

MSc Manual Therapy

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences



Introduction

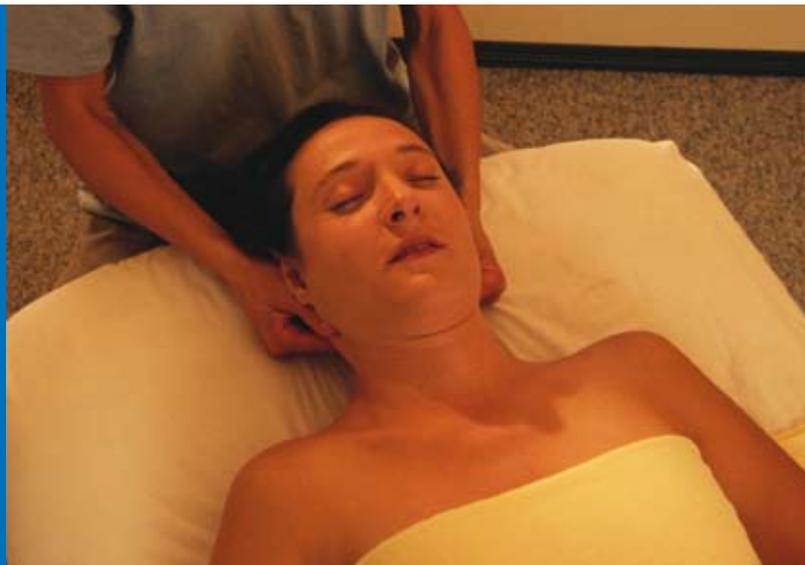
This course is open to HPC registered physiotherapists who wish to develop and extend their knowledge base and professional expertise in the field of manual therapy. The course will prepare students for specialist roles within neuromusculoskeletal physiotherapy such as extended scope practitioner; clinical specialist and consultant physiotherapy posts and will therefore enhance students' career opportunities. Students who successfully complete the postgraduate diploma are eligible to join the Manipulation Association of Chartered Physiotherapists (MACP).

Course Philosophy

The course is underpinned throughout by evidence based practice and clinical reasoning to ensure the development of a sound, effective and reasoned approach to practice. There is a strong emphasis on manual skills and mentored clinical practice allowing the student to develop confidence and expertise in the management of musculoskeletal disorders. The course embraces and integrates the many diverse approaches currently employed in the assessment and treatment of musculoskeletal patients and in this way encourages innovation of thought and practice within the student.

On completion of the course the student will have:

- A deep and extensive knowledge of the current theories, approaches and research evidence which underpin contemporary manual therapy practice within an evidence based framework.
- A developing expertise in a comprehensive range of manual therapy skills.
- A high level of clinical reasoning skills essential to advanced practice including reflection, analysis and self evaluation.
- A sound working knowledge of research methodologies and their application.
- A high level of communication skills essential for specialist roles and for working within a multidisciplinary team.
- Expertise in the assessment and management of neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction.



Course Structure

The course has been designed to meet the needs of physiotherapy graduates through a flexible structure where you are able to choose a pattern of enrolment and timescale of study to suit your professional needs. The course is organised as a series of modules each carrying a certain amount of credits. The course requires you to complete a postgraduate diploma in Manual Therapy (120 credits) and to go on to complete a research dissertation which will then make you eligible for Master of Science (180 credits). There are currently two routes through the programme. The full-time route takes a minimum of one year (12 months) to complete; the part-time route takes a minimum of 2 years to complete. Attendance at the University for the full time route is usually on two days a week, the part-time route usually being one day a week. The clinical module is flexible and requires the equivalent attendance of 175 hours of mentored practice at a specialist unit within a 12 month period, but this can be done at the students' convenience.

Mandatory Modules

The postgraduate diploma comprises of six modules, these are outlined below:

Course	Modules	M level points awarded
MSc Manual Therapy	Developing Expertise in Physiotherapy	20
	Research Methodology, Methods and Design	20
	Neuromusculoskeletal I	20
	Neuromusculoskeletal II	20
	Clinical Practice	20
	Option Module	20
Total PgDip		120
	Dissertation	60
Total MSc		180



On the full-time route these modules are normally all completed within one academic year with attendance on both days. On the part-time route the modules will be completed in two academic years with attendance on one day per week.

