Programme Specification: Foundation in Clinical Sciences and Medicine leading to BSc (Hons) Clinical Sciences

Academic Year:	2026/2027
Degree Awarding Body:	The University of Bradford
Qualifications Framework:	HE Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies (FHEQ: QAA 2024); Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF: Ofqual 2015)
Target Degree Award:	Bachelor of Science with Honours (BSc Hons) Clinical Sciences [FHEQ Level 6]
Intermediate/exit HE awards:	Ordinary Degree of Bachelor (BSc) Clinical Sciences [Level 6] or Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) Clinical Sciences [Level 5] or Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) Clinical Sciences [Level 4].
Intermediate/exit FE award:	Foundation Certificate (FdCert) in Clinical Sciences and Medicine [Level 3]
Subject Benchmark(s):	Outcomes for Graduates (General Medical Council 2018) Biomedical Science (Quality Assurance Agency 2019) Biosciences, Health Studies (QAA 2019)
Programme Admissions:	UK and international students
Programme start date:	September
Programme Modes of Study:	**Ucas code B990 - 3 years full-time** **Ucas code B991 - 4 years full-time with foundation for medicine** **Ucas code B994 - 4 years full-time with placement year or study abroad** **Ucas code B995 - 5 years full-time with foundation and placement/study abroad**

Please note: The University has a set of terms and conditions for all students accepting an offer to study on a course here at Bradford. This is called the Student Contract. This document sets out the Terms and Conditions which apply when an offer of a place on a programme of study at the University of Bradford is accepted. View our Student Contract for further details: **https://www.bradford.ac.uk/student-contract/**

Information about this programme and its modules has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them.

Recent changes

1. July 2025: Annual changes for the 2025 academic year including change to academic regulations.
2. August 2025: Programme specification made accessible on new template
3. May 2026: Annual changes for 2026 entry, updated references.
4. November 2026: Medicine foundation transfer and formatting corrections.

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About this programme

Clinical Sciences at the University of Bradford is a multidisciplinary degree programme which provides students with integrated understanding of science and health-related issues in preparation for varied careers in healthcare, research and the pharmaceutical and bioscience sectors. The programme will also prepare students for entry to graduate-entry medicine and dentistry and physicians associate programmes. Clinical Sciences is three years full-time, or four years including an integrated foundation year (dependent on entry qualifications).

Depending on an applicant's qualifications and experience in healthcare settings, entry to the programme is either via the **Foundation Year in Clinical Sciences and Medicine** or directly into year one of the **BSc Clinical Sciences** programme. This allows for different rates of development for students from a variety of educational backgrounds. On successful completion of the Stage 0 Foundation Year students may be eligible to apply for internal transfer to other degree programmes such as Pharmacy or Optometry, providing they meet both the academic requirements and pass the course interview process. Students may choose to apply, via the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS), to medical schools during foundation year.

Clinical Sciences has a link with **Sheffield Medical School**, who offer a limited number of places for students who meet the academic and widening participation criteria - application to SMC is via UCAS in June at the end of the Foundation Year (to the standard 5 year MBChB programme) or Stage 1 (to the 4 year MBChB programme). Please note these places are for **UK students only**. For more information please visit the **Sheffield Medical School website**.

Core scientific knowledge in medical sciences and anatomy from subcellular organelles to body systems will be supplemented with a strong emphasis on personal and professional development throughout the BSc Clinical Sciences programme. This will provide students with the confidence and transferable skills to engage in effective lifelong learning in their future career. Students will also develop research and critical analysis skills which are essential in the ever-changing medical and scientific landscape. Opportunities for Clinical Sciences graduates will reflect their portfolio of medical science, clinical insight, health studies, management studies, professional and transferable skills. In addition, Clinical Sciences has been proven to be an accepted and popular route into graduate medicine, dentistry, physicians associate and MSc programmes throughout the United Kingdom. Graduating students will be able to embark upon a career within the National Health Service including health service management and specialist clinical and healthcare scientist training programmes.

Placements, meaningful clinical experiences and interaction with patients and carers with be used to provide valuable experience and context. Students also have the option to undertake an elective placement/ study abroad year between stages two and three. This can either be at a university outside the United Kingdom or within a partner company or institution.

