



UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Title:	Medical Illustration
Awarding Body:	Staffordshire University
Final Awards:	Graduate Certificate in Clinical Photography Graduate Certificate in Graphic Design for Health Care Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Photography Postgraduate Certificate in Graphic Design for Health Care
Teaching Institution:	Staffordshire University
Intermediate Awards:	
Mode of Study	
UCAS Codes:	
QAA Subject Benchmarks:	N/A
Professional/Statutory Body	
Date of Production:	November 2006
Date of Revision:	

**If you require this document in a larger text or a different media please
contact us.**

EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The aim of this programme is to provide continuing professional development, including specialist knowledge and skills, for people who are already in work as medical illustrators and whose first degrees are in related disciplines. The programme has been developed as a collaboration between the Institute of Medical Illustrators and Staffordshire University, in order to meet the specific needs of those who practise as clinical photographers, or as graphic designers in the professional context of medical illustration.

The programme consists of a scheme of four awards, two Graduate Certificates (one each in Clinical Photography and Graphic Design for Health Care) and two Postgraduate Certificates (again, one for each professional discipline). This optimises choice for students, who can decide at the outset whether they wish simply to develop the knowledge, skills and critical awareness required for professional practice and registration, or whether they are interested in the more advanced, more theoretical study that could, eventually, contribute to a masters programme.

The scheme has been developed with reference to the following sources:

- The University's mission statement in the Corporate Plan 2003-2008, which defines Staffordshire as an institution that endeavours to 'excel as a dynamic learning community' and the "Refreshing the University Plan" 2006 document that defines as one of our values: "building and sustaining an open and collaborative culture where innovative and radical ways of improving working practices are welcomed".
- The Health Professions Council Standards of Education and Training, November 2004, and their Standards of Education and Training guidance for education providers, (consultation document) April 2005.
- The University's Undergraduate Modular Framework, which complies with The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ), published in January, 2001.

With these documents as external reference points, the scheme aims to:

- 1 provide a supportive structure for learning that is stimulating and rigorous, in line with the FHEQ, the Health Professions Council's standards, and the University's Corporate Plan
- 2 demonstrably enhance the professional knowledge, skills and performance of clinical photographers and graphic designers for health care
- 3 provide a varied and challenging curriculum that is vocationally focused and highly relevant to the continuing professional development of students
- 4 enable students to become independent, reflective and self-critical.
- 5 support students' learning through structured academic and pastoral care and guidance.
- 6 promote life-long learning, by allowing students, already in work, to re-discover

the pleasure of learning

- 7 enhance student employability, through their acquisition of further knowledge and skills
- 8 Maximise student choice in determining the pace and location of their learning, and the achievement of learning outcomes, through a combination of distance delivery with workplace support
- 9 To provide a route to professional registration for clinical photographers and, eventually, graphic designers for health care

What is distinctive about this programme?

These certificates are the only CPD training courses that are currently available to UK based medical illustrators. The programme has many innovative features, in that it is delivered almost entirely in the workplace, by supported distance learning, and has been developed with very specific vocational needs in mind. It is studied in the most flexible way possible and rather than relying on occasional work placements, it is designed to encompass learning that takes place in the workplace, along with the acquisition and deployment of independent research and learning skills.

PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

What will this programme teach me to do?

At the end of your studies you should be able to:

Knowledge & Understanding Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key legal, ethical, biological, anatomical, physiological and technical issues in clinical photography or graphic design for health care, and in-depth knowledge and understanding of at least one of these issues
Learning Use a variety of research resources to generate information and learn new skills through the reflective practice of a range of photographic or graphic design techniques in different medical contexts
Enquiry Carry out structured enquiries into a range of issues in medical illustration and present findings in a variety of practical and written forms, including a critical, reflective enquiry into a specific issue arising from their own professional practice
Analysis Evaluate and interpret concepts and principles derived from the practice and study of a range of techniques and processes in medical illustration and subject these to a process of critical questioning
Problem Solving Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in relation to different medical illustration contexts
Communication Communicate accurately, reliably, and with structured arguments, the results of study in a concise and coherent manner, and convey visual information clearly and unambiguously, and deal, in writing, with complex issues and areas of doubt and ambiguity
Application Apply theoretical and technical knowledge and skills to a variety of medical illustration briefs
Reflection Review and evaluate theories and approaches to practice, in order to develop a critical, questioning approach and continually to improve the quality of the work

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE, MODULES AND CREDITS

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CLINICAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Route: Single (Hons)

<p>Core AM95002-6 Key Knowledge and Skills for Medical Illustrators(L6)</p> <p>(30)</p>	<p>Core AM95000-6 Clinical Photography(L6)</p> <p>(30)</p>
--	---

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GRAPHIC DESIGN FOR HEALTH CARE

<p>Core AM95002-6 Key Knowledge and Skills for Medical Illustrators(L6)</p> <p>(30)</p>	<p>Core AM95004-6 Graphic Design for Health Care(L6)</p> <p>(30)</p>
--	---

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CLINICAL PHOTOGRAPHY

<p>Core AM95003-7 Key Knowledge and Skills for Medical Illustrators (L7)</p> <p>(30)</p>	<p>Core AM95001-7 Clinical Photography (L7)</p> <p>(30)</p>
---	--

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE in GRAPHIC DESIGN FOR HEALTH CARE

<p>Core AM95003-7 Key Knowledge and Skills for Medical Illustrators (L7)</p> <p>(30)</p>	<p>Core AM95005-7 Graphic Design for Health Care (L7)</p> <p>(30)</p>
--	---

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT AND ASSESSED?

