

Welcome to Dental Nursing FdSc.

Dear students,

We welcome you to this site for new starters.

Congratulations on your acceptance of a place on our FdSc Dental Nursing Programme. The next two years will certainly prove to be exciting, challenging and rewarding, as you prepare for your future professional career as a dental nurse.

This guest site enables us to introduce you to the university and some useful information which will help prepare you for the start of your programme.

Lecturers and students contribute to this site and we hope you will use it to gain tips, insights and ideas to help you to feel ready for your first few weeks of dental nurse education at the University of Northampton. To get you started see this checklist updated.docx for things you need to consider prior to your arrival.

If you have any questions do contact your admissions tutor via e-mail moira.richardson@northampton.ac.uk

Check out the Dental FdSc on Facebook – add yourself as a friend.

Vikki Clarke is our Facebook Guru she will be looking at the face book page and may comment on your postings.

Start Date

Welcome week starts Monday 24th September. The dental team look forward to meeting you all again soon.

Enjoy the rest of the summer



Preparation

Go to the study skills on line programme you will need to complete this short course to prepare you for the academic element of the programme.

[Study skills for Academic Success](#)

Your University and it's Academic Culture

The academic culture of our school is quite informal, friendly and busy; and during your first week of the programme you will be encouraged to spend time finding your way around the Faculty of Health & Society, and indeed you will quickly become familiar with the wider university facilities, which includes the following:

- Library
- IT facilities
- Student Services department
- The Student Union
- Bank
- Food outlets
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Our classroom facilities are situated in several buildings across Waterside Campus and Northampton General Hospital. Term time can be quite busy as you settle into your programme, with second year students returning from holidays to also attend lectures and seminars. Our culture aims to promote your development by offering a range of student services, and by providing a Personal Academic Tutor PAT to guide you throughout your studies. We offer comprehensive support to students, which we expect students to seek out. Our friendly support staff will always help and direct you with your general enquiries, if you ask.

Your conduct as a Health Care Professional

What makes you different from students on other degree programmes?

As a student about to embark on a Professional Health Care Programme you will notice that there are specific expectations about how you conduct yourself within the university, in clinical practice settings and in the wider public arena.

You would have discussed your understanding of what it means to be professional at your interview - now that you about to start your course do read and download a

copy of the GDC preparing for practice there is a specific section for students [GDC Preparing for Practice 2015 Revised Edition](#)

[GDC Fitness to Practice](#) guidance on what the GDC investigates.

So you need to consider the following as you enter a professional career in dental nursing:

- Are you in good health and of good character
- Are you demonstrating Fitness to Practice
- Think about how you conduct your personal life counts too!
- Be mindful of your behaviour and integrity
- Do you have any issues related to criminal convictions and encounters with the law

Your Health and Wellbeing: Fitness to Practice

What if I have a health problem or disability?

A positive aspect of Dental Nursing is that we are a diverse bunch and we attract people from all age groups and walks of life, as such the General Dental Council (GDC) requires all dental nursing students to have good health in order to provide safe care for vulnerable patient and their families. However, this does not necessarily exclude you if you have a health condition or disability, the earlier you tell us about your needs the quicker we can respond and provide support for you on the programme.

We need you to be honest when completing your health declarations as all prospective nursing students will be assessed by one of our Occupational Health Department nurses who are there to offer help and provide confidential advice. They can refer you to our University Accessibility Team for support if you have additional learning needs, such as Dyslexia or they will tell us if we need to make any adjustments for you to meet your health needs.

Your Responsibilities:

- You must complete all health screening forms as soon as you asked to do so and send them to Occupational Health.
- Occupational Health will arrange an appointment with you.
- You must keep that appointment as we will not be able to attend placements until we gain their permission to allocate you to a practice learning opportunity

- [Fitness to Practice](#)

Student support

The link below provides information that you may find useful

[Student support](#)

Studying

Approaches to learning

To help you understand the requirements of studying at this level, you will need to develop new skills these include:

- Independent learning
- Higher order skills
- Time management
- Academic writing
- Presentation skills
- Academic integrity and referencing skills
- Reflective practice/PDP

The Learning Development Team is a fantastic resource; contact them to find out how they can support you with your studies.

They provide help with developing academic skills. Follow the link below

[Learning Development Team](#)

The video link below provides information on writing skills

[First year at university writing skills](#)

Referencing – Have a look at:

Harvey the Cat

This interactive tutorial will show you how to reference published material in your academic work.

