



The College of Osteopaths Postgraduate Prospectus



Photograph courtesy of Ede and Ravenscroft

Admissions Office
College of Osteopaths
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The information given in this prospectus is, as far as possible, accurate at the time of publication.

The College authorities reserve the right to amend any of the described details without notice, if changed circumstances so require.



A Welcome from the College

Thank you for your interest in the postgraduate courses offered by the College of Osteopaths. The College is proud of its widening participation background and provision of a friendly and supportive environment in which to study.

Our new postgraduate programmes have been designed to be delivered in a flexible way, ensuring that the opportunity for further study is a real option for a wide range of students.

With an established record of graduating well-trained osteopathic practitioners and active members of the wider professional sphere, we have every confidence that our new postgraduate courses will meet the changing demands of the osteopathic profession.



A brief history of the College of Osteopaths

The College traces its immediate origins back to 1948 as a grouping together of individuals from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

A two-year Diploma course was initiated in 1961 aimed at mature students working in the medical field and the original Memoranda and Articles of Association were completed and signed on the 8th February 1966.

From 1978, the Diploma in Osteopathy (DO) was developed further to a five-year part-time programme, but still retained its mature student focus.

In 1988 the College became associated with the full-time course delivered by the Maidstone College of Osteopathy then under the guidance of John Wernham, a Fellow of the College of Osteopaths.

Following the 1988 report on osteopathic education prepared by the British Accreditation Council, the then president of the College, Jane Langer became one of the few osteopaths involved with the King's Fund Working Party on Osteopathy (1989-1991). Significant developments that arose subsequently were the Osteopaths Act (1993) and the formation of the General Osteopathic Council (GOsC).

In 1997 the Diploma offered by the College was validated by Middlesex University as a five-year BSc (Hons) programme of study and in May 2001 the Privy Council confirmed the decision by the GOsC to award the College Recognised Qualification (RQ) status.

During 2002/3 the College provided an RQ programme of training for those who had been unable to enter the GOsC's initial register of practitioners and these graduates were awarded a Certificate in Osteopathic Competence (COC).

Most recently in 2005, the College became the first to gain university recognition for a programme established in the North of England. The BSc (Hons) programme was successfully validated by Keele University and gained RQ status in 2008.

The College is justly proud of its historical emergence and values the contributions made to its growth and development by numerous individuals and organisations. Today the College ethos and make-up of its faculty reflects the importance of this history.



The Mission Vision and Values

Mission

The College of Osteopaths is committed to producing autonomous and reflective practitioners, capable of contributing to the health care needs of an ever changing population, as well as contributing to the shape of future health care provision. The College remains faithful to meeting the educational and professional needs of a diverse range of students and remains focused in providing a challenging professionally recognised programme, underpinned by innovative research, scholarship and professional practice.

Postgraduate Visions and Values

The College recognises that values are central to the nature of professional education and expertise. Establishing common values is a complex process therefore the College has involved a range of staff in the development of the programme in order to arrive at a general consensus in respect of the following values:

- 1) The osteopath's practice is a primary source of further learning
- 2) Professional practitioners do not rely solely on propositional knowledge but develop a repertoire of experiential knowledge. It is through reflection, research and confidence in this source that practitioners can be empowered to improvise and develop insight in respect of the primacy of practice.
- 3) Intelligent performance is not always preceded by consciousness of underlying theory, principles or propositional knowledge but it is beholden on the professional practitioner to develop a language to give account of performance.
- 4) Discussion of a diversity of views is essential in arriving at a shared understanding or respect for other opinions. Differences in interpretations of events are inevitable - this is not a weakness but a strength.
- 5) Education, rather than training, should be emphasised as it is about nurturing and emancipating the learner. Professional practice consists of more than skills - the practitioner must apply professional judgement.
- 6) Osteopathy is more than a set of defined techniques – it is practised according to an articulated philosophy and defined principles. Developing professional approach to practice is more about developing expertise in practitioners than developing technical experts. The promotion of professionalism is as important as that of specialism.
- 7) Learning occurs best in a social setting rather than through isolated deliberation.



Location

Teaching on all post graduate programmes takes place at the College Clinic in Borehamwood or at Middlesex University's Archway Campus. The Administrative Offices in Borehamwood also house a postgraduate study area and library.

Student Welfare at the College of Osteopaths

The College is fully committed to encouraging a friendly and caring community amongst the staff and student body. This commitment together with the help and the facilities of our collaborative university provides a strong and effective student support structure.

