

KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Originating institution(s) Bournemouth University	Faculty responsible for the programme Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
Final award(s), title(s) and credits MA Advanced Mental Health Practice - 180 credits at Level 7 (90 ECTS credits) Post Graduate Diploma Advanced Mental Health Practice – 120 credits at Level 7 (60 ECTS credits)	
Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits Post Graduate Certificate in Mental Health 60 credits at Level 7 from any of the 20 credit units (the 40 credit unit will not count towards the PG Cert) (30 ECTS credits)	
UCAS Programme Code(s) (where applicable and if known) n/a	HECoS (Higher Education Classification of Subjects) Code and balanced or major/minor load. 100476
External reference points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK Quality Code for Higher Education including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expectations and practices for standards and for quality; ○ Themed advice and guidance documents; ○ Qualifications Frameworks (incorporating the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications) (FHEQ); ○ Characteristics Statements (Foundations Degrees, Master’s Degrees, Doctoral Degrees) ○ Credit Frameworks; ○ Subject Benchmark Statements. • Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) standards or guidelines (see below) • JISC Digital Capabilities Framework. 	
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) links AMHP course guidance – Social Work England	
Places of delivery Exeter Bournemouth London	
Mode(s) of delivery Full-time Part-time (MA only)	Language of delivery English
Typical duration PG Dip – 6 months MA – (can be completed part time, within 5 years registration period)	
Date of first intake September 2022	Expected start dates September January April
Maximum student numbers Not applicable	Placements 45-days mandatory placement arranged by the nominating Local Authority that is supporting the student.
Partner(s) n/a	Partnership model n/a
Lead Provider n/a	

Programme Specification – Section 1

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PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme Award and Title: Post Graduate Diploma Advanced Mental Health Practice								
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Stage 1/Level 7								
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Unit Name	Core/ Option	No. of Credits	Assessment Element Weightings			Expected Contact hours per unit	Unit Version No.	HECoS Code (plus balanced or major/ minor load)
			Exam 1	Cwk 1	Cwk 2			
Unit A: Ethics, Values and Perspectives in Mental Health	Core	20		100		30	v3.0	100476
Unit B: Mental Health and the Law	Core	20		100		30	v3.0	100476
Unit C: The AMHP Role in Practice	Core	20		100		30	v3.0	100476
Unit D: Evidencing Professional Learning (Practice Assessment)	Core	40		p/f		24 (plus 45 days placement)	v3.0	100476
Unit E: Human-Rights Oriented AMHP Practice	Core	20		100		30	v1.0	100476

Progression requirements:
All 5 units must be achieved (120 credits) for optional progression to the MA Advanced Mental Health Practice.

Exit qualification:
PGDiploma Advanced Mental Health Practice (120 credits). Provides eligibility to be approved to practice as an Approved Mental Health Professional.

PG Certificate Mental Health (60 credits not including the Evidencing Professional Learning (Practice Assessment 40 credit unit). The PG Certificate does not provide the student with eligibility to be approved as an Approved Mental Health Professional.

Placement:
45-days of placement in included in the unit 'Evidencing Professional Learning (Practice Assessment)'.

Stage 2/Level 7 MA Advanced Mental Health Practice								
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Unit Name	Core/ Option	No. of Credits	Assessment Element Weightings			Expected Contact hours per unit	Unit Version No.	HECoS Code (plus balanced or major/ minor load)
			Exam 1	Cwk 1	Cwk 2			
Preparing for Service Improvement Project	Core	20		100		24	v1.1	100476
Service Improvement Project	Core	40		100		18	v1.1	100476

Exit qualification:
MA Advanced Mental Health Practice - 180 credits at Level 7 (90 ECTS credits)

AIMS OF THE DOCUMENT

The aims of this document are to:

- define the structure of the programme;
- specify the programme award titles;
- identify programme and level learning outcomes;
- articulate the regulations governing the awards defined within the document.

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The principal aim of the programme is to prepare suitably qualified and experienced practitioners working in the mental health field to undertake the role of the Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) under the Mental Health Act 1983 (amended in 2007).

Practitioners who successfully complete the five core AMHP units (120 Level 7 credits) are eligible for the PG Diploma in Advanced Mental Health Practice. They will also be eligible for professional warranting as an AMHP by their employing local authority. It is up to the local authority to decide if / when the person will be warranted as an AMHP. The provision of an AMHP service is a statutory requirement in England and Wales and therefore, there is a clearly identified imperative to develop, deliver and monitor this programme to meet employers' needs. Bournemouth University is a major provider of AMHP training in England.

