

ASTON UNIVERSITY PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION 2012-2013

Programme Title	Master of Science in Pharmacy Practice for Overseas Pharmacists
UCAS/JACS Code	B230
School/Subject Area	School of Life and Health Sciences
Final Award	Master of Science
Interim Award(s)	Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits)
Mode(s) of Study	Full time
Normal Length of Programme	One year
Total Credits	180
Programme Accredited By	PgDip (120 credits) accredited by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC)
Dates Programme Specification Written and Revised	Written December 2011 Revised July 2012

<p>Educational Aims of the Programme</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide a relevant, timely and challenging education to enable an overseas pharmacist to demonstrate a comprehensive pharmaceutical knowledge and professional expertise at least equivalent to that currently expected of a recent UK MPharm graduate. 2. To ensure the care, well being and safety of patients is paramount, by developing procedures for safe and effective practice. 3. To develop student abilities to obtain, interpret and critically assess relevant evidence based information and health policy in order to promote healthy lifestyle and to evaluate the appropriateness of medicine regimens, optimising management plans for individuals in collaboration with colleagues, patients and other health professionals. 4. To develop effective communication skills, both oral and written, to ensure best outcomes for patients which respect their wishes and the maintenance of accurate records. 5. To procure, supply, distribute and dispose of medicines safely within legal requirements and best professional practice. 6. To develop the knowledge, skills and qualities which will allow students to progress through pre-registration training in order to practice as Pharmacists in all branches of the profession and to provide a base for a continued involvement in life-long learning. 7. To develop research skills and transferable skills relevant to the practice of pharmacy in preparation for a career in pharmacy practice or academia.
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<p>Relevant Subject Benchmark Statements and other External and Internal Reference Points used to Inform Programme Outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPhC. Standards for the education and training of non-EEA pharmacists wanting to register in Great Britain (2011) • RPSGB. The principles of pharmacy education and training (2009) • RPSGB. Outline curriculum for training programme to prepare pharmacist prescribers (2006) • OSPAP Programme Committee. • QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (2008)
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Programme Structures and Requirements:		Credits, Level and Modules		
STAGE 1 of 1				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Elective
Professional Critical Skills	10	7	PHMSK1	Core
Applied Pharmacology and Therapeutics	30	7	PHMCL3	Core
Pharmacy Law and Ethics with Professional Practice	20	6	PHMPP3	Core
Practical Therapeutics	40	7	PHMPP4	Core
Pharmaceutical Technology	10	7	PHMCT2	Core
Pharmaceutics in Practice	10	7	PHMCT3	Core
MSc Research Project	60	7	PHMRP1	Core
TOTAL	120			

Programme Outcomes: Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

A. Expectations of a Pharmacy Professional

On successful completion of the Programme, students are expected to:		Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1.	Know how to recognise ethical dilemmas & respond in accordance with relevant codes of conduct and behaviour	Lectures Workshops Practical Classes Group assignments Problem based learning Case Studies Formative peer review Directed learning Blackboard based support	Practical reports Dispensing practicals Ethics essay OSCEs (written and face-to-face) Patient care plans Group work – written report Seminars with peer Assessment Examination
2.	Show how to recognise the duty to take action if a colleague's health, performance or conduct is putting patients or public at risk		
3.	Recognise personal health needs, consult and follow the advice of a suitably qualified professional, and protect patients or public from any risk posed by personal health		
4.	Know how to apply the principles of clinical governance in practice		
5.	Show how to demonstrate how the science of pharmacy is applied in the design and development of medicines and devices		
6.	Show how to contribute to the education and training of other members of the team, including peer review and assessment		
7.	Know how to contribute to the development of other members of the team through coaching and feedback		
8.	Know how to engage in multidisciplinary team working		
9.	Know how to respond appropriately to medical emergencies, including provision of first aid		

B. Skills: Implementing Health Policy			
On successful completion of the Programme, students are expected to:		Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1.	Show how to promote healthy lifestyles by facilitating access to and understanding of health promotion information	Lectures Workshops Mini-CExs Dispensing Practical Classes Directed learning Blackboard based support	Examination Patient care plans Written case presentations Critical drug comparison OSCEs (written and face-to-face) Dispensing practical Groupwork – written report Referencing exercise
2.	Show how to access & critically evaluate evidence to support safe, rational & cost effective use of medicines		
3.	Show how to use the evidence base to review current practice		
4.	Show how to apply knowledge of current pharmacy-related policy to improve health outcomes		
5.	Know how to collaborate with patients, the public and other healthcare professionals to improve patient outcomes		
6.	Know how to play an active role with public and professional groups to promote improved health outcomes		
7.	Know how to contribute to research & development activities to improve health outcomes		
8.	Show how to provide evidence-based medicines information		