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Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- Develop approaches to learning and teaching that are based on curiosity and exploration of knowledge in preparation for lifelong learning and reflective practice.
- Encourage autonomous learning, critical analysis and an understanding of the constraints and limitations of scientific, clinical, and medical research.
- Produce graduates with excellent communication, teamwork, problem-solving, decision-making, organisational and time management skills who are well prepared for employment or further study.
- Develop students' ability to critically appraise advances in science and health technologies through an ethical framework; students will learn to articulate a debating position based on their informed opinion.
- Develop respect for colleagues and service users that encompasses, without prejudice, diversity of background and opportunity, language, culture, and way of life.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of health and its promotion, healthcare management, the causes and mechanisms of disease, prevention, and treatment.
- Give students the opportunity to study abroad or undertake an industrial placement

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the RQF Level 3 Foundation Certificate award, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an awareness of professional boundaries.
2. Assess and reflect on personal and professional growth and recognise the importance of managing time, self and resources effectively.
3. Apply self-directed learning skills to research, review and summarise science and health-related publications.
4. Individually and as a team undertake oral and written presentations, problem-solving, numerical and laboratory skills.
5. Apply fundamental chemistry concepts to biological systems and medical treatments.
6. Identify and understand core aspects of human biology and anatomy.
7. Understand the importance of, and evaluate, the roles of health and social care workers and the National Health Service.

To be eligible for the FHEQ Level 4 Certificate of Higher Education award, students will be able to:

8. Evaluate and reflect on personal and professional growth and demonstrate the importance of managing time, self and resources effectively.

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9. Apply self-directed learning skills to research, review, summarise and present science and health-related publications.

10. Evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data taken from relevant publications and communicate the results accurately and coherently in a structured manner.

11. Understand the structure and normal function of the cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, reproductive, urogenital, and gastrointestinal systems.

12. Understand the scientific principles of the causes, symptoms, and treatment of cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, reproductive, urogenital, and gastrointestinal disease.

13. Individually and in groups undertake oral and written presentations, and demonstrate problem-solving, numerical and laboratory skills.

14. Evaluate and interpret ethical and legal issues within healthcare to make sound judgements with structured and coherent arguments.

To be eligible for the FHEQ Level 5 Diploma of Higher Education award, students will be additionally able to:

15. Reflect, analyse, and take responsibility for personal progress and effective skills development in order to manage time, self and resources effectively.

16. Develop and evaluate personal and professional skills including effective oral and written presentation, problem-solving, decision making and team-working skills.

17. Research, review and critically analyse science and health-related literature and experimental data using independent learning skills.

18. Demonstrate a critical understanding and application of the underlying principles relating to the pathology and treatment of common diseases and disorders.

19. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the underlying principles relating to global and digital heath.

20. Understand the application of current, future, and emerging technologies in healthcare and scientific research.

To be eligible for the FHEQ Level 6 Ordinary Degree award, students will be additionally able to:

21. Apply and critically evaluate the concepts and principles of management in healthcare to make informed judgements and decisions about contemporary issues and polices.

22. Critically analyse and interpret current and future trends and developments in science and healthcare provision in a socioeconomic and global context.

23. Understand and demonstrate coherent and detailed subject knowledge informed by recent research/scholarship in medical & clinical sciences.

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To be eligible for the FHEQ Level 6 Honours Degree award, students will be additionally able to:

24. Critically evaluate personal learning needs through reflection and demonstrate a commitment to continuous learning and professional development.

25. Deploy accurately standard techniques of analysis and enquiry within the discipline of medical sciences.

26. Critically analyse and present findings from relevant literature and experimental data using independent learning skills with an appreciation of the uncertainty ambiguity and limits of knowledge.

27. Apply knowledge and understanding in order to initiate and carry out an extended research project.

Curriculum

The University of Bradford offers modules in two semesters or across the whole academic year. Students will study 120 credits at each level (Stage) of the programme with a full degree worth 360 FHEQ credits. The map of studies is detailed in this section showing core modules (all Stages) and student selected options (in Stage 3 only).

Depending on initial qualifications and background, applicants may enter Clinical Sciences in Stage 1 or via the foundation year, Stage 0.

Stage 0
The foundation year offers an opportunity for students who do not have a science-based level 3 qualification to transition onto the BSc. The foundation year will provide the core knowledge in biology, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, and maths required for year one, Clinical Sciences. The foundation year will provide a transition between foundation level and higher education level study and equip students with the knowledge and skills to successfully complete a science-based degree. Consideration of health concepts from a global and socioeconomic perspective, the role and responsibilities of health and social care professionals and the consolidation of key skills will enable students to make an informed decision about their future career pathway.

Stage 0 Foundation in Clinical Sciences and Medicine Core Modules Table:

Code	Module Title	Credit	Level	Study Period
CLS3006-C	Chemistry	30	RQF 3	Academic Year
CLS3007-B	Academic skills and professional development	20	RQF 3	Academic Year
CLS4013-C	Human biology	30	FHEQ 4	Academic Year
CLS4014-B	Anatomy and medical imaging	20	FHEQ 4	Academic Year
CLS4015-B	Public health and community	20	FHEQ 4	Academic Year

Students who successfully complete the foundation year will be eligible to progress to stage one of the BSc Clinical Sciences programme. The foundation year is currently accepted for entry to other programmes in the University of Bradford (see our website for details), Sheffield Medical School

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(via UCAS) and some other medical schools. Many medical schools within the United Kingdom will also require the completion of Stage 1 before considering entry from this programme.

