



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy

Course Code: PHYSI

2026/27

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BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy (PHYSI)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at November 2025

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Science with Honours Physiotherapy
Contained awards	Bachelor of Science Human Physical Sciences (Level 6) Diploma of Higher Education Human Physical Sciences (Level 5) Certificate of Higher Education Human Physical Sciences (Level 4)
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
Course lengths and standard timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years (full time, campus based)
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
Entry requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .
Course fees	Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course except where noted below.

Fitness to Practise

BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy is a professional course, and students are expected to act in a professional manner at all times in line with the University Fitness to Practise Policy and Procedure: [link](#).

Student Attendance

Attendance at all modules and practice placements is mandatory. Non-attendance for any reason must be reported to the course administrator. If a student's non-attendance is sufficient to give cause for concern regarding the students' fitness to practise this will then be managed through application of the Fitness to Practise Policy and Procedures or the University Engagement Policy.

Modules must be passed and compensation requirements

The HCPC Standards of Education and Training state, "The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards of proficiency for their part of the Register". Therefore, all modules on the course must be passed in order to ensure that the standards of proficiency for Physiotherapy are met by students achieving the target award.

There is also a requirement by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (who accredit this course) for students to pass all assessments related to practical skills. Failure may not be compensated for the above components of assessment. Students must pass these modules.

- Cardiovascular & Respiratory Physiotherapy
- Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy
- Neurological Physiotherapy

Level 4 Shaping the Professional module and taster placement

There is a taster placement in this module with pass/fail marking, which must be passed for the module to be passed.

Exceptional third assessment attempts

A student may be eligible for an exceptional third attempt for failed assessments on academic modules at level 4 and level 5 if the criteria for this attempt is met and a pass for the assessment is required to meet the progression profile. To meet the criteria, a student must have passed 60 credits or more of the level and have no non-submissions of any assessments on the level. This exceptional third attempt does not apply to placement modules.

Placement attendance

A student must fully attend practice placements in order to be assessed. If a student is unable to complete a placement through illness or other extenuating circumstance the practice educator together with the university link tutor will decide in any particular case whether the student's attendance has been sufficient to enable the student to be assessed against the module learning outcomes. Where a student placement is

37.5h per week over 6 weeks they should complete 225 hours, if a student has completed 80% of the placement (180h) in the intended format (face to face/hybrid/leadership) they can be considered for assessment. If this is allowed and the students' performance is at a pass level the completed hours will be counted towards the minimum number of hours of practice.

Some placements modules in levels 5 and 6 fall outside of the standard term dates.

Placement hours

Where a student has successfully completed their placements but have not achieve the mandated number of assessed placement hours (e.g., 1000 hours), the course team will look at the proportion of hours completed in a patient facing versus non patient facing environment to guide individual decisions. The Chartered Society of Physiotherapists recommends not more than 25% of the required 1000 hours be completed in a non-patient facing environment. Where a student has capacity to undertake additional non patient facing hours to 'make up' hours this will be offer in the form of a simulated 'Beckett Town' placement and assessed accordingly. Where a student is short of patient facing hours, they will be offered a patient facing placement and will need to achieve an overall pass standard on the common physiotherapy assessment framework (CPAF). There will be no extra university fee for top up placement hours, however student should be aware that they are unlikely to be able to apply for funding for this extra time at university.

Placement modules – Common Placement Assessment Framework (CPAF)

Applies to:

Level 5 - Practice Placement 2.1

Level 5 - Practice Placement 2.2

Level 6 - Practice Placement 3.1

Level 6 - Practice Placement 3.2

Level 6 - Practice Placement 3.3

The adoption of the [Common Placement Assessment Framework](#) (CPAF) is a new development from the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (who accredit this course). This has been approved by the regulatory body HCPC for course providers to adopt these.

There are several component parts of a placement which must be achieved in order for that placement to meet a successful pass threshold. It is feasible for a student to gain an overall mark of 40% and not meet the individual component parts. This would be recorded as a failed placement module.