C. <u>Skills: Validating therapeutic approaches and supplies prescribed and over the counter Medicines</u>			
On successful completion of the Programme, students are expected to:		Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1.	Know how to identify and employ the appropriate diagnostic or physiological testing techniques in order to promote health	Lectures Workshops Mini-CExs Simulated role plays Practical Classes Directed learning Blackboard based support	Practical reports Dispensing practical exam OSCEs (written and face-to-face) Patient care plans Simulated role plays Written case presentations On-line test Examination
2.	Show how to identify inappropriate health behaviours and recommend suitable approaches to interventions		
3.	Show how to Instruct patients in the safe and effective use of their medicines and devices		
4.	Show how to analyse prescriptions for validity and clarity		
5.	Show how to clinically evaluate the appropriateness of prescribed medicines		
6.	Show how to provide, monitor and modify prescribed treatment to maximise health outcomes		
7	Show how to communicate with patients about their prescribed treatment		
8	Show how to optimise treatment for individual patient needs in collaboration with the prescriber		
9	Show how to record, maintain and store patient data		
10.	Show how to supply medicines (human and veterinary) safely and efficiently, consistently within legal requirements and best professional practice		

D. Skills: Ensuring safe and effective systems are in place to manage risk inherent in the practice of pharmacy and the delivery of pharmaceutical services

On successful completion of the Programme, students are expected to:		Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1.	Know how to ensure quality of ingredients to produce medicines and products	Lectures Workshops Mini-CExs Practical classes Community and hospital visit Blackboard based support Directed learning	Practical reports Dispensing practical exam Error log book OSCEs (written and face-to-face) Patient care plans Simulated role plays Written case presentations Written report Calculations test On-line test Examination
2.	Show how to apply pharmaceutical principles to the formulation, preparation and packaging of products		
3.	Verify safety and accuracy utilising pharmaceutical calculations		
4.	Show how to develop, manage and maintain quality management systems including maintaining appropriate records		
5.	Know how to procure and store medicines and other pharmaceutical products working within a quality assurance framework		
6.	Know how to distribute and dispose of medicines safely, legally and effectively		
7.	Know how to manage resources in order to ensure work flow and minimise risk in the workplace		
8.	Take personal responsibility for health and safety		
9.	Know how to work effectively within teams to ensure safe and effective systems are being followed		
10.	Show how to ensure the application of appropriate infection control measures		
11.	Know how to supervise others involved in service delivery		
12.	Show how to identify, report and prevent errors and unsafe practice		
13.	Know how to procure, store and dispense and supply veterinary medicines safely and legally		

E . <u>Skills: Working with patients and the public</u>			
On successful completion of the Programme, students are expected to:		Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1.	Show how to establish and maintain patient relationships while identifying patients' desired health outcomes and priorities	Lectures Workshops Mini-CExs Simulated role plays Directed learning Blackboard based support	Dispensing practical exam OSCEs (written and face-to-face) Patient care plans Simulated role plays Written case presentations Written report Critical drug comparison Examination
2.	Show how to obtain and record relevant patient medical, social and family history		
3.	Know how to identify and employ the appropriate diagnostic or physiological testing techniques to inform clinical decision making		
4.	Show how to communicate information about available options in a way which promotes understanding		
5.	Show how to support the patient in choosing an option by listening and responding to their concerns and respecting their decisions		
6.	Show how to conclude consultation to ensure a satisfactory outcome		
7.	Show how to maintain accurate and comprehensive consultation records		
8.	Show how to provide accurate written or oral information appropriate to the needs of patients, the public or other healthcare professionals		

F . Skills: Maintain and improve professional performance

On successful completion of the Programme, students are expected to:		Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1.	Demonstrate the characteristics of a prospective professional pharmacist as set out in relevant codes of conduct and behaviour	Lectures Workshops Practical dispensing classes Groupwork Community and hospital visit Directed learning Blackboard based support	Dispensing practical exam Written report CPD cycles PDPs Examination
2.	Reflect on personal and professional approaches to practice		
3.	Create and implement a personal development plan		
4.	Review and reflect on evidence to monitor performance and revise professional development plan		
5.	Know how to participate in audit and in implementing recommendations		
6.	Know how to contribute to identifying learning and development needs of team members		
7.	Know how to contribute to the development and support of individuals and teams		
8.	Know how to anticipate and lead change		

G . Skills: Research			
On successful completion of the Programme, students are expected to:		Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1.	Apply appropriate theoretical knowledge of pharmacy practice and health related research methods to the design, performance and analysis of an individual research project.	Lectures Workshops Supervision of project Directed learning Blackboard based support	Critical evaluation of literature presentation Ethics submission Project poster Project report
2.	Critically read and evaluate scientific literature.		
3.	Analyse data and apply statistics / thematic analysis appropriately to own research data.		
4.	Be aware of the scope of pharmacy practice research, and interpret own research findings in context.		