Teaching and Learning

The teaching, learning and assessment strategies are those which have already been tried and tested within the existing Post Experience Certificate course run by the Institute of Medical Illustrators. Students are provided with detailed handbooks that include guidance on study skills, advice on sources of information, and instructions for the completion of coursework assignments, along with assessment criteria. Assignments include seen examination questions, reports on specific topics, practical tasks and "assignment log books". Students become active directors of their own learning, by seeking out the knowledge and information they need, in order to complete their assignments successfully. They will be given guidance (in the award and module handbooks) on suitable sources of information, data, technical instruction and theoretical material. They may also go for help and advice to their workplace supervisor, or they may approach the Programme Leader, at the University. It will be the responsibility of the Workplace Supervisor, working with the student and the Programme Coordinator, to ensure that each student has access to the specialist facilities and clinical environments needed in order to complete the practical assignments.

Introductory Workshop

Students will attend an introductory workshop at Staffordshire University, during which they will receive all of their course materials, along with an introduction to the resources on which they can draw and an explanation of a variety of research methods. For Graduate Certificate students, this will be a full day event, and Postgraduate Certificate students will attend a further day of training in postgraduate level research methods, including primary research. As well as meeting each other and the staff team, students will be introduced to the range of research resources available to them. Staff will spend time explaining each of the modules and going through the assignments, so that students and their workplace supervisors are clear as to the work required, the deadlines for assessment and the academic processes surrounding their course of study.

Distance Learning Materials

Students will receive detailed module handbooks, including clear instructions on the assignments to be completed, assessment deadlines and details of research resources. The assignments: practical, research-based or reflective in nature, will guide students through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, practical skills and critical reflection on issues, theories and case studies. Students will be directed to key learning resources, such as the website of the Institute of Medical Illustrators and the e-journal, "Visual Communication in Medicine", as well as being supported in the execution of specialist, practical assignments by their workplace supervisors. Ensuring that the key sources of information are electronic, rather than print-based will safeguard the validity and currency of information on issues that are the subject of frequent changes, such as patient consent, copyright or data protection legislation. Assignments will be submitted to specialist assessors who will provide written formative feedback to students, as well as a summative grade.

Independent Learning

Independent learning is structured through a series of assignments within each of the modules. Students will use the assignments both to direct their learning through a combination of study and practice, and to demonstrate their achievement of the learning outcomes of the modules. Each assignment is based around a specific aspect of professional practice and requires the student to begin by researching a topic, technique, process or issue, or a combination of these. This research is

recorded in an assignment logbook, which functions as a reflective record, documenting the various learning activities involved. Based on this initial research, students will, with the support of their Workplace Supervisors, either apply their theoretical understanding to practical situations in the workplace, or write a report on their research/practical findings, or answer a series of questions designed to test their knowledge and understanding. This experience will be recorded and reflected on, in the assignment logbook, where students will note technical information, problems encountered (and their solutions) and will evaluate their own performance and learning. As the experiences of students in their day-to-day work will be closely related to the topics, themes and skills explored in their learning, they will have many opportunities to reflect on their learning in the light of their practice. This process will be facilitated by the Workplace Supervisors, and documented by students in their assignment logbooks.

Assessment

A variety of assessment methods, including essays, reports, seen examination questions and practical assignments will be employed in order to allow students to demonstrate their achievement of the learning outcomes. Assessment will be carried out by professional specialists who are expert in the particular knowledge and skills being demonstrated in the assignment, and most of whom are experienced in assessing very similar assignments within the Institutes Post Experience Certificate course.

In general terms, students will demonstrate:

- their knowledge, understanding and skills in enquiry and Learning, through their answers to a series of questions
- their skills in application and problem solving, through portfolios of practical work
- their knowledge, understanding, skills in enquiry, analysis and reflection, through the assignment logbooks
- their knowledge, understanding, skills in learning, enquiry, analysis, communication and reflection, through essays or reports

Students will receive written, formative feedback on their assignments, from the specialist assessors, as well as a summative grade.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entry Requirements (including IELTS score)

What qualifications would I need to join this programme?

Applicants for admission to the programme should already hold a first degree in a related discipline, or have gained at least three years' professional experience in medical illustration. It is a requirement for admission to the programme that students are currently in employment either as medical illustrators or as trainee medical illustrators and that they have the support of their line managers. They will need to provide the written agreement of a named person in their workplace (usually the line manager) to take on the role of workplace supervisor. Applicants for the

postgraduate awards will need to attend for interview, and admission to the postgraduate part of the programme will be dependent on the interviewer being satisfied that the candidate is prepared and suitable for postgraduate study.

Disability Statement

Staffordshire University operates a policy of inclusive teaching and learning to ensure that all students have an equal opportunity to fulfil their educational potential. Details about how to apply to have your needs assessed can be found at: http://www.staffs.ac.uk/study_here/disabled_students/index.jsp

Further information about the award can be found in the relevant Student Handbook and on the University Website. This includes information about optional modules, learning outcomes at levels below honours, student support, and academic regulations.

=====