[Harvey the Cat](#)

Student Handbook

[Undergraduate Student Handbook](#)

Faculty of Health Breach of Confidentiality Policy

Attached Files:

-  [breach-of-confidentiality-policy.pdf](#) (58.598 KB)

Breaches of confidentiality in any medium (letters, papers, Facebook, Twitter, etc) could result in failing your course,

Please read the attached document carefully or go to the Faculty of Health Breach of Confidentiality Policy webpage:

[Faculty of Health & Society Confidentiality Policy](#)

The GDC have provided guidance on using social media please follow the link

[GDC Guidance on using social media](#)

Student Life

Testimony: Hassan 1st Year Dental Nurse Student

Hello Year One Dental Nurses, I'm Hassan a previous dental nurse student! I hope you're all excited for the course to come; you're going to learn loads! While our library on campus is huge and has a vast amount of resources for future assignments you will no doubt be working on, I can't stress how important it is to have a copy of Levison's Textbook for Dental Nurses! This book is also available as an eBook, which can be accessed through the library. This book is a great reference and has a lot of in depth detail which will allow you to understand the various topics you will cover in your modules.

I stayed in halls, and while the university social life is a great experience it can get loud, when you have to get up early for placement this can be an issue, so I'd suggest buying some ear plugs for those early nights, you can get a cheap pack in wilkos!

You will need to do revision over the year for your end of year exams, while this may not work for all students using a variety of colours in your notes can help, try and bring a selection of pens with you if you can!

I'd recommend looking at the General Dental Council's 9 standards for dental professionals; these apply to dental nurses and are available online. If you're familiar with them you'll have an easier time understanding the topic of professional governance.

Good luck for the year ahead and don't stress, you're at a university which really caters for its students, and your lecturers are on hand to help you when you require.
Best Wishes

Hassan.

Testimony: Clarissa Previous Dental Nurse Student

Hello New Year One students!! I am Clarissa a previous student. I expect you're all excited to start in September. Here's some advice for the next year to come!

Firstly Fresher's week; this week is a lot of fun and is a really good chance to get to know your flatmates and course friends so I would really recommend going! And if this isn't your thing there are a lot of other things to do! Unfortunately University isn't all about the nights out and the work does start as soon as you get to university. The Dental Nursing course does require a little more work than other courses' so you might find you will need ear plugs if you are living in halls, especially for those early nights when you start placement!

When your placement does start in January it is useful to bring your car if you have one, if you don't, there is a really good bus service that runs all over town and to the train station so commuting isn't too bad.

As for assignments and exams, most of these start after January, but it is good to start reading up on the assignments in advance and start early, as this helps with keeping up with the deadlines. I would also recommend getting Levison's textbook for Dental Nurses over summer and maybe read though it before you start.

I hope this advice is helpful and you're looking forward to start in September!! There is no need to be scared or stressed about starting. You have picked such a good course which the university and lectures really look out for you, they are always happy to help with any problem you have!

Good Luck for next year!!

Best wishes, Clarissa

Suggestions to bring

You may consider bringing a laptop and paper. The weather may be sunny and if you are very lucky hot, so bring some sun tan lotion.

Other suggestions:

- An umbrella
- Coat
- Folder/ files for your notes
- Diary
- Core text books
- Closed in toed plain flat black shoes for placement (not canvas material or dolly shoes)
- Plain short sleeved white T shirt no collar to wear under your uniform when the weather gets colder
- Lunch box for when you are on placement
- Suitable clothes to wear while you are waiting for your uniform,
- Think about taking vitamin tablets before you come and a supply to last you until Christmas

Recommended Reading

Core Text Books

Ensure you have ordered your text books in time. The library has a vast selection of books; however you may wish to consider purchasing the following:

Hollins, C. (2013) *Levison's textbook for dental nurses*. 11th ed. Oxford: WileyBlackwell.

Hollins, C. (2013) *Basic guide to Dental Procedures*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell

Felton, A. Chapman, A. and Felton, S. (2014) *Basic Guide to Oral Health Education and Promotion* 2nd edition

Scheller-Sheridian, C. (2011) *Basic guide to dental instruments 2nd edition*. Oxford: Blackwell Munksgaard.

Essential reading

General Dental Council Standards For Professionals

[GDC Standards for the Dental Team](#)

Teaching Staff

The teaching team

- Nicky Peasnell RDN
- Brigette Gouda RDN
- Vikki Clarke RDN
- Moira Richardson RDN

Brigette is programme leader.

Nicky is a senior lecture for year one

Vikki and Moira are Practice Educators and are responsible for everything to do with placement which makes up half the course.