To attend placement modules the CSP recommends that the teaching team consider where there are extenuating circumstances and public protections issues under consideration that are likely to impact the student on placement (see below). If a student is referred / under investigation for occupational health needs, professional suitability or academic engagement (formal university proceedings) where a public protection issue is identified then the student will not go out on placement until suitable resolution is achieved to mitigate public protection concerns.

o A student's progression through the programme (i.e., a team should keep under review whether a pattern is emerging of a student needing to re-attempt units or modules, with particular attention paid to issues of public protection that an individual's performance may raise, and the practicalities of a student progressing from one unit to another if the need for a second attempt arises) CSP

Whether exam board ratification, or not, if a student has not successfully passed at least one of the core modules of 'Cardiovascular Respiratory Physiotherapy', 'Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy' or 'Neurological

Physiotherapy', then the student will be invited for a (documented) supported conversation to confirm a student's "fit to sit assessment" in terms of the suitability to attend placement due to the CSP's recommendation relating to "**practicalities of a student progressing from one unit to another if the need for a second attempt arises**" on multiple modules.

Equally, if a student has not been assessed on any of the core modules of 'Cardiovascular Respiratory Physiotherapy', 'Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy' or 'Neurological Physiotherapy', then the student will be invited for a (documented) supported conversation to confirm a student's "fit to sit assessment" in terms of the suitability to attend placement due to the CSP's recommendation relating to "**practicalities of a student progressing from one unit to another if the need for a second (mitigated) attempt arises**" on multiple modules.

Pre-requisite Modules

The following pre-requisites apply:

- Successful completion of all level 4 modules are pre-requisites for progression to level 5, subject to the provisions for progression below.
- Successful completion of all level 5 modules are pre-requisites for progression to level 6, subject to the provisions for progression below.

Progression Requirements and Profile of Achievement

Attainment Requirements

A student will be required to re-submit for assessment in respect of all failed components of assessment, where their profile of attainment for the module shows an overall average of **less than 40%**. All re-assessment will be on a component basis.

Re-assessment for Progression – General Provisions

Requirement to recover failure

A student failing to achieve an average of 40% across all components of assessment of a module, will be required to re-submit for assessment.

Bachelor Degree with Honours Target Award:

BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy (with eligibility to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council to practise as a Physiotherapist). The Bachelor Degree with Honours in Physiotherapy is awarded for the attainment of a minimum of 120 credit points at HE Level 4, 120 credit points at HE Level 5, and 120 credit points at HE Level 6. The University awards these credit points where a student has achieved the following profile:

1. Achieved the requirements for level progression from Level 5 to Level 6 or has been admitted directly to Level 6.
2. Pursued a Course of study of 120 credit points at Level 6 or above or has been accredited with no more than 60 credit points at Level 6 on admission.
3. Satisfied the submission and attainment requirements for each module of study.
4. Achieved the overall learning outcomes for Level 6 by attaining or exceeding the following requirements:
 - achieved a minimum of 40% or more in modules equivalent to 120 credit points at Level 6 or above;
 - achieved an overall average of 40% or more in each module studied;

- achieved an average of 40% or more across all modules studied at this level.

In addition, for the award of BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy (with eligibility to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council to practise as a Physiotherapist) a student must have successfully completed a minimum 1000 hours of practice placement.

Contained Awards

Contained awards cannot be target awards in their own right, however, a contained award can be made as a fall-back award, for example when a student has failed a level of the programme of study but satisfactorily completed the previous level. The contained awards for the BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy course are as follows and they do not provide eligibility to apply for registration with the HCPC:

- BSc Human Physical Sciences
- Diploma of Higher Education Human Physical Sciences
- Certificate of Higher Education Human Physical Sciences

Other requirements

Applicants are required to undertake DBS and Occupational Health clearance checks. Compliance with Occupational Health checks and with immunisations is mandatory and essential for placement attendance. Occupational health costs are currently covered within your course fees. If you fail to attend your appointment you may be charged a missed appointment fee.

Students must comply with Placement Provider dress codes. This may stipulate that facial piercings including dermal piercing be removed or covered up for infection control reasons.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Regulatory body

Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC): <https://www.hcpc-uk.org/>

Professional body

Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP): <https://www.csp.org.uk/>

Accreditation/recognition summary

Successful completion of this programme provides eligibility to apply for registration with the HCPC. It is a legal requirement that anyone who wishes to practise using a title protected by the Health Professions Order 2001 is on the HCPC Register.

Students successfully completing the course will be eligible to apply for qualified membership of CSP.

'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy recommends that students complete a minimum of 1,000 hours of Practice Placement experience which has equivalence to one third of a three-year degree programme.

Students undertake a one-week taster placement in Year 1. These hours (37.5h) are included in the final total towards professional registration (1000h). Students are then allocated five practice placements of six weeks in duration. Two occur at level 5 and another three in level 6. Students normally work a 37.5 hour week with an expectation that they are flexible with their working patterns in an ever-changing working environment.

