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YORK
ST JOHN
UNIVERSITY

Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship

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The Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship (BSc Applied Biomedical Science programme) has been mapped to the Level 6 Healthcare Science Practitioner apprenticeship standard and is only open to colleagues in laboratories accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS).

www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/healthcare-science-practitioner-degree

Following successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a BSc in Applied Biomedical Science. Apprentices will have a scientific education accredited by the IBMS, coupled with relevant and current technical laboratory skills. Additionally you will develop discipline-specific competencies, research skills and personal transferable skills through completion of the IBMS Registration Training portfolio during your studies. The apprenticeship will take approximately 4 years to complete depending on prior knowledge and experience and the timing of the End Point Assessment.

About York St John University

The Biosciences academic and technical team that deliver the Healthcare Science Degree Apprenticeship partner with a range of NHS Trusts including York, Scarborough and Hull, who have supported and contributed to the development and oversight of both our undergraduate and degree apprenticeship provision. They were commended by the Professional and Regulatory Statutory Body degree apprenticeship accreditation event (2020) for the level of involvement of employers in designing and delivering the curriculum. Our employers liaison group meet twice per

semester and through these interactions, our programmes and students benefit greatly from links with local practitioners, curriculum development and innovation.

In 2018 and 2019, the Biomedical Science Degree Programme was ranked in the top 5 in the UK for student satisfaction from the National Student Survey.



“Degree Apprenticeships (DA) at York St John University are at the forefront of our ambition to provide advanced, high-quality opportunities in areas that address national and regional skills priorities.

The Healthcare Science Practitioner DA builds on the strong and long-standing relationship between our University and the NHS. It has been designed collaboratively to combine academic expertise and practical experience. Biomedical Scientists perform vital, life-changing work everyday. We are proud and excited to be working with you and looking forward to welcoming you into our learning community.”

Professor Karen Bryan, OBE
Vice Chancellor, York St John University



“It is essential that the local Trusts have a training route that supports existing staff to develop into Biomedical Scientists roles. It is particularly difficult to recruit biomedical scientists to work in Scarborough, but also York due to the high cost of housing. We have many staff who want to work and stay in their home towns, who just need the opportunity to gain the right qualifications. Our strategy is to ensure we make the best use of the levy by growing our own practitioners for the workforce. To have local provision at YSJ would really help meet our future plans.”

Joanna Andrew, Laboratory Medicine Manager (designate), York & Scarborough Hospitals



Healthcare Science Practitioner Apprenticeship Route Through Biological Science

Year 1 – 100 credits				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Semester	Day
Biological Molecules and Reactions	20	4	1	Thurs
Personal and Professional Development	20	4	1+2	Semester 1+2 Thurs
Biochemistry and Metabolism	20	4	2	Thurs
Introductory Microbiology and Immunology	20	4	Summer	Day release / flipped learning
Cell Biology	20	4	Summer	Day release / flipped learning

Year 2 – 120 credits				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Semester	Day
Human Anatomy and Physiology	20	4	1+2	Day release / distance learning
Clinical Biochemistry	20	5	1	Tues
Cellular Pathology	20	5	2	Tues
Molecular Biology	20	5	Summer	Day release / distance learning
Research and Analytical Methods	20	5	Summer	Day release / flipped learning

Progression point to Level 5 after 2 years – all Level 4 modules completed.

Gateway Assessment One – (18 to 20 months after starting the programme)

The Research Project is to be carried out in the workplace. 100 hours to be spent on the laboratory-based collection of data to be equivalent to the full-time research project at YSJ. The Placement Module for Biomedical Science is also completed in the workplace and is assessed by successful completion and verification of the IBMS Registration Portfolio and must be completed by the end of year 4 of study.

Year 3 – 60 credits (+ start of 40 credit research project work split over the summer and Year 4)				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Semester	Day
Medical Microbiology	20	5	2	Day release / distance learning
Haematology, Immunology and Transfusion Science	20	5	1+2	Fri
Pharmacology and Toxicology	20	6	Summer	Day release / distance learning
Research Project	40	6	Summer before Year 4	N/A

Progression point end of Year 3 when Level 5 completed.

Year 4 – 100 credits				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Semester	Day
Research Project (to include work based learning / log book)	40	6	1+2	Workplace
Placement Module for Applied Biomedical Science	0	6	Year long	Workplace
Cancer Biology	20	6	1	Thurs / Fri
Clinical Genetics	20	6	Summer	Day release / flipped learning
Biology of Disease	20	6	2	Thurs / Fri

