

Prospectus





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Who we are

We are Health Sciences University,

or HSU for short.

Health Sciences University (HSU) supports a diverse range of health professions through our three academic schools – AECC School of Chiropractic, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, and UCO School of Osteopathy – as well as our Centre for Workforce and Systems Innovation. Together, we are the go-to destination for those starting out in healthcare and for professionals looking to advance their careers.

Drawing on the expertise of our founding institutions AECC University College (AECC UC), with nearly 60 years of history in chiropractic health, and the University College of Osteopathy (UCO), established over 100 years ago, we're shaping the future of health sciences education across our vibrant campuses in Bournemouth and London. drawing on the strengths of AECC UC and UCO to advance healthcare education, clinical practice, and research.

We are specialists in health sciences, and when you choose to study with us, you'll join a close-knit community of aspiring healthcare and sporting professionals, as well as those seeking to deepen their expertise. You'll benefit from the extensive knowledge and expertise of our teaching staff, learn alongside peers within your course and across other healthcare disciplines, and gain access to our stateof-the-art facilities – from imaging, rehabilitation, and treatment spaces to dedicated simulation environments.

Creating a healthier society

Now more than ever, a specialist university like ours is essential to train future healthcare and sporting professionals. Through our community clinics and partnerships, we support public health, alleviate pressure on healthcare systems, and address evolving healthcare needs.

Our mission is clear: to equip the next generation of health professionals with cutting-edge knowledge, clinical skills, and the compassion needed for effective care. We're here to create a healthier society through impactful education, research, and clinical services.

Leading specialist Health Sciences University

Our name reflects our ambition: to be the leading specialist health sciences university in the UK. We deliver a wide range of healthfocused disciplines – from allied health to social sciences – each contributing to a healthier society.

Driven by a commitment to educational excellence, we aim to prepare future health and sporting professionals, enhance the current workforce, and advance research to improve public and population health.

HSU is uniquely positioned as the only UK university with "health sciences" in its name,

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Academic Schools

AECC School of Chiropractic

As the first chiropractic training facility in Europe, the AECC School of Chiropractic has been a leader in musculoskeletal health and wellbeing for 60 years. With decades of experience refining our chiropractic offerings, we have innovated and grown to become one of the best-known and leading providers of chiropractic education today.

Our large, on-site student clinic at the Bournemouth Campus provides affordable chiropractic care to the local Dorset community, delivered by our finalyear students under the supervision of experienced staff. This hands-on training nurtures your development as a clinician, welcoming students from earlier years to gain exposure and build confidence.

Whatever your level of study or experience, we offer different pathways into the profession to suit a range of needs. We also provide a variety of postgraduate options for qualified chiropractors and other health professionals looking to expand their knowledge, skills, and perspectives.



Academic Schools

AECC School of Chiropractic



Why study chiropractic?

As a chiropractor, you'll have the opportunity to support patients who are struggling with pain, or particular musculoskeletal conditions, and help them find a way back to doing the activities that they love.

A career in chiropractic offers variety and a lifetime of learning. No two days are the same as every patient and condition brings a unique challenge. You might treat a young athlete recovering from a sports injury, followed by an elderly patient working to regain mobility.

You'll also have the chance to work in various settings, whether in a private clinic with other chiropractors or in a multidisciplinary environment alongside healthcare professionals from different fields.



World-leading on-site facilities

As a student at the AECC School of Chiropractic, you'll train in our state-of-theart chiropractic clinic, which serves over 30,000 patients per year. From the beginning of your training, you'll have opportunities to shadow both qualified chiropractors and advanced students, gaining invaluable insights into real-world practice.

We continually invest in our facilities and equipment, including our learning spaces, treatment benches, simulation equipment, anatomy technology, and Library and Learning Services. Access to this advanced technology helps you develop and refine your clinical skills.

As a student with us, you'll also have the opportunity to apply for specialist paediatric and sports chiropractic placements within our Integrated Rehabilitation Centre, allowing you to engage in specialised approaches to patient care.

Chiropractic research

The AECC School of Chiropractic has always been at the forefront of chiropractic research, aiming to be the first-choice partner for research and innovation within the chiropractic community.