A typical modular timetable is provided below:

	Tuesday (Year I - Part-time route)	Thursday (Year II - Part-time route)
Semester I (Autumn)	Neuromusculoskeletal I - Upper Quadrant (M29PH)	Neuromusculoskeletal II - Lower Quadrant (M30PH)
	Developing Expertise in Physiotherapy (M36PH)	Research methodology, methods and design (M58PH)
Semester II (Spring)	Neuromusculoskeletal I - Upper Quadrant (M29PH)	Neuromusculoskeletal II - Lower Quadrant (M30PH)
	Option Module	Option Module
Semester III (Summer) OR year III - part-time	Clinical Practice in Manual Therapy (M57PH): 175 hours of mentored clinical practice timetabled to suit students' commitments	



Outline of Modules

M29PH Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy I

This module is designed to build upon each student's individual experience of the assessment of upper quadrant musculoskeletal problems. It initially runs concurrently with the Developing Expertise in Physiotherapy module allowing for development into the specialist field of key topics such as clinical reasoning and expertise.

The emphasis is on the assessment and management of simple presentations and these themes are then further developed in Neuromusculoskeletal II. There is a focus on the integration of concepts such as evidence based practice, clinical reasoning and principles of assessment and management; which develop directly from the issues explored in the core module. The module aims to increase the student's theoretical and clinical knowledge, exploring the evidence enabling them to evaluate and effectively assess and manage a patient's individual problems. The module is delivered by University lecturers and external lecturers who are specialist in their field and includes seminar sessions, practical sessions, role play, case studies, the opportunity to learn from patients in the University setting.

M30PH Neuromusculoskeletal II

This module is designed to build upon each student's individual experience of their assessment and management of lower quadrant dysfunctions. It will develop theoretical and clinical knowledge further, enabling appreciation and understanding of more complex presentations, and the exploration of the concepts of manual therapy. This is achieved through further development of the student's clinical reasoning process in preparation for the clinical practice module. The module also focuses upon management and in particular the integration of the many approaches that exist within the clinical environment, exploring the evidence existing to support these approaches. This module provides the opportunity for students to learn from patients in the University setting, and to receive specialist teaching from a variety of experts in this clinical area. Students will also utilise the specialist equipment available in the movement laboratory for analysis of movement.



M57PH Clinical Practice in Manual Therapy

The aim of this module is to synthesise the theoretical and practical components of the student's course, developed through the Developing Expertise in Physiotherapy module and the specialist modules. This module provides the clinical practice experience required to meet MACP and IFOMT standards for membership. It consists of 175 hours of mentored practice where students have the opportunity to work alongside an expert clinician who will act as their mentor throughout the placements and who will facilitate the consolidation and further development of their skills in the integration of theory and practice. The students will consider a variety of clinical problems that will enable them to attain breadth and depth of knowledge and a high level of skills in clinical reasoning. The module will assist in development of their expertise as both an individual advanced practitioner and within their role in their own working environment. The clinical placements are very flexible and as long as the required number of hours and examinations are completed in one calendar year the format of the placements can be arranged to suit the student, their workplace and the mentor.

M36PH Developing Expertise in Physiotherapy

This module aims to give students an understanding of the nature of expertise in physiotherapy, and how this contributes to the development of physiotherapists and physiotherapy. Theoretical perspectives on expertise will be considered, together with the influences on professional practice development. The student will consider the development of contemporary physiotherapy in a variety of practice and organizational contexts.

Exploration of the development of knowledge, clinical reasoning, reflective practice and evidence based practice will allow students to apply their new understanding to their own development in their field of practice. A synthesis of this material will allow the student to critically evaluate the development of their own expertise.



M58PH Research Methodology, Methods and Design

This module aims to provide an overview of the key approaches to designing practice based health care research. The module's objective is to develop students' ability to construct a cogent and reasoned research proposal in their field of academic study or area of professional practice. The module enables students to consider the theoretical and philosophical underpinnings to research design across a spectrum of methodologies. This includes primary research associated with quantitative, qualitative and survey methods, and secondary research associated with literature based studies. Research ethics and principles of data analysis are introduced.

