

# Get ready for BSc(Hons) Physiotherapy

I hope that you are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your Programme Leader, I warmly welcome you onto BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy. I have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us.

I look forward to meeting you in September.

## **Louise Robbins**

MSc, PGCert, BSc (Hons), FHEA, MCSP  
Programme Leader BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy

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## **Before you start**

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 15 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the [Starting Block website](#) with more details.

Your [timetable](#) will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the registration process. Please visit the '[Understanding your teaching timetable](#)' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

## **Preparing and arrival**

You can find everything you need to know about registration, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our [Preparing and Arrival](#) webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the [library](#), [study skills](#), [academic support](#), [health and wellbeing support](#) and much more.

## **Registration**

Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the [MYUWE](#) platform where you can register. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Registration for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our [Registration](#) website.

## **ID card - upload your photo now**

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to [MYUWE](#). To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as possible. For help, go to our [student card guidance](#).

# How to make a successful start to your programme

## Specific for your course

In previous correspondence you will have already been informed about our additional requirements which must be completed ahead of Registration and Induction:

- **Academic certificates**
- **Disclosure and Barring Service check**
- **Occupational Health clearance**

Please keep a copy of your Occupational Health Clearance; you should be able to take a screenshot from the portal.

## Immunisation

Please read both the [Immunisation Letter](#) and [Immunisation leaflet](#) prior to commencing your studies.

If any of these requirements are still outstanding, you must send the relevant paperwork to us, as instructed, as soon as possible.

Please be aware that incomplete Disclosure Barring Service and Occupational Health Checks will impact on your ability to access learning materials, attend placements and complete your registration onto your degree programme.

## Placement Uniform

Details of how to order your placement uniform online will be sent to you by email soon after you start. This will include guidance to help you take accurate measurements that will be required to process your uniform order. You will also be asked to provide an address where your uniform will be delivered – please ensure that the address you provide is where you will be based when the delivery is made. Uniform deliveries will be made between late October and December. Look out for the email in your UWE email inbox and order your uniform promptly.

## Appropriate clothes for practical sessions

During practical sessions you will be practising skills and techniques on your peers, and we recommend that you wear clothing in which you can move about freely. There will be occasions where it is necessary to partially undress (e.g. to shorts or to a vest top/sports bra) to enable you to appropriately observe and assess the area of the body with which you are working and develop the professional skills necessary to ask patients and clients to do the same when working in clinical practice. This will only be done with your consent, and your dignity will be always maintained. We recognise that for cultural, religious, or personal reasons you may not be able to undress. In these circumstances we will meet with you prior to the practical sessions to agree suitable alternative arrangements (for example using privacy screens or wearing other suitable clothing). Please discuss any concerns regarding this with your academic personal tutor. As a guide, we recommend:

- T- shirt/polo top
- Sleeveless T-shirt/vest top/sports bra
- Sweatshirt
- Tracksuit trousers
- Shorts

### **Goniometer**

We recommend that you purchase a goniometer prior to starting the course, for use in the Clinical Anatomy module. Goniometers can be purchased for around £10 [online](#).

### **Stethoscope**

At some stage, you may wish to purchase a stethoscope for use in respiratory physiotherapy teaching and placements. You do not need to purchase this before the start of the course, and further information will be given to you during the relevant module.

## **Engage with your programme**

### **Start your learning**

You may also find it useful to refresh your memory of your previous learning of anatomy and the nervous system to help you be ready to study the first modules. The lower limb will be our starting point for the Clinical Anatomy module, and in the Neuroscience module we will be starting with anatomy and physiology of the nervous system.

### **Read around your subject**

A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and practices. To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. Explore the [Library](#) web pages to see the wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

- The following resources will also be helpful in developing your academic skills ready to start your Physiotherapy Degree: **Prepare for Study** [page](#) on library website. We would suggest that you go through the [workbooks](#) to help prepare your skills for critical thinking, note taking, organisation, and academic writing.
- **Self-reflection:** What are your strengths, needs, opportunities and barriers? This [template](#) will help to guide you with this reflection (you will need to use Firefox/Chrome as the browser).

We do not recommend that you buy books before starting the programme as there are diverse ways of learning and different books will appeal to different people. Each module has a reading list which includes access to e-books and journal articles via the UWE library, which will be available when you start.

Some useful resources to look at before you start include:

- The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) is our professional body, and the [website](#) has some great [resources](#) to help you prepare. The CSP student group are active on various social media platforms, as linked on the website.
- There are lots of podcasts and YouTube channels aimed at student physiotherapists, and the CSP website has a good [overview](#)
- [Health and Care Professions Council Standards of Proficiency for Physiotherapy](#) (you will receive a digital copy of these during induction week)

### **Connect with others**

You can follow @uwephysiosociety on Instagram for a taster of events on offer, organised by our student led physiotherapy society.

## Be prepared

### Access support

Check the information on our [Disability web pages](#) so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

### Get equipped

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the [Student Money Service](#) team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE website for detailed information on [choosing your IT equipment](#) including [recommended specifications](#).

For this programme we recommend the **Core Specification**.

### International students

[The Global Student Support Team](#) offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

## Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the course, please contact me: **Louise Robbins** via email at [louise3.robbins@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:louise3.robbins@uwe.ac.uk)

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Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2025

Last updated: Spring 2025