodle acts as a repository which allows the programme team to share with the student; learning materials relating to

individual modules and e-learning, announcements, materials relating to assessments and, to monitor progress. It also provides an extended learning community for students to engage with each other and the wider national and international community.

To ensure that students achieve the learning outcomes the programme team will employ methods of delivery based upon student-centred learning. Activities that promote independent learning are carefully balanced with activities that promote group/peer interaction whilst enhancing the development of interpersonal skills. Students are actively encouraged, should the need arise, to draw upon support that is offered within the University. Sessions such as study skills, research skills and career development workshops are just some examples of the support that is available to students.

As a team the Complementary Healthcare programme team have established a number of strategies in line with those held at University level that respect student diversity. Drawing on extensive experience, the team work closely with both Study Skills and the Student Services Department, to ensure that the differing needs of all our students are met. These needs include dyslexia, dyspraxia, hearing and visual impairments.

Student Learning Experience

Typically students on the full time route of this programme will attend University three days per week whilst part time students attend one and half days per week during term time.

During Level 4 students will obtain a minimum of 50 clinical hours observing their peers (studying at levels 5 and 6) carrying out supervised clinical practice in the onsite clinic. This enhances the first year of the degree as it adds value to their learning experience as students do not engage actively in clinical practice during their first year.

During Level 5 students will obtain a minimum of 200 clinical hours as they move from observers to student practitioners taking on a clinical caseload. This transition is as a result of them successfully passing the practical examination at the end of trimester 1. The clinical hours at this level are accrued from the clinical practice aspect 40 credit module Acupuncture with additional hours gained from the weekly mandatory placement at the onsite clinic.

During Level 6 students will obtain a further 150 clinical hours across the year managing their own clinical caseload. The clinical hours at this level are accrued from the clinical practice aspect of the 40 credit module Application of Acupuncture in Clinical Practice with additional hours gained from the weekly mandatory placement at the onsite clinic.

21 Work based/clinical practice learning statement

As work based learning (described here as *clinical practice*) is an integral part of the learning experience for student practitioners this document can confirm that all work-based learning is undertaken by the student practitioners in the University's Onsite Complementary Healthcare Clinic based within the Crispin Lane building on the main campus.

The Glyndŵr University Complementary Healthcare Clinic first opened its doors to the general public in 2005. The main objective of the clinic was to provide an affordable service that excluded no-one and was committed to the needs of all in the local

community. Conditions ranging from back pain to infertility are treated within the clinic. Students currently studying on the Acupuncture or Complementary Therapies for Healthcare degree programmes have welcomed the challenge of working in a clinic that provides a broad spectrum of conditions.

One student practitioner described the clinic '*as an invaluable opportunity to put theory into practice*' which she found '*a vital part of the course*'.

Accepting referrals from other healthcare providers such as local G.P's, the Pain Clinic, Occupational Health, Nightingale House Hospice, Wrexham, osteopaths and the cardiac rehabilitation clinic has created a reciprocal relationship, demonstrating to students the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach to health. All clinical supervision is carried out by appropriately qualified staff who are also members of the current programme team.

Staff/Student ratios for clinical supervision meet the PSRB requirements. These are as follows

For the practice of Acupuncture the **Staff: Student Ratio is 1:4 (ATCM)**

Accumulation of Clinical Hours in line with PSRB expectations:

During the three years all acupuncture students will need to obtain a minimum of **400 clinical hours**. This accumulation of clinical hours must be obtained across the academic year and not simply within a single trimester.

- During the first year the clinical supervisor will allocate clinical observation placements within the Complementary Healthcare Clinic at Glyndŵr. Student practitioners will be expected to gain the minimum of **50 hours at Level 4**.
- During the second and third year the clinic is an integral mandatory aspect of the programme. Student practitioners will be expected to gain the minimum of **200 hours at Level 5** and **150 hours at Level 6**.

22 Welsh medium provision

Although the majority of students within the University are English speaking it is recognised that Welsh is the language of many students and staff members at Glyndŵr, the University responds positively and constructively to this bilingual situation by creating a welcoming environment within which students from all cultures can interact on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

The programmes will be delivered through the medium of English. Students are entitled to submit assessments in the medium of Welsh.