Stage 1
In year one of the BSc in Clinical Sciences students will follow an integrated systems-based approach to study physiological systems of the body and disease. In addition to the underlying scientific principles, students will address multi-professional healthcare issues and develop their transferable skills.

Stage 1 Clinical Sciences Core Modules (FHEQ Level 4) Table:

Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Study Period	Select
CLS4009-B	Academic Skills & Professional Development	20	Academic Year	Core
CLS4010-B	Ethics, Law and Values in Healthcare	20	Academic Year	Core
CLS4011-U	Systems Physiology and Anatomy	80	Academic Year	Core

Students who successfully complete Stage 1 will be eligible to progress to Stage 2 of the BSc Clinical Sciences programme. Completing Stage 1 of this programme is a common time to apply to transfer to a medical school medicine course including another opportunity for our link with Sheffield Medical School (via UCAS). Most students should expect to continue onto and complete BSc Clinical Sciences which is a valuable qualification in its own right.

Stage 2
In Stages 2 and 3 of the Clinical Sciences programme students will continue with the themes of systems-based learning, anatomy, drug action, healthcare challenges, innovation, and mechanisms of disease and pathology. Emphasis will be placed on the development of effective communication, cultural awareness, and team-working skills to provide students with the confidence and competence to embark on a career in research or allied health professions.

Stage 2 Clinical Sciences Core Modules (FHEQ Level 5) Table:

Code	Module Title	Credit	Study Period	Select
CLS5007-B	Anatomy and Pathology of Disease	20	Academic Year	Core
CLS5008-Z	Careers and Professional Development	0	Academic Year	Core
CLS5014-B	Digital Health	20	Academic Year	Core
CLS5010-B	Global Health	20	Academic Year	Core
CLS5011-B	Medical and Molecular Genetics	20	Academic Year	Core
CLS5012-B	Neurobiology and Mental Health	20	Academic Year	Core
CLS5013-B	Pharmacology and Therapeutics	20	Academic Year	Core

Students who successfully complete Stage 2 will normally progress onto Stage 3 of the BSc Clinical Sciences programme or will begin an elective placement or study abroad year.

A work placement can provide valuable experiential learning in a healthcare setting or in the pharmaceutical or biosciences sector. Not only will this improve students' understanding of final

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year material through application of knowledge, but a placement year may also significantly enhance employment opportunities. Similarly, international opportunities are an exciting way for students to enhance their CV in an increasingly global environment and further develop understanding of other cultures and language skills.

Students wishing to take this option will be registered for, or transferred to, the "sandwich" route. Students registered on the sandwich programme who successfully progress to stage 3 at the stage 2 assessment, award and continuation board (at their first attempt) will be eligible for the placement or study abroad year.

Stage 2C Clinical Sciences Elective Sandwich Year Modules (FHEQ Level 5) Table:

Code	Module Title	Credit	Period	Module Selection
CLS5001-Z	Study Abroad Experience	0	Full year	International opportunity
CLS5006-Z	Placement (Clinical Sciences)	0	Full year	Work placement

Students who wish to participate in a placement or period of study abroad will be required to find, apply for and make the most of their chosen opportunity, and will be supported in doing so by the Programme Team as well as the central University services supporting placements or international opportunities. Any placement or period of study abroad is subject to approval by the Programme Team. Further information about general and Faculty-specific placement and study abroad opportunities is available, visit: https://www.bradford.ac.uk/study/abroad/ or https://www.bradford.ac.uk/careers/jobs/internships-and-placements/

Stage 3

In the final stage, students will have optionality in the supplementation and diversification of their core scientific knowledge through a choice of research topics to study. Students will get a further opportunity to choose between studying genomics and personalised medicine and the anthropology of illness and disease, allowing students to align their third-year modules to their chosen career path. The Research Project will allow students to undertake hypothesis-driven research and prepare for higher level study. **Students at Stage 3 will study 100 core credits and select 1 module option:**

Stage 3 Clinical Sciences Modules (FHEQ Level 6) Table:

Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Study Period	Selection
CLS6008-Z	Careers and Professional Development	0	Academic Year	Core
CLS6010-D	Research Project	40	Academic Year	Core
CLS6006-B	Advanced Topics	20	Semester 1	Core
CLS6009-B	Health Economics & Management	20	Semester 1	Core
CLS6011-B	Anthropology of Illness and Disease	20	Semester 1	Option
CLS6012-B	Genomics and Personalised Medicine	20	Semester 1	Option
CLS6007-B	Research Skills	20	Semester 2	Core

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Programme Learning and Teaching Strategy

The learning and teaching strategies acknowledges the wide diversity of educational backgrounds with which students may enter the programme and the different exit points of students and graduates. Consequently, a variety of teaching and learning opportunities are used to reflect the differences in learning styles between students and to address the programme learning outcomes. Students are expected to demonstrate greater autonomy in their learning as they progress through the programme.