Option Module

You can choose an option module relating to your area of practice from a wide variety of modules available in the Faculty. Examples of available modules include:

- Injection Therapy
- ESP
- Acupuncture
- US Imaging
- EBP
- Teaching and Learning for Health Professions

For a full description of the available modules see the module handbook.

M59PH Dissertation

This module provides an opportunity for the student to propose, design, conduct and report on a research project of relevance and potential benefit to their named area of study. It enables the student to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the philosophy and principles of research, and competence at each stage in the research process. The module makes an important contribution to the research training provided in the Master's degree. In addition, it enhances the student's ability to deal with complex issues systematically and creatively, and engenders self-direction and originality in tackling problems.



Assessment

There are no formal written examinations in this course, all modules are assessed by coursework assignments and clinical assessment.

Entrance Qualifications

The course is open to applicants who are HPC (<http://www.hpc-uk.org/>) and CSP (<http://www.csp.org.uk/>) registered.

Students whose first language is not English will normally be asked to meet the standard requirements for University entrance at this level, which are: TOEFL (paper-based) 600, TOEFL (computer-based) 250, IELTS 7. Support to overseas students is available through the International Office. Admission will be by interview, in addition to the written University application form supported by two references.

Telephone interviews can be offered for overseas applications.



Testimonials

'The MSc at Coventry exceeded my expectations in its impact on my clinical practice. My handling skills became more accurate and precise, my clinical reasoning was transformed, and my knowledge base increased. I would say the biggest transformation in my practice has been that of moving from being largely guru-led (depending which weekend course I had most recently attended) to being fully committed to being evidence-based as far as possible. And the process is continual - I continue to critically appraise my own practice, new concepts and ideas, literature with the skills that I began to develop on the Coventry course'. Graduate, 2001

'I have really enjoyed the Coventry course and have learnt loads. It has definitely been a great experience, especially the clinical placements'. Graduate, 2008

'Excellent course, well structured, well taught'. Graduate, 2007

'The teaching skills and enthusiasm of the staff throughout the course is evident'. Graduate, 2005

'Tutors were excellent and facilitated probing discussions as well as feeding back useful constructive criticism. The placement totally changed my clinical practice, sharpened my manual skills and assisted with merging clinical reasoning and evidence based practice'. Graduate, 2009

'The course content was well suited to my objectives which were to push my reasoning skills further, develop precise handling skills and to adopt a way of practice that allowed me to reflect on my own practice in a way that facilitated future independent development.

The placement tied all the learning from the modules together and with the feedback from the mentors embedded it into firmly into my daily practice. I would recommend doing the manual therapy course to anyone wanting to develop their clinical skills further. The lecturers are all very supportive and the course content encompasses all areas of manual therapy whilst allowing an option module'. Graduate, 2010

Students with Disabilities or long-term health conditions

We welcome students with disabilities or long-term health conditions. We recognise that education is a right for all who can benefit from it and that students with disabilities have an equal right of access to higher education. Our staff also recognise that individuals with disabilities are the best source of expertise about themselves and their needs. All students with disabilities should be able to participate as far as is reasonably practical in the educational and social activities we make available. Such students should be encouraged to expect equal treatment as individuals and that they and their work will be recognised solely on the basis of their quality.

