



UK Postgraduate Courses in Evidence Based Practice

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Introduction

- **Number of recent governmental policies emphasise the need for EBP skills.**
- **UK HEIs have responded to this by increasing their provision in this area.**



Aim



- **The aim of this investigation was to identify and map the PG courses within UK that focus on EBP within health and social care services**

Method



- **Electronic Search of databases for PG courses**
- **Review of all UK Universities PG electronic prospectus**
- **Obtaining and reviewing course details obtained from these sources**
- **Contacting host sites for further information**

Results



- **16 courses identified divided into 3 groups:**
 - Group 1 – Focus on health care sciences (n=5)**
 - Group 2 – Focus on individual clinical specialities (n=7)**
 - Group 3 – Focus on evidence based social sciences, social work and education (n=4)**

Group 1 – Health Care Sciences



- **University of Central Lancashire**
 - PgCert in Practice Development: Evidence Based Practice, School of Nursing (including PgDip and MSc)
- **University of Oxford**
 - MSc in EBHC (PgCert and PgDip), Dept. of Continuing Education
- **University of Portsmouth**
 - PgCert in EBP, Institute of Medicine, Health and Social care
- **University of Teeside**
 - MSc in EBP (PgCert and PgDip), School of Health and Social Care
- **University of York**
 - MSc in EBP, Dept. of Health Sciences

Group 1 – Health Care Sciences



● **University of Central Lancashire**

- PgCert (PgDip and MSc) in Practice Development: EBP

PgCert Core modules:

- Evidence, Effectiveness and Evaluation
- Communication of Research
- Using Research in Clinical Practice

Optional modules (1 to be selected):

- Fast Track Information Skills for Health Care
- Student Initiated Practice Development

Group 1 – Health Care Sciences

● **University of Central Lancashire**

- PgCert (PgDip and MSc) in Practice Development: EBP
- Diploma
 - Health Care Evaluation Methods
 - Qualitative and Quantitative data collection and analysis
 - Managing Qualitative and Quantitative approaches to research
- Masters
Dissertation

Group 1 – Health Care Sciences

- **University of Oxford** PgCert (PgDip and MSc) in EBHC

Pg Cert. Modules

- **The Practice of Evidence Based Healthcare**
- **Planning for Evidence Based Change**
- **Implementing and monitoring change in Healthcare**

PgDip. Modules

- **The Architecture of Health Research (Parts 1 & 2)**
- **Research Protocol Design**

MSc

- **2 Elective modules (Examples include health status measures, advanced clinical trials, systematic reviews, qualitative research, research ethics)**
- **Dissertation**

Group 1 – Health Care Sciences



- **University of Portsmouth**
 - PgCert in EBP

Core modules:

- Formulating Questions and Searching Skills
- Critical Appraisal of Evidence
- Application and Evaluation of EBP

Group 1 – Health Care Sciences



● **University of Teeside** – MSc in EBP (PgC & PgDIP)

Core modules:

- Designing and Managing a quantitative project
- Appraising and utilisation of evidence in health and medical care
- Statistics for health and medical professionals
- Advancing Practice
- Research Project

Elective modules (3 to be selected)

- Epidemiology
- Health inequalities
- Mental disorder and crime
- Conflict and synthesis in Dementia Care
- Promoting health – Ideology, policy and practice
- Psycho-Social aspects of cancer care
- Public health – policy and politics
- Qualitative research methods

Group 1 – Health care Sciences



● University of York

– MSc in EBP

Core modules:

- Introduction to Research Methods
- Strategies for clinical decision making
- Health Policy
- Health Economics
- Critical Appraisal of Research Evidence
- Implementation of Research Evidence
- Clinical Epidemiology
- Clinical Biostatistics
- Measuring Health and Disease
- Systematic Reviews
- Dissertation

Group 2 – clinical specialities



- **Aston University** – MSc in EB Pharmacotherapy, School of Life and Health Sciences (PgCert and PgDip)
- **Chester College of Higher Education** – MSc in EB Clinical Nutrition (PgCert and PgDip)
- **Imperial College of Science** – MSc in Drug Use: Evidence e-based Policy and Intervention
- **University of Teeside:**
 - MSc in EB Anaesthesia (PgCert and PgDip)
 - MSc in EB Musculo-skeletal studies (PgCert and PgDip)
 - MSc in EB Orthopaedic studies (PgCert and PgDip)
 - MSc in EB Public Health (PgCert and PgDip)