The physiotherapy placement team sources and allocates all placements ensuring that our students gain a great depth and diversity of placement experience through a variety of placement settings which may include community-based services, acute services, chronic services, rehabilitation services across a variety of settings for example inpatients, outpatients, private and NHS providers. Placements may also include a hybrid or full placement in a leadership role or supported with our internal 'Beckett Town' project.

Placement Delivery

1x 1-week placement block at level 4

2x 6-week blocks at level 5

3x 6-week blocks at level 6

The 5 placements at levels 5 and 6 provide potential for students to gain up to 1125 clinical placement hours.

Location

A variety of healthcare settings including private and NHS providers mainly within but not limited to the Leeds postcode area.

Timetable

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Key Contacts

Your course director

Richard Partner

Your course administrator

Sharon Caden, s.caden@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to build on existing strengths of excellent student experience, attainment and employability. Our aspiration is to create graduates who are inspiring leaders, committed to life-long learning and ready to seize the opportunities that lie ahead, locally nationally and internationally.

Course learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Demonstrate competence as autonomous reflective, learners and physiotherapy practitioners with excellent communication skills.
2	Use varied approaches, including digital technologies, to identify, select and critically apply information to enable an evidence-informed approach to physiotherapy practice.
3	Demonstrate skills of assessment, application and evaluation in the holistic management of individuals from diverse and multicultural backgrounds in order to plan, implement and evaluate physiotherapeutic interventions that are safe, efficient and effective, and to organise and manage a caseload.
4	Discuss and evaluate the current healthcare focus upon health promotion, enterprise, leadership and quality from a physiotherapy perspective, taking account of potential future developments and their impact on physiotherapy practice, locally, nationally and globally.
5	Demonstrate commitment to continuing professional development as a physiotherapist and to lifelong learning.

Teaching and Learning Activities

The physiotherapy course is taught on campus with mandated attendance. There will be ad-hoc online sessions on some modules with the same mandated attendance requirement.

Teaching takes place in multi-purpose rooms with additional specialised facilities for technical, clinical and interpersonal skills development. Teaching activities include: staff-led lectures and workshops, student led seminars and workshops, practical work, study packs, tutorials, clinically based teaching; case studies, problem solving exercises; reflective learning techniques, computer-assisted learning, simulated practice and inter-personal group skills. We use also use computer-based learning, which enriches the versatility of the delivery.

Problem solving exercises and case studies enable students to integrate their knowledge and increase their interest in the subject matter. Oral communication and the ability to work effectively in groups are developed by assignments such as group presentations and seminars. Interpersonal skills and interviewing techniques are developed in workshops.

During the practice placements students will be required to develop portfolios and learning logs of work experience.

The Clinical Skills Suite has been developed for inter-professional use across the School. See here for more details: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/school-of-health/facilities/>. The skills rooms contain examination couches, stools and arm tables and can be opened to form larger rooms. All have Smartboards or large mobile TVs with PC access. Technology enhanced learning is enhanced with the addition of LabTutor

(physiological experiments) and Anatomy TV (3D anatomy tutorials with self-assessments). The Clinical Skills suite offers a vast array of equipment to be utilised to enhance learning during sessions. Simulated teaching resources include an immersive learning suite, an Anatomage table, and simulated hospital bays.

Your modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 4

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Shaping the Professional	20	Year-long
Human Musculoskeletal System	20	1
Exercise Prescription	20	1
Human Neurological System	20	2
Human Cardiovascular and Respiratory System	20	2
Introduction to Evidence Based Practice	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Level 5

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Cardiovascular and Respiratory Physiotherapy	20	1
Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy	20	1
Neurological Physiotherapy	20	1
Practice Placement 2.1	15	2
Practice Placement 2.2	15	2
The Complex Patient	20	2
Research Methods	10	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Level 6

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Practice Placement 3.1*	10	1
Practice Placement 3.2	10	1
Practice Placement 3.3	10	1
Leadership in Healthcare	30	2
Advancing Practice	30	Year-long
Research in Context	30	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

* Could be undertaken in the summer between Level 2-3.

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

Level 4

Level 4 is assessed by coursework predominately, with some practical work elements.

Level 5

Level 5 is assessed by practical work predominately, with some coursework.

Level 6

Level 6 is assessed by coursework predominately, with some practical work.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, learning and assessment	372 hours	300 hours	114hours
Independent study	790.5 hours	613 hours	804 hours
Placement	37.5 hours	450 hours	675 hours