Students' knowledge, understanding and discipline skills are developed through lectures, practicals, group work, seminars, tutorials, workshops, online quizzes, debates, simulations, external visits and computer-assisted and self-directed learning. Case studies, group work, individual assignments, verbal presentations, problem-based learning and a portfolio will be used to develop students' personal transferable skills in self-directed learning and reflective practice in preparation for lifelong learning. Where appropriate, students' learning will be supported through integrated digital resources enabling students to learn in a flexible and independent way.

Personal and professional development, including academic skills, are key themes throughout the programme to enable students to build on essential transferable skills necessary for graduate employment or further study. Students will be taught how to identify their own learning needs, utilising skills assessment strategies and action planning to support the development of their personal transferable skills.

Assessment Strategy

The assessment strategy is designed to allow students to demonstrate achievement of the learning outcomes of an individual module appropriate to the level of study and the learning outcomes of the programme. These learning outcomes are consistent with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. At levels 3 - 4, students will be examined, primarily, on the breadth of knowledge via multiple choice questions and short answer questions. Coursework assignments will give the opportunity to gain experience in report writing and data handling and interpretation. As students progress through levels 5 and 6 they will have the opportunity to demonstrate increasing skills of analysis, synthesis and criticism through a wide variety of assessment strategies, including written examinations, report writing, case studies, group work, essays, presentations and a dissertation. The research project report (dissertation) provides a major opportunity to demonstrate autonomy in data handling and critical interpretation in a research context.

Formative assessments are embedded throughout the programme to allow students to become familiar with new types of assessment and to enable students to assess and reflect on their own progress. Formative assessments will often be delivered as ongoing, in-class assessments using a variety of different methods as opposed to being formal examinations.

Assessment, Continuation and Award Regulations

This programme follows the Assessment, Continuation and Award regulations published on the University's website (**https://www.bradford.ac.uk/about/legal-and-governance/governance/regulations/**) for undergraduate courses (Regulation 2)

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Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience such as clinical placements and voluntary experience.

The **minimum entry requirements** for the programme are as follows:

GCSE English Language, Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry (or Combined Science) at grade C or 4.

- For international students, the level of English required is listed on the **University of Bradford English language requirements website**.International applicants who do not meet the IELTS requirement can take a **University of Bradford pre-sessional English course**. Examples of other equivalent international qualifications for entry are provided on the **University of Bradford page for a country or region**.

Typical UCAS offers for Foundation in Clinical Sciences and Medicine

- A Levels: 104 UCAS points from 3 full A-levels, there are no subject-specific requirements.
- T Levels: Not currently accepted for this course.
- BTEC Extended Diploma: DMM, there are no subject-specific requirements.
- Access to Higher Education: 106 UCAS points, there are no subject-specific requirements.
- International Baccalaureate: 104 UCAS points from 3 HL subjects plus HL 3 or SL 4 in Maths and English Language and Literature A or English B.

On completion of a UCAS application, students are invited to attend an Applicant Experience Day, where they will have the opportunity to meet staff, view the facilities and discuss studying at the University of Bradford with current students.

Typical offers for direct entry to BSc Clinical Sciences

- A Levels: 112 UCAS points from 3 full A-levels, to include A-level Biology and Chemistry at minimum grade BC.
- Please note that where a science A-level has been awarded since August 2017, the University requires applicants to pass practical elements.
- T Levels: Not currently accepted for this course.
- BTEC Extended Diploma: DMM in Applied Science (to include four Chemistry or Biology units graded at Distinction).
- Access to Higher Education: 112 UCAS points from a Diploma in a relevant Science-related subject.
- International Baccalaureate: 112 UCAS points from 3 HL subjects, including HL Biology and HL Chemistry with minimum grades 6 and 5. Plus HL 3 or SL 4 in Maths and English Language and Literature A or English B.

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On completion of a UCAS application, students are invited to attend an Applicant Experience Day, where they will have the opportunity to meet staff, view the facilities and discuss studying at the University of Bradford with current students.

Advanced entry
Applications for advanced entry will not be considered for this programme.

Information in this document is for the contemporary recruitment cycle and was accurate at time of publication. The current tariff and accepted qualifications for entry onto the programmes is published on course webpages: **https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/foundation-clinical-sciences-medicine/** and **https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/clinical-sciences-bsc/**

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