Our team is dedicated to advancing quality development in chiropractic education and the profession, closely aligning with Evidence-Based Practice principles.

See pages 20-21 for information about HSU Research and our Research Degree.



Our AECC School of Chiropractic Courses

Undergraduate

Master of Chiropractic with Foundation Year

Master of Chiropractic – MChiro (Hons)

Postgraduate

MSc Chiropractic (pre-registration)

MSc Chiropractic

PG Cert, PG Dip, or MSc Musculoskeletal Paediatric Health

See pages 16-17 for information about our Courses with a Foundation Year

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Academic Schools

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences is a vibrant health sciences community, encompassing a broad range of disciplines, including medical imaging and radiotherapy, sport, exercise and performance, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, podiatry, speech and language therapy, dietetics, psychology, and mental health.

At HSU you'll be part of this diverse community and connect with professionals dedicated to health, performance, and wellbeing.

Multidisciplinary learning opportunities allow students to learn from one another, observing patient care through different perspectives. This approach enriches your learning and is a key advantage of studying at a specialist health sciences university.

Students undertake placements in diverse settings, including hospitals, clinics, professional organisations, and community facilities. On-campus placements at our Bournemouth campus, are part of our clinical services provision, where a multidisciplinary team – including physiotherapists, radiographers, chiropractors, occupational therapists, podiatrists, dietitians, sports rehabilitators, psychologists, and speech and language therapists – collaborates to deliver patient care.



Undergraduate

Academic Schools

School of Health and **Rehabilitation Sciences**



State-of-the-art facilities

We continuously invest in our facilities and equipment to enhance your practical learning and develop your clinical skills.

At our Bournemouth campus, our spacious Rehabilitation Hub and Clinical Skills Suite provide ideal spaces for practising physiotherapy and sport rehabilitation, while our Human Performance Laboratory is designed specifically for sport performance students, supporting athletes. Our Podiatry Suite serves as both a learning space and a real-world clinic for patients.

Our Integrated Rehabilitation Centre offers specialist rehabilitation services to the local community and is staffed by a multidisciplinary team of physiotherapists, sport rehabilitators, chiropractors, and performance specialists. This space includes nine large consultation rooms and a multizoned physical rehabilitation area.

Imaging facilities on our Bournemouth campus include our Open Upright MRI Scanner, X-ray suite, CT Scanner, Ultrasound Clinic, and VERT (Virtual Environment Radiotherapy Training). Students in our radiography and imaging courses benefit from hands-on experience alongside practising clinicians, with placement opportunities integrated into the curriculum.

Education that mirrors life in healthcare

Our simulation spaces and patient manikins allow you to develop your clinical skills in a safe, supportive environment. Interactive technology simulating real-life patient interactions helps build your confidence for clinical placements and prepares you for graduation.

Our Assisted Daily Living Suite at our Bournemouth Campus is a replica of a home environment, complete with running water and working appliances. This space enables students - particularly in occupational therapy - to practise administering care and guidance in a setting that mimics a patient's home.

Studying alongside peers from other healthcare disciplines will equip you for life after university, where working in multidisciplinary teams, whether within the NHS or in private practice, is the norm.



Our School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Courses

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BSc (Hons) Sport Rehabilitation
BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science
BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Psychology
BSc (Hons) Psychology
BSc (Hons) Counselling and Mental Health
BSc (Hons) Radiography (Radiotherapy and Oncology)
BSc (Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic Imaging)
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Postgraduate
MSc Sport Rehabilitation and Therapy (pre-registration)
MSc Physiotherapy (pre-registration)
MSc Occupational Therapy (pre-registration)
MSc Speech and Language Therapy (pre-registration)
MSc Dietetics (pre-registration)
MSc Podiatry (pre-registration)
PG Cert, PG Dip, or MSc Medical Ultrasound
PG Cert, PG Dip, or MSc MSK Medical Ultrasound
PG Cert, PG Dip, or MSc Breast Imaging
MSc Sport and Exercise Rehabilitation
MSc Sport and Exercise Psychology
MSc Sport and Exercise Psychology (Online)
MSc Performance Psychology (Online)
MSc Military Psychology (Online)

See pages 16-17 for information about our **Courses with a Foundation Year**

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Academic Schools

UCO School of Osteopathy

Located on our Central London campus, the UCO School of Osteopathy is a recent addition to Health Sciences University. Formerly known as the University College of Osteopathy and British School of Osteopathy, it is the oldest and largest osteopathic educational institution in the UK.

