This two year course focuses on the experience of the patient throughout the perioperative period and the role of practitioners delivering care within a multiprofessional approach. Over recent years the role of perioperative practitioners has evolved together with the blurring of historical professional boundaries.

The modules in the DipHE Operating Department Practice (ODP) course reflect the multidisciplinary/professional approach to work within a contemporary operating theatre environment and offer an opportunity for health and social care professionals, and others who have an interest in surgery, anaesthetics or recovery, to collaborate and share ideas, knowledge and expertise.
Introduction

We believe that students bring with them a wealth of differing experiences from varied backgrounds.

These experiences are viewed as valuable in contributing to a greater diversity of professional knowledge and in developing confident, skilled, knowledgeable, sensitive and responsive practitioners. The course has gained a reputation for providing students with a strong sense of belonging, friendship and support and, through close networking and peer support, students and the Course Team together have created a trusting environment in which to develop knowledge and skills and share experiences.

For the duration of your course you will study and gain work experience with other health care professionals. You will also undertake clinical placements alongside qualified mentors and be required to gain experience and competence in all aspects of perioperative care. This will be achieved through clinical placements within Anaesthetics, Surgery and Recovery areas. You will also gain experience through clinical placements to other critical care areas associated with the perioperative environment (e.g. high dependency units or surgical wards). Local clinical placements are organised through a number of NHS Trust and independent health care providers.

Educational delivery

The course is taught at our Ferndale Campus, Swindon. The academic year at Oxford Brookes University is divided into two semesters, each having blocks of teaching within the semester. Semester 1 runs from the end of September until the end of January and semester 2 runs from the end of January until the end of May. There is a break between each semester and for the Christmas and Easter holidays.

As the ODP course has professional as well as educational requirements to fulfil, you will be expected to undertake clinical placements outside of the semester calendar.

The semester dates for future academic years can be found on our website: www.brookes.ac.uk/studying/learning/calendar

The Diploma in Higher Education in Operating Department Practice consists of sixteen modules that may be taken through full-time, part-time or mixed study routes. Modules are taught within 13 study blocks.
Entry requirements

Five GCSEs including English, Maths and one science subject.

Applicants for whom English is a second language are required to sit, at their own expense, an IELTS test and achieve an average score of level 7.0. Applicants will need to produce the original test results certificate and request that the examining unit send a copy to the university.

Consideration will be given to students who access the course with previous relevant qualifications including accreditation of prior experience of learning.

All applicants must be screened for fitness to practise by undergoing Occupational health clearance and will be required to undertake an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check.

Occupational health clearance is a requirement of the participating NHS Trusts. Guidance from the Department of Health (March 2007) recommends that all new health workers who are likely to undertake Exposure Prone Procedures (EPPs) should be tested for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C.

The guidance suggests that any students found to be positive (and after further tests), or who decline such tests, may not be able to work in these clinical fields and therefore would not be able to undertake this course.

Typical offer

Five GCSEs at grade C or above; or a recognised access course; or Advanced Diploma at Grade C, including GCSE science at grade C. Evidence of experience of work within health care would be considered an advantage.

Each application will be considered on its own merits so you should be sure to check your qualifications against the typical offer for this course. These can be found online in the Undergraduate Prospectus www.brookes.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/cdp

However, we are keen to encourage mature students to apply and will consider other relevant qualifications, such as Access to Higher Education, as possible alternatives to the formal entry requirement.

It is important that you are ready to start studying at diploma level, so we look for evidence that you have prepared yourself for a return to study and have appropriate skills, such as enquiry skills and writing experience.

We also encourage potential applicants to contact the Administrator if you are unsure whether your qualifications meet the entry requirements.

Open days

Please check our website where details of our open days will be advertised: http://shsc.brookes.ac.uk/opendays
Funding

Course fees are paid by the local NHS Strategic Health Authority. Applicants will also need to apply for an NHS bursary. All students are bursary funded and therefore subject to meeting NHS bursary requirements.

To be eligible for the non means-tested NHS bursary, you must demonstrate that you:

- have been ordinarily resident in the British Isles throughout the last three years preceding the first day of the first academic year of your course, other than for the purpose of receiving full-time education, and
- have settled status in the United Kingdom (UK), within the meaning of the Immigration Act 1971, on the first day of the first academic year of your course, and
- be ordinarily resident in any UK country on the first day of the first academic year of the course.

If you are an EU National, you may have your tuition fee liability met, but you will not normally qualify for a bursary. If you are currently employed by the NHS and your Trust has offered to second you whilst you train they will continue to pay you your salary and therefore you will not be entitled to a bursary.

Whilst the university delivers an academic course in semesters, you will be expected to undertake further clinical placements to meet professional requirements. This means that you will receive bursary payments for 42 weeks a year.

There is more information about the NHS Bursary system on www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/students/816.aspx

The university is required to check the status of applicants, and those applying for a place on the programme may be asked to produce documentary evidence. We are happy to answer queries about status from potential applicants.