The AMHP role is a unique role that carries considerable statutory powers and authority, encompassing complex duties and responsibilities laid out within the legislative framework. The Mental Health (Approved Mental Health Professionals) (Approval) (England) Regulations 2008 state that a local social services authority can only approve a person to act as an AMHP if they are satisfied that they have the appropriate competence in dealing persons suffering from mental disorder. The relevant areas of competence that must be satisfied are provided in Schedule 2 of the Regulations. The parliamentary regulations delegated the training and educational standards and requirements to the General Social Care Council (GSCC), whom at the time were the professional body for social work. In 2012 the responsibility for approving AMHP programmes transferred to the Health and Social Care Professions Council (HCPC). The HCPC have developed their own approval criteria for AMHP programmes (HCPC 2013). Subsequently Social Work England have taken over the responsibility for approving AMHP programmes and they have adopted the HCPC approval criteria (SWE 2020). The Bournemouth University AMHP programme assesses professional competence using the Mental Health (AMHP) Regulations 2008.

The programme recognises the high demands placed on practitioners undertaking these challenging roles with individuals with complex needs and high risks and carrying individual responsibility for decision-making, not paralleled elsewhere in law. These demands are on the constant increase with the introduction of new statute, new case law and new policy. In recognising the complexity of these professional roles, the academic level for the programme was set nationally at master's level in 2008, in essence linking the level of thinking, decision-making and recording of decisions and judgements that would be required in practice to the relevant benchmarks for masters level study. The assessment processes therefore ensures the required depth of knowledge and analysis are demonstrated and rigorously match the requirements of level 7 study and equate to the standards required in the practice arena. The key documents informing this programme review therefore include 'The UK Quality Code for Higher Education – Chapter A1' (QAA 2011) and 'The Approval Criteria for Approved Mental Health professional (AMHP) Programmes' (SWE 2020).

The programme also recognises that current mental health practice is diverse and not restricted to the AMHP role and that students may decide they wish to complete a full masters award. Students can transfer onto the masters award following successful completion of all of the PG Diploma units. These units offer an opportunity for practitioners to prepare for and undertake a service improvement project to achieve the full master's award on a part-time basis, whilst contributing to the development of local services / practice.

There is a time limit for completion of the full Masters to ensure its currency to the practice context and therefore this is set at a maximum time frame of 5-years for completion. The time limit for completion of

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the PG Diploma is 3-years similarly for reasons of currency of practice. These timescales are in accordance with our standard regulations.

Aims of the PG Diploma:

- To enable suitably qualified and experienced practitioners to demonstrate that they are competent to undertake the statutory role of the AMHP under the Mental Health 1983 (as amended 2007). Ensuring that practitioners meet the regulatory criteria set out in Section 2 of the SWE Approval Criteria and ensuring that practitioners meet the key areas of competence within Schedule 2 of the MHA AMHP Regulations 2008.
- To enable practitioners to develop an in-depth knowledge and applied critical understanding of the necessary legislation, policy, related codes of practice, guidance and case law.
- To enable practitioners to develop an in-depth knowledge and applied critical understanding of the relevant theoretical perspectives and models of mental disorder that underpin complex mental health practice, with a particular emphasis on the understanding of the social perspective of mental disorder. To enable practitioners regardless of professional background to be able to assert and articulate the social perspective through the role and responsibilities laid on them within the legislation.
- To enable practitioners to develop the appropriate level of critical thinking, analysis and critical judgement required to work in complex situations, to make difficult decisions and to critically evaluate how they exercise their professional powers and responsibilities, drawing on the relevant knowledge and research base.
- To enable practitioners to critically reflect on their own practice and the value base that underpins their practice and demonstrate a critical understanding of the impact of mental disorder for people with lived experience, their relatives and their carers, including the impact of discrimination and oppression.
- To enable practitioners to work creatively and effectively and take a leading role in the context of risk, uncertainty, conflict and contradiction or where there are complex challenges and a need to make informed and balanced judgments.

Aims of the MA:

All of the above aims and:

- To enable practitioners to demonstrate their independent ability within a complex professional context to undertake a service / practice improvement project, applying well-grounded research and evaluation methods and practice/service development skills.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

Bournemouth University (BU) has a strategic plan available here: [BU2025: our vision, values and strategic plan | Bournemouth University](#)

BU's key values of Excellence, Inclusivity, Creativity and Responsibility are embedded within the programme.