By choosing to study with us, you'll benefit from over 100 years of specialist teaching expertise and exceptional clinical opportunities. The school is a leading provider of osteopathic education, and our graduates build successful careers in private practice, the NHS, professional sports, research, and education.



Academic Schools

UCO School of Osteopathy



UCO School of Osteopathy

Our UCO School of Osteopathy Courses

Undergraduate

Master of Osteopathy – M.Ost (Hons) (Full Time)

Master of Osteopathy – M.Ost (Hons) (Part Time)

Postgraduate

PGCert in Specialist Paediatric Osteopathic Practice

See pages 16-17 for information about our Courses with a Foundation Year



Why study osteopathy?

Osteopathy is one of 14 Allied Health Professions recognised by the NHS, making it an excellent career choice for anyone with an interest in healthcare and how the body works.

Osteopaths specialise in the musculoskeletal system but take a holistic approach to patient care. Instead of focusing solely on symptoms, osteopaths consider physical, lifestyle, and psychological factors affecting health and wellbeing. Treatments often include hands-on manual therapy, alongside exercises and lifestyle advice.

Graduate osteopaths are in high demand, with excellent employability rates and earning potential. Osteopathy is also an ideal option for those seeking a flexible career, with many osteopaths working for themselves or combining their careers with other interests.

Teaching and clinical provision

As a UCO School of Osteopathy student, you'll be taught by experienced educators and clinicians, many of whom are former students with successful professional careers. These experts bring their knowledge and passion to training the next generation of osteopaths. Throughout your studies, you'll develop the skills and expertise needed to become an effective, compassionate, and patientcentred osteopath. Our evidence-led teaching approach ensures you'll learn to critically assess research, enabling you to provide the best possible patient care throughout your career.

Clinical training is central to your education. Our teaching clinic on Southwark Bridge Road supports around 35,000 appointments annually, providing hands-on opportunities to refine your skills with real patients. Undergraduate students complete 1,000 hours of clinical training, starting with observation and progressing to managing their own patient lists in the final years.

To ensure a broad clinical experience, we offer specialist services in women's health, sports and performance injuries, paediatrics, HIV care, and transgender and non-binary health.

Teaching and learning that works for you

We understand that many students need to balance studies with work or other commitments. Our courses are designed to accommodate this, with timetables structured to provide flexibility, minimise travel costs, and allow for independent study. In your first year, you'll also have the opportunity to gain a sports massage qualification, enabling you to "earn while you learn."



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Learning pathways

Unlock your career in healthcare

Take one of our Undergraduate Courses with a Foundation Year.

Our undergraduate courses with a Foundation Year

Master of Chiropractic with Foundation Year
BSc (Hons) Health Sciences with Foundation Year
BSc (Hons) Sport Rehabilitation with Foundation Year

BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science with Foundation Year

BSc (Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic Imaging) with Foundation Year

BSc (Hons) Radiography (Radiotherapy and Oncology) with Foundation Year

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Foundation Year

BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Psychology with Foundation Year

BSc (Hons) Counselling and Mental Health with Foundation Year

hsu.ac.uk/foundation-year

Our undergraduate courses with a Foundation Year provide a direct route into our health sciences degrees. This option is ideal if you don't quite meet the entry requirements for immediate entry or are considering a career change.

Our Foundation courses are available at either our Parkwood Road Campus in Bournemouth or our Borough High Street Campus in Central London.

You'll benefit from a purpose-driven curriculum designed to ensure automatic progression into your chosen Integrated Master's or BSc degree course.

Over six units, you'll explore five core topics – such as Human Sciences, Introduction to Healthcare, and Personal and Professional Development – that prepare you for one of our undergraduate programmes. The final unit, tailored to your chosen pathway, supports your transition into your specific field, whether that's chiropractic, osteopathy, radiography, psychology, counselling and mental health, sports performance and rehabilitation, or sport and exercise science. As a highlight of the Foundation Year, you'll take part in a showcase event where you present your Extended Project through a professional poster on your specialist topic.