At some point during your course all members of the team will facilitate your learning in the specialist space

Our contact details are:

brigette.gouda@northampton.ac.uk

nicky.peasnell@northampton.ac.uk

vikki.clarke@northampton.ac.uk

moira.richardson@northampton.ac.uk

Other staff members from the Faculty of Health and Society teach on the programme over the two years

Timetable

Course Timetable

Your course timetable can be found here:

<http://www.northampton.ac.uk/new-students/timetables>

Help – tab

Useful Links

Health Uniform Policy

Attached Files:

-  [Uniform Policy Sept 2014.pdf](#) (286.401 KB) **Bus**

timetable

Please access the link below for the bus timetable

<https://mynorthamptonac.sharepoint.com/sites/student/aboutun/facilities/travel-and-parking>

Useful links

You may find these web links useful as a new student

[Student home page](#) on the University website and the [Student Union](#)

The [Library](#) and [IT Services](#)

Information about [Careers](#) and [Personal Development Planning](#) Student

support services, e.g., [International Student Support additional needs](#),

[Disability Services](#) etc.

The Learning Development Team

There are several options for support with your academic studies:

- The Learning Development Team [The Learning Development Team](#) provides help with developing academic skills
- The in the library can provide specialist subject support and general support in using the library [library-and-learning-services](#)
- is there to discuss academic matters with you
- Your [Personal Academic Tutor](#) is available to discuss academic matters with you.
- You may find the new-starters link useful [new-starters](#)
- The Learning Development Team is a resource for all students, where you can receive free guidance and tuition on any academic skill, essay writing, dissertations, critical analysis, presentations skills, etc or even [Maths and statistics](#).

□ BBC Ne w s - **Dentistry**

We will be discussing the following during welcome week

Some Dentists 'misleading' patients over NHS treatment

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-18246387>

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|--|----------------------------|
| • Action needed 'on dental fraud' | 08 MAY 2012, HEALTH |
| • Dentists escape music royalties | 15 MARCH 2012, EUROPE |
| • Dental body's complaints backlog | 13 JANUARY 2012, HEALTH |
| • Doctors and dentists in tax probe | 16 NOVEMBER 2011, BUSINESS |
| • Dentists' charges under spotlight | 15 SEPTEMBER 2011 |

• **Practice Placement**

You will go to placement one day a week at the beginning of Term 2. Where you attend your placements is decided by the Practice Educator.

The taught skills sessions in the specialist space are counted as placement. If you miss any skills lab placement session or placement in a dental practice you are required to make up the time to pass the module.



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Assessments

How will we be assessed?

The programme is assessed in a variety of ways:

Presentation

Reflective accounts

Assignment

Exam

Observed Structured Clinical Examinations Portfolio



Books

Do we need to buy any books before starting the course?

You will be given a list of recommend reading for each of your modules. We have a good selection of the core books within the library and many are available electronically. We often recommend journal articles, accessible through different databases. Further details on the library are available through the university web site and you will be given instruction on how to access relevant literature during the induction programme.



Uniform

When do I get my Uniform?

The uniform green scrubs and you will be required to wear flat, closed in black shoes. Your first set of uniform is funded - so free of charge to individual students. You can order any replacement or additional items.

You will be advised to order your uniform online via the placement team, Students are supplied with their uniforms during the first term, prior to any placements



2018 Welcome Week Timetable - FdSc Dental Nursing

You will be advised when your 10 minute 1:1 tutorial will be during welcome week by your Personal Tutor (PT)

Time	Monday 24 th September	Tuesday 25 th September	Wednesday 26 th September	Thursday 27 th September	Friday 28 th September
9am		<p>Expectations of University Life</p> <p>9.30am – 10am</p> <p>Senate (SN) 208</p> <p>Student academic support & Brigette Gouda</p>		<p>Academic, digital and employability skills</p> <p>9am – 12pm</p> <p>Senate (SN) 104</p> <p>Learning Library Services, Changemaker team & Brigette Gouda</p>	
10am					

11am					
12am			<p>Induction, Social belonging, Team building</p> <p>12pm – 3pm</p> <p>Learning Hub (LH) 124</p> <p>Brigette Gouda</p>		
1pm					<p>Are you ready?</p> <p>1pm – 1.30pm</p> <p>Learning Hub (LH) 230</p> <p>Brigette Gouda</p>
2pm					
3pm		<p>Subject orientation</p>			
4pm					

		3pm – 6pm			
5pm		Creative Hub (CH) 303			
		Brigette Gouda			
6pm					