Module Aims
The module aims to prepare nurses, midwives and specialist community public health nurses to independently prescribe safely, appropriately and cost effectively, licensed drugs from the British National Formulary and to act as supplementary prescribers. Professionally develop students in the higher education context of lifelong learning.

Module Content
The content is presented within eight themes related to prescribing:

- Consultation, decision making and therapy, including referral
- Influences on, and psychology of, prescribing
- Prescribing in a team context
- Clinical Pharmacology, including the effects of co-morbidity
- Evidence-based practice and clinical governance in relation to nurse prescribing
- Awareness and reporting of fraud (recommendations from the Shipman Inquiry, Fourth Report)
- Professional accountability and responsibility
- Prescribing in the public health context

Pre-requisites of Study
Students must provide evidence that they have met the NMC’s criteria for eligibility to undertake a nurse independent / supplementary prescribing programme. The criteria are:

They must be a registered first-level nurse, midwife and/or specialist community public health nurse.

They must have a least three years’ experience as a practising nurse midwife or specialist community public health nurse and be deemed competent by their employer to undertake the programme. Of these three years, the year immediately preceding application to the programme must have been in the clinical field in which they intend to prescribe, e.g. neonates, mental health. Part-time workers must have practised for a sufficient period to be deemed competent by their employer.

The applicant has successfully completed a module/relevant study of health assessment that includes diagnostic examination and consultation skills or equivalent. For example, Health Assessment (level 6 NUR3204 or level 7 NURM109) or other credited or certificated learning (please contact the module leader for further advice).

In addition there must be written confirmation from:

The employer, to support the student to undertake the module of study and for CPD once qualified - Must provide evidence of their ability to study at Level 6 by providing evidence of recent study at level 5 or above in the last five years. An appraisal of the student’s suitability to prescribe before they apply for a training place must be undertaken by their employer (NMC 2006:10)

A designated medical practitioner who meets eligibility criteria for the supervision of nurse prescribers (NPC 2005) and who has agreed to provide the required term of supervised practice

The employer is responsible for ensuring the applicant meets specific NMC criteria (NMC 2006:10) including competence in diagnosis and physical assessment and appropriate numeracy skills.

We reserve the right to refuse registration to this module if you are:

a) the subject of any current professional investigation
b) if you have unsuccessfully attempted this module at another HEI

Delivery of Module
A variety of learning and teaching strategies will be used in the delivery of the module, encompassing the following:

- Enquiry-based learning, to develop critical thinking in e.g. legal, ethical and professional issues
- Lectures by specialist professionals
- Case studies/scenarios, to show the application of knowledge of drugs to clinical practice
- Student-led seminars, to show the application of knowledge of drugs to clinical practice
- Formative Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCES), to develop confidence in assessment and decision-making.
- Supervised learning in practice, supported by the designated medical practitioner (DMP)

Assessment

a) Written final examination (MCQ) (80% pass mark)
b) A numerical assessment including drug calculations within the context of prescribing practice (100% pass mark)
c) Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)
d) Satisfactory completion of practice experience assessed by designated medical practitioner
e) Portfolio of Practice Evidence demonstrating application of theory to practice and rationale for prescribing decisions and reflective practice

Key Information

Study Dates
September 2017: 28, 29
October 2017: 5, 12, 19, 26
November 2017: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
December 2017: 7, 14
January 2018: 4, 11, 18, 25
February 2018: 1, 8, 15, 22
March 2018: 1, 8, 15, 22
April 2018: 12, 19

*Please check our website to ensure that there have been no revisions to the course dates listed

Location  Duke of Kent Building, University of Surrey

Cost  £2173.00

Module Leader
Susan Brooks
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Post Registration Administration Team
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Email: postreg_admin@surrey.ac.uk

How to Apply / Funding / Secondment
Students are required to complete an additional Nurse Prescribing V300 application form alongside the standard CPD application form. Both forms can be found on our website and must be submitted with a copy of the DBS certificate no older than three years. Students must have managerial agreement for protected study time - total of 27 University study days plus 12 days in practice.