Excellence: The programme is designed to enable those qualifying to become Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHPs). The teaching team are passionate about the AMHP role and ensuring those completing the course are not only ready for practice, but will excel in the role. The design and retention of the programme as a post-graduate diploma is testament to this goal. The level of expertise required for the role and the pressure on those performing the role are significant. Local Authorities need confidence that those eligible for approval to act as an AMHP in their area are highly competent, knowledgeable and skilled professionals. The post-graduate diploma sets the bar high for excellence in the role. Most of those teaching on the programme continue to gain experience in the role professionally, bringing this experience into the taught sessions and livening discussions ensuring they are based on current practice experiences.

Inclusivity: The inclusion of those with lived experience and carers is embedded throughout the programme, from candidate selection through to formal taught sessions and the less formal interviews

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completed as part of Unit A with those with lived experience and carers. It is vital that students gain valuable insights from these experiences to ensure their practice is firmly rooted in the experience of those subject to Mental Health Act practice.

Creativity: The programme is largely reflection and discussion-based. Students bring their practice experiences into the taught sessions where these are then built upon through small and large group discussions. These discussions offer a safe space to explore complex areas of practice and consider creativity within the role. Much of the AMHP role is centred around creative solutions, and so these discussions together with the concrete experiences in practice facilitate the development of this area of practice for students.

Responsibility: The programme team is mindful of the importance of the AMHP role and the place of BU in establishing and maintaining the professional standards of many of those qualifying in the south of England. The programme offers a comprehensive package of teaching, exploratory discussion, the encouragement of wider reading and research, and experience from the placement to ensure excellence in practice.

As part of the BU strategic plan Fusion learning principles are also embedded in the course design. Placement provision is a core component of both Fusion and the AMHP programme, linking the teaching experience with professional practice. Learning is situated in the practice context throughout all assessed elements of the programme ensuring students connect aspects of law and policy with research and practice. PSRB requirements are integrated throughout the course design and assessment of competence to practice.

LEARNING HOURS AND ASSESSMENT

Bournemouth University taught programmes are composed of units of study, which are assigned a credit value indicating the amount of learning undertaken. The minimum credit value of a unit is normally 20 credits, above which credit values normally increase at 20-point intervals. 20 credits is the equivalent of 200 study hours required of the student, including lectures, seminars, assessment and independent study. 20 University credits are equivalent to 10 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits.

The assessment workload for a unit should consider the total time devoted to study, including the assessment workload (i.e. formative and summative assessment) and the taught elements and independent study workload (i.e. lectures, seminars, preparatory work, practical activities, reading, critical reflection, practice).

Assessment per 20 credit unit should normally consist of 3,000 words or equivalent. Dissertations and Level 6 and 7 Final Projects are distinct from other assessment types. The word count for these assignments is 5,000 words per 20 credits, recognising that undertaking an in-depth piece of original research as the capstone to a degree is pedagogically sound.

STAFF DELIVERING THE PROGRAMME

Students will usually be taught by a combination of senior academic staff with others who have relevant expertise including – where appropriate according to the content of the unit – academic staff, qualified professional practitioners, demonstrators/technicians and research students.

The BU AMHP programme is delivered across three cohort sites: Bournemouth; London; and Exeter. The London and Exeter cohorts are delivered entirely by lecturer practitioners. These are professional practitioners who either hold substantive posts in professional or aligned contexts, or they specialise in AMHP education. The Bournemouth cohort is delivered by senior academic staff and academic staff, with professional practitioners joining the programme for some of the sessions. There are occasions where programme delivery may be carried out between cohorts.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES – AND HOW THE PROGRAMME ENABLES STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AND DEMONSTRATE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

PROGRAMME AND LEVEL 7 INTENDED PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

<p>A: Subject knowledge and understanding</p> <p>This programme/level/stage provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level learning outcomes:</p>
<p>Post Graduate Diploma:</p> <p>A1 Detailed knowledge and critical application of health and social care legislation, the related codes of practice, national and local policy and relevant guidance which are applicable to the role of the AMHP and wider mental health practice.</p> <p>A2 In-depth knowledge and understanding of the legal position and accountability of the AMHP and their legal roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>A3 Critical understanding and exploration of a range of models of mental disorder and perspectives and theories underpinning current mental health care.</p> <p>A4 Critical understanding of the ethics and values underpinning practice in mental health and the AMHP role.</p> <p>A5 Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the needs and implications for adults, children and young people and their families of mental disorder and the relevant interventions.</p> <p>A6 A systematic and in-depth knowledge and critical evaluation of relevant research for evidence-based practice in the mental health / AMHP field.</p> <p>Additional for the MA:</p> <p>A7 Systematic and in-depth knowledge, understanding and application of service / practice improvement methodologies.</p> <p>A8 Exploration of a specific service / practice improvement issue.</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>lectures (A1 – A8);</i> • <i>seminars (A1 – A8);</i> • <i>directed reading (A1, A8);</i> • <i>use of the VLE (A1, A8);</i> • <i>independent research (for coursework and dissertation) (A1-A8);</i> • <i>practice placement (A1, A2, A4, A5, A6).</i> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>case study (A1, A2);</i> • <i>coursework essays (A1 – A8);</i> • <i>placement portfolio (A1, A2, A4, A5, A6);</i> • <i>dissertation (A7, A8).</i>
<p>B: Intellectual skills</p> <p>This programme/level/stage provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level outcomes:</p>
<p>Post Graduate Diploma:</p> <p>B1 Critical analysis and evaluation of research, legislation, policies, and developments in mental health practice and demonstrate application to own practice.</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>lectures (B1 – B8);</i>