Overseas applicants

We are pleased to offer a limited number of places on this course to students classified as overseas for fees purposes. For details, please contact the Administrator.

For more information about the fees, please go to our website: www.brookes.ac.uk/studying/finance/fee/international_ug or contact Student Finance: finance-fees@brookes.ac.uk or telephone + 44 (0) 1865 483088.

Only students from EU countries can be considered for NHS bursaries.

Placements

You will undertake clinical placements in a selection of the following areas: orthopaedics; general surgery; ear, nose and throat surgery; plastic surgery; genito-urinary surgery; gynaecology/obstetrics; minor and major vascular surgery; ophthalmics; and other specialised clinical areas if appropriate.

Whilst in clinical placement you will be expected to undertake shift patterns determined by the placement area into which you are placed.

During the course, your placement area may be rotated to other hospitals in order for you to gain the best learning opportunities.

Clinical placements take place either within the South Central Strategic Health Authority area (Oxford and Banbury) or within the South West Strategic Health Authority area (Bath, Bristol, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Swindon or Weston-super-Mare).

Applicants invited for interview will be asked to identify their preferred placement area, although your preference cannot always be guaranteed.
Registrative body

Operating Department Practitioners (ODP) are required to be registered with the Health Professions Council in order to practice. Student ODPs are eligible to apply for registration with the Health Professions Council on successful completion of the DipHE in Operating Department Practice.

Professional

As a student on the ODP course, you will also be required to register with the College of Operating Department Practitioners (CODP) and abide by the professional code of conduct, as well as complying with the university’s standards of conduct and fitness to practise regulations.

Career prospects

Operating Department Practitioners have the opportunity, post-registration, to develop their careers in specialist clinical settings. The most common route is a career in the Operating Theatre Department but opportunities are also available in Emergency departments and Intensive Care Units.

A range of work opportunities exist, in industry, the private health care sector, the armed forces, research, management and teaching or work abroad, in New Zealand or Holland for example.

Student profile

Name: Maggie Williams
Studying: Operating Department Practice

Becoming an Operating Department Practitioner really stood out to me because of the variety of work they undertake, the range of patients they care for and also the option to build a strong career. Having started the course it is far better than I could have ever imagined. I really enjoy being in theatres, working as part of the team and caring for patients.

Overall the course is fantastic and I would recommend it highly. You are in placement for the majority of the time, but also have other work to do simultaneously. The course may only be two years long, but it seems to fly by and although it can be very hard work at times I am really pleased I chose to do it.

Oxford Brookes University is very well organised and provided me with timetables of lectures and placements. As well as lectures, there are also plenty of online resources and interactive learning is quite central to the course.
Modules - Year 1

**U42101 Professional Practice – An Introduction**
A double, practice-based compulsory module which introduces you to concepts and theories relevant to professional practice and will give the opportunity to develop both generic and profession-specific skills and knowledge within a multi-professional context. You will have the opportunity to gain experience of practice within the broad context of health care. This will facilitate your recognition and understanding of the role of the perioperative practitioner and provide an opportunity to observe, develop and practice fundamental clinical skills as well as understanding the context of sociology and psychology in perioperative practice.

**U43702 Development of the Human Body and Mind**
The module introduces you to some of the basic principles of human life sciences using a life span development approach. You are introduced to cell biology and the development of the human body from reproduction and a single cell. The module then explores the roles of the central nervous system, and endocrine system in the physiological control of the human body, and the role of the immune system, blood and the lymphatic system in protecting the body.

**U43708 Partnerships 1: Using Evidence in Professional Practice**
This module is the foundation for the ‘Partnerships in Practice’ series and introduces key concepts, values and skills pertinent to working in partnership with individuals. An interdisciplinary approach to the nature and purpose of evidence is explored, in relation to its value in promoting professional practice and user-led services.

**U42103 Perioperative Care (Part One)**
A single, practice-based compulsory module that introduces you to specific multi-professional perioperative practice competencies. This module will give you the skills and knowledge to develop both generic and professional-specific skills. You will have the opportunity to gain experience of perioperative care within the broad context of operating department practice. This will facilitate your recognition, understanding and insight to the role of the perioperative practitioner across a range of patient groups (professional body requirements). It will provide an opportunity to observe, develop and practice fundamental skills as well as understanding the context of the theory that underpins practice.

**U42102 Development of Professional Practice**
A double, practice-based compulsory module which enables you to explore the concept of holistic assessment, planning and evaluation of care for a full range of client groups. This will include recognition of physiological, sociological, psychological and cultural contexts and the relevance of the individual’s spirituality and sexuality. You will develop and practice the specific skills required for professional holistic care, exploring the rationale and available evidence underpinning key clinical competences and skills. Theoretical frameworks for specific and general assessments will be examined and appraised and their relevance to practice. There will be a continued emphasis on the development of effective practitioner-client relationships and the opportunity to focus on the client's experience of health care. The module will draw upon relevant national benchmarking standards and National Service Frameworks.