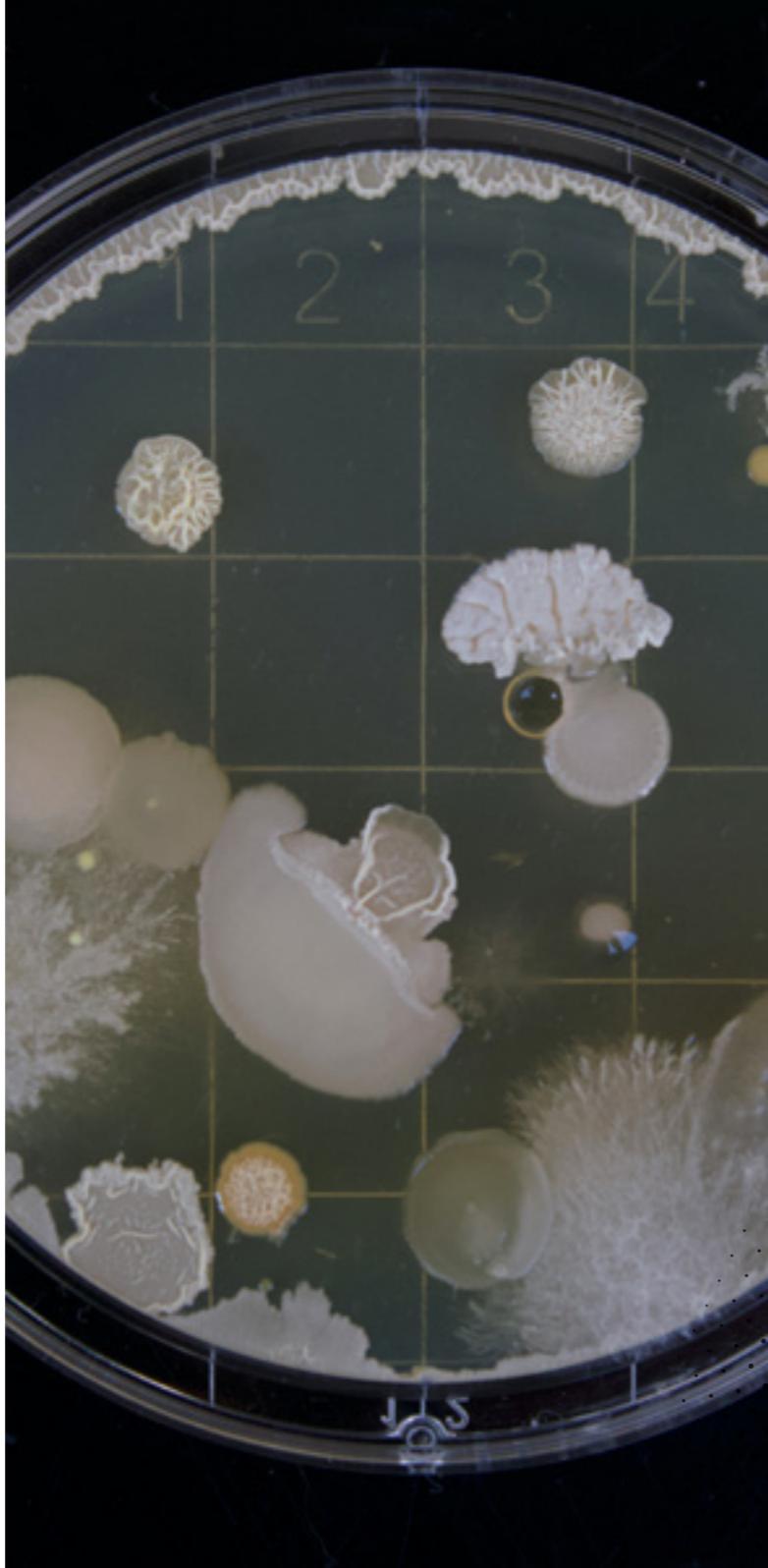
Complete all modules by June and go through exam board – have until October to complete EPA and graduate in November.

End Point Assessment

The EPA will cover all elements of the apprenticeship standard and will lead to the graded apprenticeship award and Registered Scientist status.

End point assessments (EPA) to include:

1. a Readiness for Practice Test (RPT) which is a type of situational judgment test;
2. a Professional Discussion (PD) based on the apprentice's portfolio or record of evidence, and
3. a Presentation and Review of the apprentice's research project completed as partial fulfilment of the BSc



Teaching and Learning

Blended Learning:

Effective and inclusive learning and teaching is facilitated through the delivery of modular content using a blend of face to face taught sessions, practical classes, academic tutorials and virtual learning environment.

Assessments / quizzes / videos / on-line tutorials plus the use of apps and all of our recommend textbook resources are available as e-books through our library website.

Members of the academic team have extensive experience of developing distance learning modules, which will be extremely useful for working with employers to develop and deliver apprenticeship courses.

Quality Marks:

The mapping of the Applied Biomedical Science BSc programme to the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) ensures the programme and modules are taught and assessed at the appropriate level. All modules have also been mapped to the required Skills, Knowledge and Behaviours required for the Healthcare Science Practitioner Level 6 degree apprenticeship standard. First Year Personal and Professional Development and Second Year Research and Analytical Methods develop skills in numeracy and also essay writing. Further support required will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Teaching team:

All academic staff are Fellows (or Senior Fellows) of the Higher Education Academy or enrolled on the Postgraduate teaching qualification for Higher Education. The team includes four laboratory technicians who combined have over fifty years of experience of working in the laboratory setting. The Associate Head of School: Biosciences has significant programme development, quality assurance and management experience for full-time, part-time and distance learning module delivery, as do the rest of the academic team. All academic staff are research active and have peer reviewed articles in both scientific and pedagogical research

www.yorks.ac.uk/schools/health-sciences/staff-profiles/biomedical-science

Teaching and Learning (continued)

Inclusive:

Our small cohort sizes (fewer than 30 students per year currently) mean that the apprentices will not get “lost” on the days when they attend taught sessions on campus and will also quickly get to know the other students and academic staff.

