

Material information changes for the 2021/22 academic year:

Physiotherapy BSc (Hons)

Due to the Covid-19 global pandemic a limited number of changes may be required for some undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of study in order to prioritise the safety of our students and our wider University community.

This document is designed to give you the key information on modifications to your programme that may be implemented in the event of restrictions being placed on the University by changes within society.

The University is planning for courses to be delivered primarily in person, face-to-face on the University campus or associated facilities for the 2021/22 academic year.

Every taught¹ programme of study at the University of Winchester has been through a quality assurance process in light of Covid-19 to ensure that the programme aligns with the University's approach to blended learning should this method be required in the event of further disruption to society.

In the event of limitations being placed on the institution by the UK Government, your programme will be embracing the University-wide blended learning approach, with some teaching happening on campus face-to-face and some teaching happening online. This would move to fully online in line with Government restrictions. Any changes to your programme to adjust to this approach have been kept to a minimum, with modifications made only where it is essential to do so.

The University will be utilising technology to achieve a blended approach to online and offline learning. This will mean that your programme will provide online content that students can engage with autonomously and will both stream and record proceedings in face-to-face sessions. This online and recorded content will be available 24/7 on the University Virtual Learning Environment (Canvas), alongside information about timetabled campus seminars, tutorials and access to faculty-specific face-to-face learning.

Your programme team are planning for assessments to be provisioned either online or in person as most appropriate to the course. In the event of interruption to normal operations, assessment will be undertaken online only but the content or type of assessment will not change. For example, if you would have been doing a presentation you will still be doing so, but it will now be online rather than in a classroom.

The areas covered below form the recognised '*changes to material information*' on your programme and as such we are making you aware of these changes in line with the *Competition and Markets Authority* requirements and the '*Guidance for providers about student and consumer protection during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic*' issued by [Office for Students](#).

All of these changes have received appropriate scrutiny and approval through our quality assurance processes.

¹ With the exception of distance learning programmes which are already validated for delivery by distance learning.

The following limited changes have been approved:

Are there any changes to the availability or delivery of core or mandatory modules, in addition to the blended learning approach referenced above?
No
Are there any significant changes to the number of optional modules?
No
Are there changes to the structure of the programme, such as modules moving to a different year of the course?
No
Are there any changes to assessment, in addition to the predominantly online mode referenced above?
Moving forward, the Physiotherapy programme has devised a blended learning approach to the assessments and many will now be a hybrid of written assessments and online exams and OSPE (Objective Structured Practical Examination assessments) to assess theoretical, practical and problem-solving skills at multiple stations. However, should we be able to, we would revert to the plans in the original learning approach; this would involve presentations and OSPE with less online examinations.
Are there any changes to mandatory placements or field trips?
Yes Students have previously been expected to complete one clinical placement in Year 1, two placements in Year 2 and two placements in Year 3 of their programme of study, totalling 1000 practice hours. It has been agreed that under current conditions there might be some changes: in some cases, placements maybe slightly shorter in duration, placement dates have been changed resulting in an extension to the academic year and some placements have been completed remotely when it is not possible to complete in person. Whilst it is likely that the placement situation will have returned to 'normal' by 2022, we are embracing this opportunity for change to provide you with exciting and innovative placements that will fully prepare you for contemporary professional practice.

These changes are provided in advance of registration/reenrolment to best support our students. Any questions can be directed in the first instance to the *Ask Winchester* Live Chat on any page of the University website or directly by email to enquiries@winchester.ac.uk