Throughout your Foundation Year, you'll study alongside students with diverse interests in health sciences, gaining insights from different perspectives. Our dedicated teaching and support staff are here to help you build confidence in academic study.



Learning pathways

The Centre for Workforce and Systems Innovation

We are passionate about positively impacting the healthcare workforce locally and nationally.

Our goal is to equip healthcare professionals with the skills and knowledge to advance their careers and provide excellent patient care. Our tailored Professional Development Framework courses are designed to support your career growth

If you're looking to advance in your field, our Professional Development Framework courses can help. Designed in partnership with healthcare organisations, these courses allow you to work toward a post-qualification award by building on your experience and qualifications, supporting your career progression.

Alongside our courses, we offer a range of credit-bearing units and masterclasses aimed at enhancing your skills, knowledge, and expertise in specific areas of health practice, education, and research. This ensures you stay up-to-date with the latest advancements and best practices.

Professional Development Framework Courses

If you're aiming to advance within your field, our Professional Development Framework courses will help you achieve that goal. These courses enable you to work toward a post-qualification award by completing units of study that build on your work experience and qualifications, further supporting your career progression. We developed these courses in partnership with healthcare organisations to meet workforce development needs effectively.

You'll learn under the guidance of industry professionals and subject matter experts, gaining contemporary skills that add value to your real-world experience. Flexible course structures mean you can balance studies with your work and lifestyle. Our courses are aimed at expanding your career opportunities, equipping you with additional skills to complement your health sciences expertise.

Professional Development Framework Units

You can complete units of study over a period of up to five years, culminating in an award such as a PGCert (60 credits), PGDip (120 credits), or MSc (180 credits).

Each unit is delivered in a way that accommodates your working life, allowing you to focus on one unit at a time. You can select from a variety of units, both specialist and general, to create a programme that reflects your professional goals and career trajectory.

Apprenticeships

We are rapidly expanding our range of apprenticeships. Healthcare apprenticeships provide an invaluable pathway for gaining hands-on experience while pursuing a career in the healthcare sector. These programmes combine practical, on-the-job training with academic learning, enabling you to develop essential skills in a real-world setting under the mentorship of experienced professionals.

Our apprenticeships address workforce shortages, improve the quality of patient care, and offer a practical alternative to traditional university degrees-ideal for those looking to enter the workforce quickly and without the burden of large student debts. All of our current apprenticeships are clinically focused, supporting healthcare professionals at various stages of their careers, from foundation degrees to master's level, and include both pre-registration and postregistration pathways. Find out more: hsu.ac.uk/apprenticeships

Our Centre for Workforce and Systems Innovation Courses

MSc Advanced Clinical Practice

PGCert First Contact Practice

PGCert Health Sciences Education

PGCert Innovation in Diabetes Practice

Our Apprenticeships

MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Integrated Degree Apprenticeship)

MSc Dietetics (pre-registration) (Integrated Degree Apprenticeship)

FDSc (Foundation Degree) Assistant Practitioner (Integrated Apprenticeship)

PGCert Enhanced Clinical Practice (Apprenticeship)

HSU Research and our Research Degree

Learning pathways

HSU Research and our **Research Degree**

At HSU, we pride ourselves on a rich history of innovation and pioneering advances within and beyond the health sector. We collaborate with universities, professional organisations, and research beneficiaries at regional, national, and international levels.

Through our research and partnerships, we aim to make a positive impact on people's lives, society, and the economy in three key areas

- Improving the health, wellbeing, and quality of life of current and future generations.
- 2. Enhancing human performance and functioning
- 3. Innovating for excellence in healthcare and health sciences.

Our research expertise

We have an internationally recognised team of researchers in health-related areas including musculoskeletal health, medical imaging, rehabilitation, health promotion, osteopathy, psychology, and sport.

As we grow our portfolio, we're developing expertise in emerging fields like digital health, health education, and preventive healthcare.