The apprentices can also access the Student Union and Study Development support when they are on campus. Our Subject Librarian will also be involved in the key skills modules to help with referencing and searching literature. The Digital Training Team also support our apprentices with their personal e-portfolio development to evidence their 20% off the job activities.

Pastoral Support:

All apprentices are assigned to a member of staff as their Personal Tutor throughout their studies. The Personal Tutor is responsible for the student’s pastoral care during their time at university and is the first point of contact for areas of concern or guidance. This regular contact with academic staff and the relationship that builds with the personal tutor means that the academic staff can intervene early if there are any issues with lack of engagement or achievement by any student. This helps with our excellent student retention and progression through the programme and would be exactly the same arrangement for apprentices, so that they also have personal tutorials on their campus days.

Assessment Load:

The assessment types in our degree have been designed to follow a spiral curriculum in that assessment types or previous academic content is revisited as the programme progresses. The types and timings of assessments have been carefully planned to avoid over-assessment of one assessment type or clustering of summative assessments. This will be advantageous to apprentices who will be balancing their studies with their normal work commitments. In addition, the theoretical aspects of the Healthcare Science Practitioner programme are assessed by a range of diverse methods, including: laboratory reports, essays, oral presentations, posters, in programme tests, portfolios, data handling / problem solving and viva voce exams which will lend themselves to building confidence in the apprentices for their end point assessment.

Support for Apprentices

Apprentices can access support throughout their time studying at York St John. They will have access to the full range of services and support that we offer on our York or London campus to all students and through our virtual learning environment.

- 24-hour global access to ‘Moodle’ our virtual learning environment full of your course resources and more
- Use of the University sports facilities, including gym, fitness classes and our brand new £3.8 million sports facilities at Haxby Road playing fields
 - Full access to the YSJ library 24 hours a day
- Membership of our Student Union which has over 60 sports clubs and societies to get involved with
- Access to the wide range of academic and wellbeing support from our University Student Support Team - you can find out more via our Vacancies page:
www.yorks.ac.uk/study/degree-apprenticeships/degree-apprenticeship-vacancies/

“Apprenticeships are an integral part of staff development process. We have traditionally always had difficulties in recruiting staff into Hull. An alternative route is to embrace apprenticeships especially at HCS level 6, and to develop existing support staff to scientific staff.

Working with YSJ would be ideal as a location, and the course being a day or block release would suit our needs. Additionally with Hull and York/Scarborough forming a partnership it would be a perfect location.

As the course is IBMS accredited it will enable us to ensure continuity of BMS staff across the three sites.

Our Trust already has strong links with other Health courses at YSJ university and apprenticeship agreements are already in place. The structure and content of the course, with the additional benefit of an apprenticeship level 6, would be extremely beneficial in ensuring that we are able to develop existing staff which ultimately leads to maintaining a patient-focused service fit for purpose.”

Dr Christopher Chase BSc, MMed, Ed.D, FIMLS,
Pathology Education and Training Manager, Hull University Teaching Hospitals





Admissions

Start Date:

September 2023

Length:

48 months plus end point assessment,

Fees:

£27K

Funding Support:

This programme is offered exclusively as a level 6 Degree Apprenticeship and matches the necessary government standards and requirements, allowing levy paying companies in England to offset their levy payments when engaging employees in this development programme.

Contact

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A guide to onboarding apprentices at YSJU

Suitability and eligibility

We will discuss your apprenticeship needs with you and the suitability of the apprentice for the programme. We will start the registration, contracting and admissions onboarding processes with you.

Contracting

YSJU offers degree apprenticeship training on the terms set out in our standard apprenticeship training services agreement – a copy of which is provided from the start of onboarding for your legal/procurement team’s scrutiny and approval. The completion deadline for this is 4-6 weeks before induction.

Admissions

Learner is sent application link once employer has agreed in principle.

Timescale: 6-8 weeks before induction (beginning of August)

Initial Needs Assessment (INA) On satisfactory receipt of evidence, the learner is asked to complete an Initial Needs Assessment (INA) to determine their Individual Learning Plan (ILP), the duration and price of their apprenticeship.

Timescale: 5-7 weeks before induction

Commitment Statement & Apprenticeship Agreement

Learner receives a conditional offer letter with a commitment statement for completion of personal details and signing by both Learner and Employer. Employer must ensure they have an Apprenticeship Agreement in place and that the dates match those on the Commitment Statement.

Timescale: 4-6 weeks before induction



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