23 Assessment strategy

In accordance to Chapter B6 of the QAA Quality Code Part B: Assessment of Students and the Recognition of Prior Learning (QAA, 2013).

The purposes of assessment within this particular programme are:

1. To determine students progression and final degree classification.

2. To provide a means of feedback to students on the strengths and limitations of their learning and assist them to improve their performance.
3. To provide evidence that a student is competent to practise to a professionally recognised standard.
4. To allow staff to measure the effectiveness of their teaching/learning strategy.

Careful consideration has therefore been given to the purpose of each assessment in ensuring that it reflects the learning outcomes determined for each individual module included within the programme. Incorporated within the assessment strategy for this particular programme are a wide range of methods of assessment appropriate to the module outcomes. The programme team aim to ensure that there is balance between the use of both formative and summative elements of assessment across the programme. Methods of assessment to be employed will include assignments, portfolio, written and practical examinations, poster presentations, tutorial and group tasks, case studies, dissertations and supervised clinical practice, a number of which are aimed at examining the student's ability to recognise the relationship between theory and clinical practice.

The programme team in consultation with the external examiner are responsible for the evaluation and modification of all elements of the assessment. To ensure that the appropriate methods are chosen to measure the achievements by students the programme team aim to continue to annually review the range and type of assessments employed at each level of the programme. Staff will also be actively encouraged to attend staff training events that relate to all aspects of the learning, teaching and assessment strategies to ensure that the team remain up-to-date and informed of changes to theory and practice.

Written Examinations

In line with the University's assessment calendar and regulations all written examinations are organised and managed through the Exams Office which forms an integral part of Academic Registry. Exams are scheduled for one of the two assessment periods scheduled in January and May each year.

Practical Examinations

In line with the University's regulations the practical examinations are organised and managed by members of the programme team. The scheduling of all practical examinations however will still fall within the University's assessment calendar.

Dissertation

Within the Dissertation module students will be undertaking a 10 000 Dissertation. Although the type of assessment differs students will be required to apply the same analytical, critical thinking skills and research skills within both assessment tasks. The programme team will ensure student equity and parity of assessment through programme management meetings.

A diagrammatic overview of the module assessments throughout the programme has been provided overleaf, with an indication of submission dates.

Module code & title	Assessment type and weighting	Assessment loading	Indicative submission date
Level 4			
CMP410 Foundations in Chinese Med. and Acupuncture	Portfolio 50% Exam 50% Attendance	2000 equivalent 2 hours 50 hours Pass/Fail	TBC
CMP413 Anatomy and Applied Physiology	Exam 100%	2 hours	
CMP414 Learning to Learn in Higher Education	Assignment 100%	2000 words	
CMP415 Nutrition	Workbook 100%	2000words equivalent	
CMP409 Introduction to Evidenced Based Practice	Assignment 100%	2000 words	
Level 5			
CMP516 Acupuncture	Practical Part 1 20% Practical Part 2 40% Case Study 40% Attendance	30 min 75 min 2 000 words 200 hours Pass/Fail	
CMP520 Understanding Common Conditions	Poster Presentation 100%	3000 word equivalent 20 min	
CMP514 Evidence Based Practice	Research Proposal 100%	2500 words	
CMP515 Safeguarding Patients and Self	Report - H&S Audit and Narrative 100%	2000 words	
CMP519 Therapeutic Interventions for MSK Injuries	Practical 100%	30 min	
Level 6			
CMP613 Application of Acupuncture in Clinical Practice	Case Study x 3 50 % Practical 50 % Attendance	1000 words each 75 min 150 hours Pass/Fail	
CMP604 Dissertation	Dissertation 100%	7000 words	
CMP611 Setting Up in Business	Business Plan 100%	2500 words equivalent.	
CMP612 Contemporary Application for Practitioners	Poster Presentation 100%	20 min 2500 words equivalent	

24 Assessment regulations

Assessment Regulations:

Generic Award Regulations

Bachelor Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and Foundation Degrees.

Derogations

Derogation for regulations against specific modules offered on the programme named have been applied for as part of the approval process.

As 'practitioner-based degree programmes' the programme team have a responsibility to ensure that all student practitioners are successful in completing both the theoretical and practical elements of modules that contain a clinical practice element within them.