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<p>B2 Critical analysis and application of research findings, theoretical frameworks, and models to professional practice in mental health and the AMHP role.</p> <p>B3 Independent, reflective practice and critical thinking skills.</p> <p>B4 Identification and analysis of complex problems in situations of uncertainty and risk and demonstration of the ability to undertake informed and effective decision-making in the statutory AMHP role.</p> <p>B5 Demonstrate critical reflection on ethical practice dilemmas and conflicting arguments, making practice decisions and judgements with an appropriate professional value base and with appropriate justification for decisions.</p> <p>Additional for the MA:</p> <p>B6 Critically reflect on and evaluate the knowledge that underpins a specific service / practice improvement issue.</p> <p>B7 Evaluate new insights from a critical analysis of current evidence from a wide range of sources pertinent to a specific service / practice improvement issue.</p> <p>B8 Reach reasoned conclusions and/or evidence-based sustained judgements in relation to a specific service / practice improvement issue.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seminars (B1 – B8); • directed reading (B1, B8); • use of the VLE (B1, B8); • independent research (for coursework and dissertation) (B1-B8); • Practice placement (B1-B5). <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • case study (B1, B4); • coursework essays (B1 – B8); • placement portfolio (B1 - B5); • dissertation (B6 – B8).
<p>C: Practical skills</p> <p>This programme/level/stage provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level learning outcomes:</p>
<p>Post Graduate Diploma:</p> <p>C1 An ability to exercise the statutory powers and responsibilities of an AMHP.</p> <p>C2 An ability to effectively to manage complex situations of anxiety, risk and conflict and an understanding of the impact on AMHP practice.</p> <p>C3 Ability to recognise, assess and manage effectively the risks related to AMHP practice.</p> <p>C4 An ability to act independently, taking responsibility and exercising appropriate professional judgement in all areas of AMHP practice.</p> <p>C5 Demonstrate ability to identify, challenge and redress discrimination and inequality in AMHP practice.</p> <p>C6 Demonstrate an understanding and respect for the service users qualities, abilities and diverse backgrounds, including an ability to demonstrate sensitivity to factors such as race, gender, age, sexuality, disability, culture, religion and belief in AMHP practice.</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lectures (C1 – C8); • seminars (C1 – C8); • directed reading (C1, C8); • use of the VLE (C1, C8); • independent research (for coursework and dissertation) (C1-C8); • practice placement (C1 – C7). <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • case study (C1); • coursework essays (C1 – C8);

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<p>C7 Demonstrate sensitivity to service users' needs for personal respect, confidentiality, choice, dignity and privacy in the AMHP role.</p> <p>Additional for the MA:</p> <p>C8 Demonstrate competence to enhance services / practice by implementation of change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>placement portfolio (C1-C7);</i> • <i>dissertation (C8).</i>
<p>D: Transferable skills</p> <p>This programme/level/stage provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level learning outcomes:</p>
<p>Post Graduate Diploma:</p> <p>D1 To exercise initiative, self-direction and originality within independent study and research and take responsibility for own learning and development needs.</p> <p>D2 To demonstrate autonomous decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations.</p> <p>D3 To present structured arguments and communicate effectively professional decisions and findings to others, verbally and in writing.</p> <p>D4 To work collaboratively with a range of people and evaluate interventions.</p> <p>D5 To exercise initiative, challenge assumptions and negotiate with others.</p> <p>D6 To demonstrate ability to critically reflect on own practice, including own value base and its impact on practice.</p> <p>D7 To exercise evidence-based judgement.</p> <p>Additional for the MA:</p> <p>D8 Demonstrate problem identification, problem solving and project management skills.</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>lectures (D1 – D8);</i> • <i>seminars (D1 – D8);</i> • <i>directed reading (D1, D8);</i> • <i>use of the VLE (D1, D8);</i> • <i>independent research (for coursework and dissertation) (D1-D8);</i> • <i>practice placement (D1 – D7).</i> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Case study (D1, D2, D3, D7);</i> • <i>coursework essays (D1 – D8);</i> • <i>placement portfolio (D1-D7);</i> • <i>dissertation (D1 - D8).</i>