Entry Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In addition to satisfying the General Entry Requirements, students must also satisfy the entry requirements determined by the Learning and Teaching Committee and approved by Senate. 2. All students must supply a valid copy of the indication of validity to undertake an OSPAP course supplied by the International Panel of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). 3. All students must supply an original copy of an IELTS (academic) certificate with a minimum mark of 7 in all categories. 4. Students must satisfactorily complete any Health Check as specified by the GPhC.
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Programme Regulations

The programme is governed by the University's General Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Programmes, except where they are modified by the following Regulations:

1. ATTENDANCE

- 1.1 Students are normally required to attend Aston University for ONE stage over a period of ONE year. Each stage at Aston University consists of three terms.
- 1.2 Students will be required to attend for part of the OSPAP Programme at hospitals or such other institutions as designated by the Head of School or their Nominee.
- 1.3 In order to qualify for the programme award on completion of the OSPAP Programme, students must have attended classes in accordance with the programme requirements as approved by the Learning and Teaching Committee and set out in the OSPAP Programme Student Handbook and in the individual Module Specifications for the OSPAP Programme.

2. ASSESSMENT

- 2.1 The pass mark for modules shall be 50%.
- 2.2 The individual elements of assessment for each module are defined in the Module Specifications. Certain elements of assessment within a module have specific pass criteria. These elements are specified within the relevant Module Specifications.
- 2.3 **A PASS MARK of 60%** will apply to the following elements of assessment within modules:

PHMPP3 Pharmaceutical Calculations Test
PHMPP3 Dispensing Practical Assessment

3. CONDONEMENT OF MODULES

- 3.1 As a general principle all assessments including all components as specified in the relevant Module Specifications must be passed. Normally condonement of modules will not be considered. The decision that performance in a module should be condoned is at the discretion of the Board of Examiners and will be based upon a student's overall performance in the stage assessments. There is no automatic right to condonement.
- 3.2 A maximum of 20 credits can be condoned.
- 3.3 Normally, condonement may be applied only when the overall module mark is within 5% of the normal pass mark for the module and when a student's overall weighted mark for the stage is 50% or above.

3. CONDONEMENT OF MODULES

	<p>3.4 Where performance in a module is condoned, the students will be awarded the full credits available for the module but the mark achieved shall be used to calculate the overall mark for the stage</p> <p>3.5 The following modules MAY NOT BE CONDONED:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">PHMCL3 Applied Pharmacology and Therapeutics PHMPP3 Pharmacy Law and Ethics with Professional Practice PHMPP4 Practical Therapeutics</p> <p>4. COMPENSATION OF ELEMENTS OF ASSESSMENT</p> <p>7.1 If a student does not pass an element of assessment, the Board of Examiners can decide to compensate that element of assessment. The credits for the module can be awarded but the marks for the individual components of a module are not changed.</p> <p>4.2 The decision that performance in an element of assessment should be compensated is at the discretion of the Board of Examiners and will be based upon a student's overall performance in the module. There is no automatic right to compensation.</p> <p>4.3 Normally compensation of an element of assessment with specific pass criteria shall only be considered when the pass mark for the module has been achieved and when the mark obtained in the failed element is within 5% of the normal pass mark for that element.</p> <p>4.4 If a student has achieved a pass mark in a module, but has failed an element of assessment that cannot be compensated, the credits for that module will not be awarded.</p> <p>4.5 The specific elements of the following modules MAY NOT BE COMPENSATED regardless of the overall mark in the module:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">PHMPP3 Pharmaceutical Calculations Test PHMPP3 Dispensing Practical Assessment PHMPP3 Pharmacy Law Examination</p> <p>5. PROGRESSION TO PHMRP1</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Students are required to pass 120 credits of the taught programme before progression to the OSPAP Pharmacy Practice Research module PH4RP1.</p>
Professional requirements associated with the Programme	<p>1.1 Upon interface with the public or other healthcare professionals, students must comply with dress code requirements provided.</p> <p>1.2 Students must comply with the GPhC's Code of Conduct for Pharmacy Students.</p> <p>1.3 Students must comply with the University Fitness to Practise Regulations.</p>

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the Programme and the threshold learning outcomes that a student might normally be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. **The individual modules included in the Programme may differ from those included in this Programme Specification as the Programme is subject to continuous review.** Information on admissions requirements and career opportunities is available in the relevant prospectus. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the appropriate Module Specifications, Module Handbooks and Programme Handbook which are available to students on enrolment.