With a dedicated team spread across our Bournemouth and London sites, we foster a well-connected community of students. academics, and clinicians. This environment encourages cross-disciplinary research and innovation. We also maintain strong professional ties with the local healthcare community and collaborate with a network of researchers nationally and internationally.

Our Bournemouth campus hosts two large clinics that serve the Dorset community: a well-established musculoskeletal clinic and our Integrated Rehabilitation Centre. This patient base provides a valuable resource for clinical studies and service evaluations. combining research, health education, and healthcare provision in one setting.



Driving innovation

Our research strategy is designed to position us as the first-choice partner for research and innovation in health sciences. We actively seek and support talented graduates and experienced clinicians to join us in achieving this vision.

Research Degree (PhD)

Our Research Degree (PhD), awarded by Southampton Solent University, offers the opportunity to undertake original research with support from our experienced academic team.

Pursuing a PhD with us provides the unique benefits of a specialist health sciences university, combining clinical services, diverse teaching facilities, and world-class academic and clinical staff. Guided by a dedicated

supervisory team, our PhD students gain interprofessional insights and skills through collaboration across disciplines, equipping them to address complex challenges with innovative approaches.

PhD students also have the chance to gain practical experience in our on-site clinics. including the £4.5m Integrated Rehabilitation Centre and specialised facilities in areas like podiatry and chiropractic.

You can study for a PhD with HSU on a fulltime basis (typically 3-4 years) or part-time (typically 6-8 years).

Our Courses

Research Degree (PhD)

Your HSU

Study and Student Life



Students' Union (HSUSU):

Our Students' Union is the heart of student life, promoting health, wellbeing, and community. With sports teams, societies, and events, there are countless ways to connect. Representing you across all levels, our Union ensures your voice is heard, supporting a rewarding university experience.

Student Services

Our Student Services Team supports you academically and personally. Whether it's study skills, financial guidance, or career advice, we're here to help you make the most of your time at university.

Learning Services

With a wealth of resources online and in our library, you'll have access to databases, e-journals, e-books, and Anatomy TV. Our Learning Services Team provides IT and research skills training, supporting your academic growth.

Study Skills

Alongside academic contact, our Study Skills tutors offer advice on writing, presentation preparation, and time management. Our Disability Advisor provides tailored plans to help you thrive.



Counselling and wellbeing

In line with the University Mental Health Charter Programme, we foster a supportive environment for wellbeing. Our Wellbeing Advisers and counselling service provide timely, confidential support to help you build resilience and reach your potential. With daily triage appointments and a 24/7 helpline, support is always available when you need it.



Our campus locations

Our Bournemouth campus, just a fiveminute walk from the beach, is close to national parks and the Jurassic Coast, and is a two-hour train ride from London. The London campus on Borough High Street offers access to cultural landmarks and excellent transport links, creating an ideal academic setting.

International students

We welcome international students and have a vibrant overseas community at HSU, offering tailored support such as language assistance, study-abroad guidance, and help with settling in. Our EAP (English for Academic Purposes) tutor is available to help non-native English speakers improve their skills.

Masterclasses and CPD Courses

We offer a range of CPD courses and masterclasses year-round, connecting you with expert speakers, academic teams, and healthcare professionals to advance your skills and professional growth. Find out more: hsu.ac.uk/short-courses-cpd



Accommodation Services

Our team assists in finding the right accommodation, from student halls to private rentals and house shares with other HSU students. We support you throughout your stay, no matter your accommodation choice.

Care to join us?

Join us for an Open Day or Campus Tour

Our open events are a fantastic way to learn more about studying at Health Sciences University.

Visit our Bournemouth or London campus, and you'll have the chance to meet our academics, explore our courses, and ask any questions you may have. At our Open Days, in addition to course staff and student ambassadors, you'll hear from our support staff, who can guide you through key steps of applying to study with us, including the admissions process, student finance, and Student Services support.



Book your place at one of our events here: hsu.ac.uk/open-days

Where to find us



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Bournemouth Campus

Health Sciences University Parkwood Campus Parkwood Road Bournemouth BH5 2DF +44 (0)1202 436 200

London Campus

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Let's connect

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Threads

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