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Programme Skills Matrix

L 7	UNITS	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PG Cert	Ethics, Values and Perspectives in Mental Health			X	X	X	X			X	X	X		X							X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X		
	Mental Health and the Law	X	X		X	X				X		X	X	X				X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	
	The AMHP Role in Practice	X			X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Evidencing Professional Learning (Practice Assessment)	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Human-Rights Oriented AMHP Practice	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X				X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
MA	Preparing for Service Improvement Project					X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Service Improvement Project					X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

ADMISSION REGULATIONS

The regulations for the programme are the University's standard regulations for admission to taught postgraduate programmes with the following approved additions:

- Applicants are normally expected to have at least one year of professional or management experience and a first degree of its equivalent. A professional qualification may be acceptable with evidence of professional experience at degree equivalent level.
- Applicants for the programme must also meet the professional requirements set out in Schedule 1 of the Mental Health (AMHP) Regulations 2008 and hold a professional qualification in social work, nursing, occupational therapy or psychology and be currently registered to that profession as laid out in Schedule 1.
- Applicants must demonstrate that they possess the level of competence, capacity and ability to undertake and complete AMHP /BIA training at the required professional and academic level.

In order to ensure that the admission regulations are satisfied and that the applicant has demonstrated the competence, capacity and ability to undertake and complete AMHP / BIA training at the required professional and academic level, the programme requires the following additional areas of preparation are satisfied through a local selection process:

- The applicant has completed an appropriate period of suitable mental health work experience.
- The applicant has observed a minimum of 4 Mental Health Act assessments
- The applicant has successfully completed the Graduate Certificate in Professional Practice in Mental Health (or equivalent).
- The applicant has been nominated and supported by their employing authority as suitable for AMHP training.

The applicant will be provided with a suitable placement and Practice Assessor by their employing authority.

PROGRESSION ROUTES

Recognition arrangements provide formally approved entry or progression routes through which students are eligible to apply for a place on a programme leading to a BU award. Recognition does not guarantee entry onto the BU receiving programme only eligibility to apply. In some cases, additional entry criteria such as a Merit classification from the feeder programme may also apply. Please see the [recognition register](#) for a full list of approved Recognition arrangements and agreed entry criteria.

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

MA and PG Diploma Advanced Mental Health Practice

The regulations for this programme are the University's Standard Postgraduate Assessment Regulations with the following approved exceptions for the PG Dip / MA Advanced Mental Health Practice. The exceptions align the programme with the requirements of Social Work England:

Pass mark

The pass mark for each unit will be 50%.

The 'Evidencing Professional Learning (Practice Assessment)' unit is assessed on a Pass/Fail (P/F) basis. The unit will be awarded a pass where the overall unit mark is at least 50%.

Compensation

Compensation is not permitted for any of the units given the integration of professional competence across all units.

Awards

The awards of MA or PG Dip Advanced Mental Health Practice lead to eligibility to be approved as an Approved Mental Health Professional by a LSSA in England. The PG cert award will not confer eligibility to be approved as an AMHP and will be titled 'Mental Health'.

The award of an Aegrotat degree is not permitted.

The University's standard assessment regulations are available here: <https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/students/help-advice/important-information>

External Examiners

To meet the requirements of Social Work England for Approved Mental Health Professionals, at least one external examiner for the programme must be appropriately experienced and qualified and be registered on the relevant part of an appropriate professional register.

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL) AND PLACEMENT ELEMENTS

The unit entitled 'Evidencing Professional Learning (Practice Assessment)' is a mandatory 40 credit placement unit with a minimum requirement of 45 days of placement. Students require support from a Local Authority to attend the programme and those Local Authorities are required to provide the practice placement and placement educators. Assessment is via a portfolio of evidence and is pass or fail only. This placement unit is mandatory for the Post Graduate Diploma Advanced Mental Health Practice and for eligibility for approval by a Local Authority to act as an Approved Mental Health Professional. Students exiting with a Post Graduate Certificate Mental Health cannot use this placement unit toward that award, and will not be eligible for approval by a Local Authority to act as an Approved Mental Health Professional.