Group 2 – clinical specialities



- **Aston University** – MSc (PgCert and PgDip) in EB Pharmacotherapy
 - EB Pharmacotherapy
 - Pharmacoeconomics
 - Decision analysis and medical decision making
 - Health and health care policy
 - Choice of minor analgesics
 - Herbal and homeopathic medicine
 - Pharmacotherapy of Glaucoma, RA, hypertension, Psoriasis, depression, asthma and schizophrenia
 - Research Project

Group 2 – clinical specialities



- **Chester College of HE – MSc (PgCert & PgDip) Evidence Based Clinical Nutrition**
 - Research Methodology: Quantitative Methods and Statistical Analysis
 - EB Nutritional Assessment
 - EB Laboratory Assessment of the Nutritionally ‘At Risk’ patient
 - EB Enteral Nutrition
 - EB Parenteral Nutrition
 - EB Nutrition in Medical and Surgical Patients
 - EB Nutrition: the intensive Care Setting
 - Research Methodology: Qualitative Methods
 - Dissertation

Group 2 – clinical specialities



- **Imperial College of Science – Drug-Use: Evidence Based Policy and Intervention**
 - Understanding and measuring drug use, misuse and related harm
 - Social science concepts and theories of drug use misuse
 - Health interventions practice
 - Cultural and historical perspectives on drug use and misuse
 - Research
 - EB treatment intervention
 - EB prevention and harm reduction
 - Critiques of the evidence-based approach
 - Dissertation

Group 2 – clinical specialities



- **University of Teesside MSc's:**
 - Common modules

EB Musculo-skeletal studies	EB Orthopaedics studies		EB in Public Health	EB Anaesthesia
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- **Appraisal & utilisation of evidence in Health and Medical Care**
- **Designing and Managing a Quantitative Project**
- **Statistics for health and medical care professionals**
- **Advancing Practice**
- **Research Project**

Group 2 – clinical specialities



- **University of Teesside:** specialist modules

EB Musculo-skeletal studies	EB Orthopaedics studies	EB in Public Health	EB Anaesthesia
Trauma	Trauma	Public Health: Policy and Politics	Qualitative Research
Clinical Sciences for Musculo-skeletal studies	Clinical Sciences for Orthopaedics studies	Health Inequalities	Clinical audit in clinical governance
Plus an additional module	Plus an additional module	Health Promotion	
		Epidemiology	
		Health discourses	

Group 3 –

EB Social Work & Education



- **Cardiff University** – MSc in Evidence based Research and Applications, School of Social Sciences
- **University of Oxford** – MSc in Evidence based Social Work, Dept. of Social Policy and Social Work
- **University of Manchester** - M.Ed in Education (Evidence Based Practice), Dept. of Education
- **University of Sussex** – PgCert. Evidence Based Social Work, School of Social Work and Social Care

Group 3



● **Cardiff University** — MSc in Evidence based Research and Applications

Core Modules

- Principles of Research Design
- Collection and analysis of quantitative data
- Collection and analysis of qualitative data

Optional modules (3 to be selected)

- Crime and criminal justice
- Education
- Childhood
- Diversity and equality
- Social Policy
- Political Economy
- Globalisation
- Action Research
- Advanced Research Methods

Dissertation

Group 3 –



● **University of Manchester** – MSc in Education

Core Modules

- Using evidence in reflective practice
- Using evidence in practitioner inquiry

Optional modules (2 to be selected)

- Management
- Psychology
- Educational Technology

Dissertation

Group 3 –



● University of Oxford – MSc in EBSW

Core Courses

- Research Methods
- Evidence-Based Intervention

Intervention in Practice (two specialist courses from a list of options focusing on the application of EB interventions with specific client groups):

- Children and Families
- People with mental health problems
- Offenders
- People with misuse substances
- People with HIV and AIDS
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- A community work option

Dissertation

Group 3 –



- **University of Sussex**– PgCert in Evidence Based Social Work (Children & Families) (as part of a post qualifying child care award)

3 Core Modules

- Understanding children
- Evidence based practice for child centred assessment
- Evidence based practice for effective intervention

Summary



- **There are relatively few accredited PG courses in EBP in UK HEIs. At present we do not know how many other PG courses have a great deal of embedded EB within their curriculum**
- **Some of the courses are specifically designed around the EBP steps**
- **Some of the courses integrate EBP with other core skills and speciality specific modules**
- **Courses vary tremendously in fees**
- **Most of the courses use TMA as their main assessment pathway**