Faculty of Education and Health Sciences

Bachelor of Paramedic Studies
Practitioner Entry
Welcome to the University of Limerick Graduate Entry Medical School, where our unique practical and interactive approach to learning shapes exceptional individuals who contribute in a positive way to the world of Paramedic Science.

UL's Paramedic Studies Programme is open to experienced paramedics/advanced paramedics who can demonstrate current paramedic practice. It has a highly innovative curriculum which offers students the opportunity to complete an honours degree by predominantly distance learning. During your 2 years of study, you will be taught the basic medical and clinical sciences necessary to build you into a rounded and knowledgeable healthcare professional.

Earn an Honours Degree while still at work
### Academic Programme Structure

**Year 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology in Emergent Care 1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology in Emergent Care 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>300</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Year 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Hospital Trauma Management</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Health and Emergent Care</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>300</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Emergent Care Research</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Hospital Research Proposal</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Total ECTS Credits Year 1 = 60**

**Total ECTS Credits Year 2 = 60**

Exit with Level 8 - Major Award - Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Paramedic Studies
The curriculum is taught over 2 academic years comprising of 4 semesters. Each semester is made up of 12 weeks distance learning, one week revision and one week on campus for review, reinforcement and examination.

The curriculum has 4 main domains
- Knowledge of Health and Illness
- Clinical and Anatomical Skills
- Professional Skills
- Pre-Hospital Research

Educational Methodology

Recognition of prior learning is a foundation stone of adult education. We hope to build on your practical experience and integrate this knowledge with the most up-to-date e-learning resources. Students can work off site and can access the course 24 hours a day from anywhere in the world provided an internet connection is available (>2MB required).

Consolidation weeks then allow the students to assimilate new knowledge and skills and practise on our vast range of high fidelity simulators.
How you will be taught

Via Problem-Based Learning (PBL)

The ‘problems’ are highly structured hypothetical clinical cases, each of which takes a week to work through. Each semester, students are divided into groups of seven or eight, each with its own tutor in a tutorial room, with PC, state of the art AV equipment and walls lined with whiteboards. The group meets with the tutor to work through the week’s case. The tutor does not act as a teacher, but as a facilitator, guiding the group through the sequence of steps which have been devised to help students learn from the clinical cases. Each step and new development in the case (such as results of investigations or details of drugs prescribed) are only given out after the group has finished discussing the previous step.

By working through the problem and hypothesising about what is wrong with the patient, the PBL group comes up with a list of learning issues that represent the key knowledge needed to understand what is happening to the patient. The group members then independently research these learning issues in their own time.

At the next PBL tutorial, the group discusses what they have learned and the tutor distributes the next stage of the problem. The new information is discussed, new learning issues arrived at, and members again research independently.

The group report back again and the final stage of the problem is explored and the case concluded. By this time, the group is likely to have worked through:

- The original presentation of the patient at scene.
- The history taken by the paramedic.
- The examination findings.
- Any tests or assessments carried out (e.g. ECG’s, BM, Vital Signs etc.).
- The course of the patient’s illness (over hours, days, weeks, months or years) and the impact of this on the patient’s life.
- Treatment (pharmacological, surgical, psychiatric, etc.).
- The involvement of family and others close to the patient.
- Any complications that might have arisen.
- The outcome of the case (including rehabilitation, ongoing community care, etc.).

Independent learning times are not just about reading from textbooks. During these times, students are encouraged to visit and make use of facilities of the Anatomical Skills Education Unit and Clinical Skills Education Unit.

Staff will be on hand to provide support in whatever area you feel you need it. However, to a large extent, students in the programme will be both encouraged and expected to assume a high level of responsibility for their own learning. Students will not be ‘spoon fed’ and there is a deliberate strategy to minimise the amount of didactic teaching in the curriculum.
Entry requirements and how to apply

EU APPLICANTS

EU Entry Requirements
Candidates must currently be registered at the level of paramedic or higher with the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council of Ireland for a minimum of 12 months.

Hold a Diploma in Emergency Medical Science or Emergency Medical Technology equivalent to Level 7 (Irish Students) or have completed Health and Care Professions Council Paramedical training in the British Isles.

EU Application Process
Application must be made through University of Limerick, Admissions Office. The Course Code for Practitioner Entry Paramedic Studies is LM263.

Selection Process
Suitable applicants will be invited to an admission assessment which will form the sole entry route to the programme.

NON-EU APPLICANTS

Non-EU Entry Requirements
Non-EU Applications must satisfy the University that reciprocity can be demonstrated with the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council Education and Training Standards for paramedic level or above. www.phecc.ie

Non-EU Application Process
Applications must be made directly to the University. Application forms are available from the website: www.ul.ie/international and must be returned to: International Education Office, University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland. The Course Code for Practitioner Entry Paramedic Studies is LM263.

Selection Process
Suitable applicants will be invited to an admission assessment which will form the sole entry route to the programme.

Additional information
Further information, including information on Fees and Semester dates can be found on the Medical School website:

www.ul.ie/gems/para

The content of this brochure are for information purposes only and should not be viewed as the basis of a contract between a student and the University. No guarantee is given that the programme, syllabus, fees
IRISH / EU ADMISSION ENQUIRIES
Admissions Office
Tel: 00353 (0) 61 202015
Email: admissions@ul.ie
www.ul.ie/admissions

INTERNATIONAL ADMISSION ENQUIRIES
International Educational Division
Tel: 00353 (0) 61 202414
Email: int.ed@ul.ie
www.ul.ie/internationaleducation

PARAMEDIC STUDIES
GRADUATE ENTRY MEDICAL SCHOOL
Faculty of Education and Health Sciences
University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland
Tel: 00353 (0) 61 213521
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