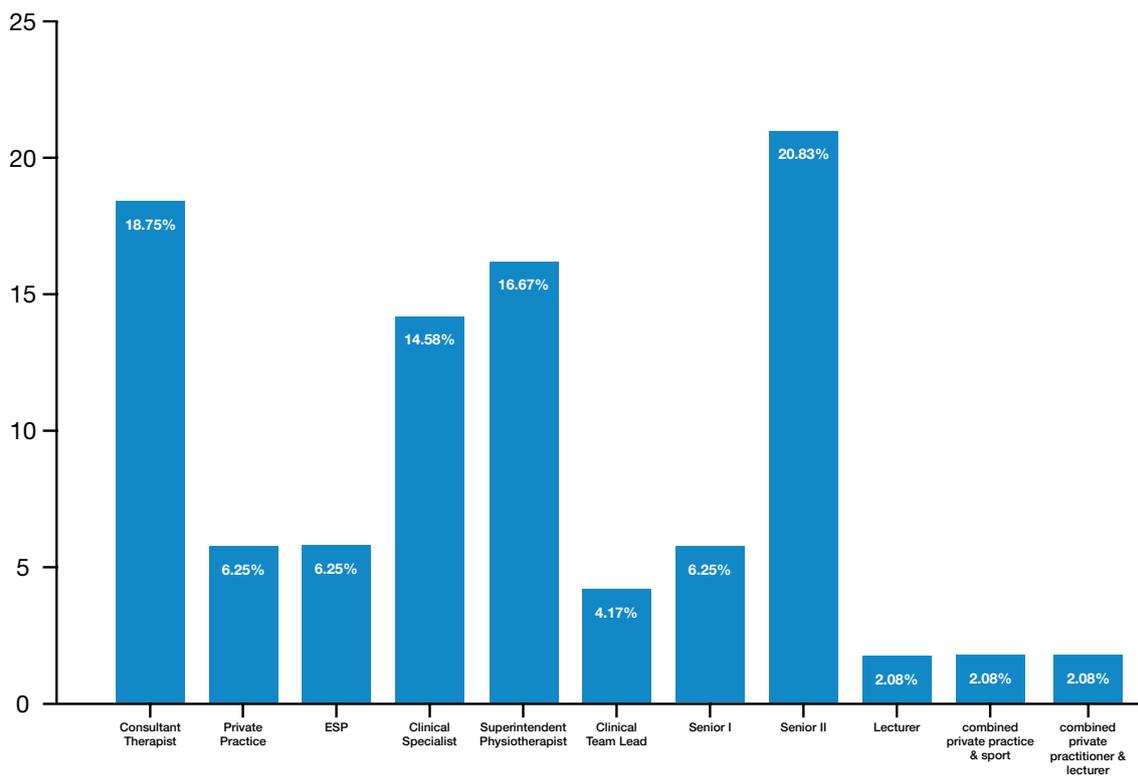
For information please contact the Disabilities officer on 02476 888029 or e-mail disoff.ss@coventry.ac.uk

Career Paths of MSc Manual Therapy Graduates

Within 4 years of successful completion of the MSc course graduates have progressed within their chosen career (see figure 1). Those who went on to be consultant physiotherapists (6%) did so within 8 years of graduation.

(NB consultant posts were not created until 2002). (Green & Perry, 2008)

Current roles of graduates of the MSc Manual Therapy Programme





Further Information

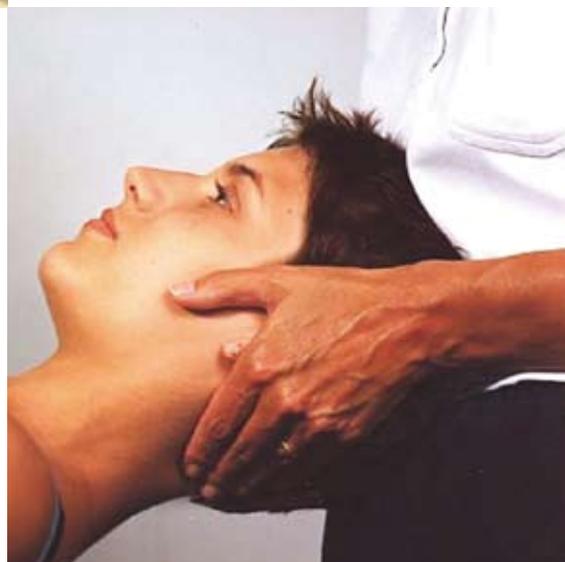
Information correct at the time of press, subject to change.
If you wish to receive any further information regarding the course please contact:

Jacob Saranga
Course Director
Telephone: 024 7688 8980
Email: j.saranga@coventry.ac.uk

or

International Office

Coventry University
Priory Street
Coventry
CV1 5FB
UK
Tel: +44 2476 152152
Fax: +44 2476 152175



A large, stylized phoenix logo in a lighter shade of blue, composed of overlapping, flowing lines that suggest the bird's form and its rebirth. It is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the page.

The phoenix, the symbol for Coventry University, is a mythological bird that represents continuous self-creation, opportunity and abundance.

Admissions and Marketing

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences
Coventry University
Priory Street
Coventry
CV1 5FB

Telephone: +44 (0) 24 7679 5959
Email: hlsgen@coventry.ac.uk

www.coventry.ac.uk