It is namely in the interest of patient safety that the team cannot afford to permit any student to progress through and graduate from either named programme should that individual not be fit for purpose and fit for practice. It is therefore imperative that all students successfully pass all elements of assessment, i.e. that students achieve a minimum pass mark of 40% in all elements of assessment. The modules that derogation for regulations has been agreed for are as follows:

Level 4

- Foundations in Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture (40 credits)
- Anatomy and Applied Physiology (20 credits)

Level 5

- Acupuncture (40 credits)
- Therapeutic Interventions for Musculoskeletal Injuries (20 credits)

Level 6

- Application of Acupuncture in Clinical Practice (40 credits)

Application for derogation was made against the *Regulation 7 Passing a Module and Award of Credits* from the University's Regulations for Bachelor Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and Foundation Degrees.

Non-credit bearing assessment

Not Applicable

Borderline classifications (for undergraduate programmes only)

Borderline definition (extracted from Section 3 Award Regulations 2015-16)

Only the following rounded marks will be regarded as "borderline":

39% Borderline Class III

49% Borderline Class II(ii)

59% Borderline Class II(i)

69% Borderline Class I

14.2 If a student's average score is borderline as defined above, the criteria listed in the paragraph below shall be used to determine whether or not a higher degree classification is awarded than is indicated by the numerical average alone.

14.3 In considering borderline cases the Assessment Board shall raise the classification to the next level if all of the following criteria are met:

- At least 50% of the credits at level 6 fall within the higher classification.³²
- All level 6 modules must have been passed at the first attempt. (If failure has been condoned in accordance with Paragraph 10 above in respect of a Level 6 module, this module will not qualify as a pass at the first attempt and consequently, the borderline criteria will not be met);
- The mark achieved for the dissertation or other substantial module is within the higher classification. In the case of professional or vocational programmes, this may be replaced by above average performance on the placement element of the programme or both criteria may be applied.

In respect of professional and vocational programmes, it shall be decided at validation which of the following shall be taken into account in considering the classification:

- The dissertation or other substantial module; and/or
- Above average performance on the placement element of the programme.

Programme Specific Borderline Classifications

Borderline classifications will be determined by the overall mark received for the 40 credit module at Level 6 which is based upon the application of the chosen specialism, in this case acupuncture.

25 Programme Management

Programme Leader

The Programme Leader (Gemma Jones) has overall responsibility for the operation, development and quality enhancement of the programme. She will work in collaboration with the Module Leaders and Operations Staff to provide the day-to-day general academic and pastoral support to students. The Programme Leader will chair the meetings with the programme team to discuss all matters relating to the delivery of the programme. The Programme Leader reports directly to the Faculty Dean (FSLs).

Programme team

The Programme Team are responsible for the delivery, assessment and evaluations of the modules offered within this programme of study. Monitoring student attendance in class and in clinical practice they will maintain quality across all areas of the programme. The team, consisting of module leaders, sessional lecturers and support staff will meet monthly and the minutes of these meetings will be circulated to all relevant parties and tabled at the appropriate School Meetings as directed by the Head of School.

It is the responsibility of the programme leader and the team to ensure that any sessional lecturers, demonstrators and practitioners that support the programme are in receipt of documentation relating to the programme and individual modules that they are to be involved with. They are to both contribute to and be updated regularly on changes to the programme, academic regulations, retention and student support.

Although small in number, the team have made a number of contacts through the various external links they have drawn upon to support the programme. Guest speakers have made a positive contribution on the current programmes to certain aspects of the curriculum.

For example:

- Chris Nortley (reported to be one of the top ten acupuncturists in the UK by the BAAC) has delivered sessions that were well received by all students on the Acupuncture programme.
 - Paul Robbins (Acupuncture Society) delivered a session on Eye, Pulse and Tongue Diagnosis.
 - Kevin Young (physiotherapist and TCM practitioner) has offered current students and graduates sessions on the application of Tui Na.
- Jong Balik, acupuncturist has also contributed sessions for students and graduates so supporting the ethos of life-long learning.

The programme team plan to draw on such valuable resources for the new programme.

Quality management

The following mechanisms provide a framework for the assurance and enhancement of quality and standards for the programme.

