

Forensic Mental Health Studies – MSc/PG Dip/PG Cert



If you are currently working with mentally disordered offenders or those individuals who require a similar spectrum of care and are interested in updating and expanding your knowledge of theory and practice, this course provides an opportunity to learn alongside other experienced professionals from a range of backgrounds.

This course will allow you to:

- Develop and extend knowledge of the diverse needs of mentally disordered offenders
- Gain an in-depth understanding of service provision and development for mentally disordered individuals at various stages in the criminal justice system
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of different agencies and disciplines involved in the care of the mentally disordered offender
- Develop skills in promoting empowerment and quality of life of service users
- Develop the capacity to critically evaluate theory and practice
- Support others in becoming effective agents of change
- Teach research skills

You will gain:

- An understanding of the spectrum of care facilities required in relation to mentally disordered offenders and others who require similar services
- A comprehensive knowledge of assessment and treatment interventions available at various stages of the criminal justice system
- An understanding of the principles of mental health legislation and specifically practical application of the law in the care of mentally ill individuals within the criminal justice system and on transfer to health service care
- A knowledge of ethical and policy issues involved in providing services for mentally abnormal offenders
- The ability to appraise and organise research in the workplace and apply findings that are practical, as well as at a theoretical level
- An understanding of issues around substance misuse and mental health

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Course content

Subjects within this course include the history of forensic mental health service provision, mentally disordered offenders and the law, the treatment of mentally disordered offenders, substance misuse, risk assessment and management and research in practice.

Why study this course?

This course will keep your knowledge up to date, improve your promotional prospects within your current profession or realise your potential in a new area and give you the tools and the incentive to do your own research into a subject of interest within forensic mental health care.

Duration of study – Flexibility in mind

We understand the pressures of balancing your work and home life and therefore this programme is offered on a flexible basis. You can study the MSc as a full-time 1 year programme (two afternoons per week),

or on a part-time basis over 2 years (one afternoon per week). If you are unable to commit to the full MSc, you can also choose to take the shorter qualifications of Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate. Or finally, individual modules are available as short study sessions which can be taken with or without the assessment to further your knowledge and build on skills for your future career. Credits gained from assessed modules can then be used towards a full qualification if required at a later stage.

Entry requirements

An appropriate first degree and experience of working with mentally disordered clients or an appropriate professional qualification at sub-degree level and five years experience of working with mentally disordered clients. If you do not meet these requirements you may still be eligible, subject to the successful completion of a probationary period.



Learn more

For further information including full details of all modules, fees, application deadlines and how to apply, as well as access to our on-line application form, please visit our website www.medicine.bham.ac.uk/forensic, contact Angela Oakley on 0121 678 3088 or email a.oakley@bham.ac.uk



www.medicine.bham.ac.uk

This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be dropped and new ones offered in their place.