**U43703 Life Science for Health Care Professionals**
The module will explore a systems-based approach to anatomy and physiology needed by adult, mental health, learning disability, children's nurses, operating department practitioners and midwives in practice. Major systems of the human body will be explored in this single module as they pertain to clinical practice.
Modules - Year 2

U43740
Research Awareness and Critical Appraisal
This module will prepare you to confidently read and critique research papers. You will be introduced to the key concepts within research from an appreciation of the knowledge base that informs practice to effectively critiquing published work. You will have the opportunity to explore the research process, different methodological perspectives and the ethical considerations associated with health and social care research. The module will also focus on information technology and statistical application skills.

U43327
Physiology for Paramedic and Perioperative Practice: Advanced
This shared double module is designed to enable you to develop the ability to apply physiological principles to paramedic and operating department practice. It consists of a series of lectures on the pathophysiology of the human body and requires the student to critically review and analyse the physiological basis for their interventions in practice. In addition, you will have the opportunity to explore and demonstrate understanding of practice skills working alongside other professionals in the classroom.

U43303
Human Life Sciences: Paramedic and Perioperative Application
This shared, single, basic module focuses on how the human body reacts to surgery and trauma. Recent advances in medical science and the influence on paramedic and perioperative practice will also be explored. The material covered will build on the anatomy and physiology components learnt in the first year of the Paramedic Emergency Care and Operating Department Practice courses.

U42121
Perioperative Care (Part Two)
This module explores the needs of a patient prior to their forthcoming surgical experience. Through the assessment and planning of care issues, such as information giving, assessment criteria, the involvement of significant others and informed consent will be examined. Implementation and evaluation will include clinical and technical aspects of care associated with pharmacological and physiological changes to the patient undergoing induction and maintenance of anaesthesia. The surgical experience of the patient will include pre-assessment, care in the anaesthetic and operating room.

U42122
Perioperative Care (Part Three)
This module runs throughout the second year of the DipHE Operating Department Practice course and is assessed in the final semester. The portfolio assessment determines the focus of the module. The portfolio demonstrates the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes throughout the second year of the course and supports evidence of the achievement of learning and competencies relevant for multiprofessional perioperative practice. The module will enable you to identify and analyse issues relating to their practice and to establish and strengthen their knowledge of perioperative care. This will be done through a process of reflection on experiences gained, which will inform future practice. Alongside this process you will be encouraged to understand the importance of their own learning strategies in relation to life-long learning, development of professional practice and the facilitation of learning. There will also be the opportunity to expand both theoretical evidence-based knowledge and practical skills pertinent to the perioperative care environment.

U42123
Pharmacology in Practice
This is a single, practice-focused module that will enhance and consolidate your knowledge of pharmacology and its application to practice. This module builds on the knowledge and experience you have gained through previous knowledge of anatomy and physiology and clinical practice experience. Through a problem-solving approach that focuses on the critical use of pharmacology knowledge in practice, you will be able to understand the theoretical underpinnings of their practice and their role in empowerment and client education in relation to drug therapy.

U46359
Infection Control in Practice
The module will focus on the principles of infection control related to your practice area and will incorporate infectious diseases and epidemiology, both in the hospital and the community setting. It will enable the practitioner to contribute to the creation of a safe environment, which will promote infection control practice for the patient/client, relatives and health care workers.
How to apply

Applications should be made through UCAS. International applicants should contact the university direct using the contact details below.

UCAS Code: B990
Institution Code: 066

Useful contacts

Administrator
Ferndale Campus
Ferndale Road
Swindon
SN2 1HL
UK

Tel: +44 (0) 1793 437437 / 437404
Email: operatingdeptpractice@brookes.ac.uk
Website: http://shsc.brookes.ac.uk

Senior Tutor (admissions enquiries only)
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 482592
Email: shsc_seniortutors@brookes.ac.uk

University Student Finance
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 483088
Email: finance-fees@brookes.ac.uk
Website: www.brookes.ac.uk/studying/finance

UCAS (Customer Service Unit)
Tel: +44 (0) 871 4680468
Email: enquiries@ucas.ac.uk
Website: www.ucas.com

Health Professions Council (HPC)
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7582 0666
Website: www.hpc-uk.org

College of Operating Department Practitioners (CODP)
Tel: +44 (0) 870 746 0984
Email: office@codp.org.uk
Website: www.codp.org.uk

To obtain a large-print copy of (or sections of) this publication or to enquire about other formats, please contact +44 (0) 1865 484848 or email query@brookes.ac.uk

Oxford Brookes University actively supports equality in education and welcomes applications from all people representative of our diverse community. For more details please visit www.brookes.ac.uk/services/hr/eod or phone +44 (0) 1865 485929.