- *“Annual monitoring is a key element of Glyndŵr University’s approach to quality assurance and enhancement. It is designed to provide assurance regarding the quality and standards of academic programmes, to provide opportunities for the sharing of good practice, and to identify areas for enhancement”* (Glyndŵr , 2015) Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) are developed and considered at the School Annual Monitoring Meetings after being forwarded to the Head of School. After which they are forwarded to SPC so that they may be sent to be reviewed by the Academic Programme Sub-Committee (APSC).
- External Examiners Reports are formally reviewed through the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). A response to the report is formulated by the programme team and an action plan created.
- The use of module evaluations has till recently be carried out by Module leaders mid and/or at the end of the module delivery. Student feedback has then been incorporated into the monitoring and review procedures and forms the reporting process for the AMR. Mid-module student evaluations have previously provided;
 - Module tutors provide a module based review of the operation, quality and standards of individual modules.
 - Informal sharing of current and best practice occurs through team meetings.
- The Staff Student Consultative Committee (S.S.C.C) meetings are intended to provide a forum for the students to allow them to contribute their ideas on how the programme is running and how the team can improve and enhance the students learning experience. Led by student representatives from each cohort the committee has an independent chair from the Psychology team and a staff representative. Minutes are taken and circulated to student representatives and

posted upon Moodle with the team's response. Part time students are encouraged to have their own representative(s) on the committee so to allow the committee to raise and discuss any issues that are specific to those students who are on the part-time route.

These mechanisms will ensure that there is an auditable and clear process for monitoring and review of all aspects of the programme's operation, leading to the maintenance of academic and professional standards.

Research and scholarship activity

All members of the programme team are actively encouraged to develop their research profile, through engaging in CPD activities, conference presentations, engaging with professional bodies and attaining/maintaining professional qualifications.

The team use research, scholarly and professional activity to inform the curriculum throughout their subject specialism.

In addition to these members of the team have engaged in internal and external quality assurance activities, sat on subcommittees and have actively sought externality.

All members of the team hold membership to one or more of the relevant professional bodies and are currently Fellows or are seeking Fellowship with Advance HE (formerly the HEA).

26 Learning support

Institutional level support for students

The University has a range of departments that offer the support for students as:

- Library & IT Resources
- The Assessment Centre
- DisAbility Support Team
- Irlen Centre
- Careers Centre and Job Shop
- Zone Enterprise hub
- Chaplaincy
- Counselling & Wellbeing
- Student Funding and Welfare
- International Welfare
- Student Programmes Centre
- Glyndŵr Students' Union

School support for students

The Faculty of Social and Life Sciences has declared that it aims to be Agile, Accessible and Ambitious, in order to achieve this the School have developed a number of objectives in their Strategic Plan. One objective states that the Faculty will “*exhibit an*

ethic of care towards all our staff and students for their greater wellbeing and ensure an outstanding student experience and staff engagement and morale”.

Part of this Faculty provision is the implementation of University recognised mechanisms based around student support, which is provided from Day One. All students are invited in week one to engage in Induction programme, which is a combination of Faculty and Programme based activities.

The annual Student Programme Handbook is provided to all students via Moodle and on memory sticks (for new students joining the programme). This handbook provides up to date details on a range of topics including student support.

Programme specific support for students

Building upon the experiences acquired by the programme team over the last ten years the programme has established policies that value student diversity whilst collaborating with strategies that have been implemented at University level.

Drawing from the past experiences of meeting the learning needs of students with differing abilities, the team are expected to ensure that preparation of learning materials meets the needs of all students who enrol upon the programme. Students who have individual learning needs are encouraged to access specialist support through Student Services. Once assessed by Student Services there is a range of measures/strategies that may be implemented in the form of additional time for assessments, provision of audio equipment or laptop computers to assist with note taking in lectures.

Pastoral Support

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor who will be the person who provides pastoral support on an individual basis throughout the student's time on the programme. Personal Tutors routinely meet with individual students at least once during each trimester (more often if it is deemed necessary by either party). It is not an intention of the Personal Tutor to take on the role of counsellor but to offer on-going support and guidance to the individual to review personal progress. As the first point of contact for students the Personal Tutors aim to support the students with both academic and pastoral matters. The Personal Tutor normally remains with the student throughout their period of study.

Office Hours

All members of the team are asked to select time slots during the week when they are available and to post these times on the staff information page on Moodle. Students are then able to make appointments with staff where they can meet to ask questions or discuss matters relating to the programme. Appointment sheets are pinned to the programme notice boards which are situated outside M409.

