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 on behalf of the team. 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

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14 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 enrolment 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 enrolment, 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.

Enrolment
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 enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Enrolment for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Enrolment 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 Enrolment 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 enrolment 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.
- We recommend international students complete the UWE Thrive programme prior to joining. UWE Thrive is a free online course for international students to help you with your transition to life in the UK and studying at UWE Bristol. Several learning modules will introduce you to your new study environment, the UK education system, the rules, regulations and expectations and the help and support available to you, so you are fully prepared for your studies.

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

---

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 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026