Provision for Part-time Students

The programme team plans to continue to offer the programme for full and part time delivery as we anticipate that the programme will attract students who may wish to complete the programme on a part-time basis. The programme may be of interest to those individuals who are already working within the field who wish to enhance their practice and develop skills and qualifications whilst continuing in employment. The team recognises the importance of identifying and meeting the differing needs/requirements that the provision of part-time study can bring. We aim to continue to provide a learning, teaching and assessment environment that is supportive of these needs.

To elucidate this point further the team have listed examples that are to be employed within both programmes:

- All part-time students will be allocated a personal tutor, who will be responsible for part-time study across the programme. The tutor will act as the personal tutor for the students throughout the programme of study.
- All part-time students will have an induction and study skills programme that is tailored to their needs. This will be arranged and led by the personal tutor.
- The use of Moodle as a VLE has been described earlier in the text. The use of such a medium for assignment submission and collection of additional teaching material and hand-outs allows the part-time students direct access to materials and submission of assessments across the whole of the week, including times when the student is not timetabled to attend for lectures.

All students are issued with the part-time 'route' through the programme that makes certain that the student can identify the sequence of modules. This sequence will have been carefully developed to equip the student with the knowledge, skills, and competencies required to progress at each level.

Programme-specific learning resources

The current provision has access to a number of resources that includes

- Fully resourced onsite Complementary Healthcare clinic which is open five days a week.
- A number of online journals that students can access.
- A small reference library of approximately 40 texts and a number of research papers are held within the onsite clinic.
- A range of visual and tactile resources such as a skeleton, models of joints and acupuncture models and reference charts.
- A wide range of subject specific texts held in the main library on the Plas Coch campus.

The Onsite Clinic

Glyndŵr Complementary Healthcare Clinic is an eight bedded training clinic offering treatments to the general public. Many of the patients who use the clinic do so on a self-referral basis. Some examples of the conditions treated by the student practitioners are infertility, pain management (including back pain), and emotional disorders such as insomnia and stress.

The clinic is well established and respected, has easy access and ample parking and is located on the second floor of the building that also houses the North Wales Clinical School. Already popular with the Wrexham Community and University Campus, the Clinic has earned a reputation for outstanding practice and service. The clinic provides access to high quality equipment, a safe and secure working environment, and support from highly trained professional staff. All treatment modalities integrate up to date and current evidence based therapies for the benefit of the patient. The clinic enables up and coming practitioners to network with peers and clinical supervisors allowing them to explore and expand their own knowledge across other disciplines.

The clinic is a combined therapy clinic run for student practitioners by devoted clinical supervisors. The clinical supervisors work hard to keep a professional standard in the clinic with regards to both organisation and attitude. Due to the high level of organisation and professionalism the clinic runs very efficiently, allowing for a relaxed atmosphere that make both students and more importantly, patients feel at ease within the clinic. The knowledge and skill of the practitioners and their supervisors facilitates a treatment that is tailored to the patients' needs to gain maximum benefit.

Some patient testimonials have been submitted as part of the documentation, see Part 5.

27 Equality and Diversity

Glyndŵr University is committed to providing access to all students and promotes equal opportunities in compliance with the Equality Act 2010 legislation. This programme complies fully with the University's policy on Equality and Diversity, ensuring that everyone who has the potential to achieve in higher education is given the chance to do so.

Where deemed appropriate by the Programme Leader and individual's consent staff are alerted to student disabilities and given advice/direction on adaptations that maybe required in relation to teaching and assessment methods. For example we have had in the last five years students on the Complementary Medicine Practice programme with visual and hearing impairments. Adaptations to teaching styles were developed to allow one of the students, who was blind, the opportunity to learn all massage techniques alongside their peers whilst in the lectures.

Students who present with a specific learning requirement are referred to Student Services where they can be formally assessed and the appropriate support can be implemented. The range of support that is available to individuals range from one-to-one tutor support to specialist equipment and software.

One mature student, who graduated from the Acupuncture programme in 2015, said

"The best thing that Glyndŵr provided was the chance to be 'just a student'. To be treated in exactly the same way as everyone else by both the staff and the other students".