The College administration department serves as the main point of contact with students and there is a good network of internal communication between staff and students through personal contact, telephone fax and e-mail. The College values (and acts upon) feedback from students. There are regular internal meetings within the College and bi-annual meetings with University representatives, where students are represented.



Advanced Diploma in Osteopathy (ADO)

This part time Advanced Diploma in Osteopathy (ADO) is a modular-based programme which will appeal to a wide range of practitioners wishing to further their professional development. It is designed to develop, facilitate and advance osteopathic practice. The curriculum structure provides a framework for continuing professional development that is both stimulating and accessible. It also provides an opportunity to reflect upon and improve practice life.

The part-time nature of the course and the fact that the taught component is delivered at weekends allows students to continue in their place of employment. This is seen as a beneficial feature in order for them to contextualize their learning. This programme is delivered via both taught sessions and a work-based approach that centres the programme within the student's clinical practice and specific areas of interest.

The ADO is aimed at:

- Those with a Diploma in Osteopathy (DO) or Certificate of Osteopathic Competence (COC) who wish to gain the 'validation' that an ADO gives, but without studying for a full degree.
- Those who want to gain level 3 credits for Higher Education (H.E.) recognition purposes or want to use the credits for osteopathic Continuous Professional Development (CPD)
- Those who do not have the required academic qualifications or experience, to enrol directly onto a level 4 programme of study.

The Programme requires the student to gain 60 credits at Level 3 and consists of:

- One Compulsory Module, the Structured Personal Portfolio (SPP)
- Two Elective Modules chosen from five options; Cranial Osteopathy, Paediatric Osteopathy, Visceral Osteopathy, Osteopathy and Sports Injuries, Naturopathy.



Programme Map

		60 credits at Level 3	
Compulsory Module	Structured Personal Portfolio (SPP) (20 credits)		
Elective Modules	Semester 1	Semester 2	
	Cranial Osteopathy (20 credits)	Paediatric Osteopathy (20 credits)	
	Naturopathy (20 credits)	Visceral Osteopathy (20 credits)	
	Osteopathy and Sports Injuries Part One (20 credits)	Osteopathy and Sports Injuries Part two (20 credits)	

The Structured Personal Portfolio (SPP) is a supportive and interactive tool that is developed over the course of the programme.

Students will begin to compile the SPP from the very beginning of the course where they will be introduced to the principles and procedures required to compile the portfolio. Its overall purpose is to encourage the student to reflect on and evaluate their previous and current osteopathic education and clinical practice and to develop plans for the future. In this it supports the CPD activities and records as put forward by the GOsC.

The Elective Modules are drawn from six level 3 modules - Cranial Osteopathy, Visceral Osteopathy and Naturopathy, Paediatric Osteopathy, Osteopathy and Sports Injuries Part One and Part Two. There are plans to develop further modules at a later date in order to support the qualification of a specialism in the Diploma title e.g. ADO (Sports injuries).



CPD

Electives can be used for CPD purposes. Students can enrol onto one or more modules and opt not to take the assessments. A certificate of attendance will be awarded.

Entry Requirements - Advanced Diploma in Osteopathy (ADO)

The College of Osteopaths is committed to and experienced in enabling adult learners to achieve. The diversity of skills, knowledge and experience that applicants bring are therefore considered. The entry requirements below should be used for guidance only. ***This award does not constitute an entry qualification into the UK Register of Osteopaths.***

Entry Requirements - Advanced Diploma in Osteopathy (ADO)

- a) Degree in Osteopathy **OR**
 - b) Diploma in Osteopathy **OR**
 - c) Certificate in Osteopathic Competence **OR**
 - d) A final year undergraduate student of the College of Osteopaths **OR**
 - e) An EU or Overseas osteopathic qualification **AND**
 - f) Membership of the Register of the country of practice (if and where relevant)
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If you are unsure about your qualifications or experience, please contact the Admissions Office for advice.

Short-listed applicants are invited for an interview based on the information supplied on their application forms. The interview allows the College to assess the personal qualities of the applicants and gives the candidates the opportunity to highlight their strengths and abilities.



Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Studies (Osteopathy)

This part time Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Studies (Osteopathy) is a modular-based programme which will appeal to existing clinical tutors wishing to validate their skills and practitioners wishing to further their professional development or seek employment in this area. The curriculum structure provides a framework for continuing professional development that is both stimulating and accessible. The modules relating to learning and teaching are focussed on the clinical environment. Students explore the generation of relevant knowledge – its nature, assimilation, delivery and assessment. They are required to reflect on their own experiences of learning and/or teaching whilst relating this to underpinning theories and practices. These modules are combined with two optional modules.

The part-time nature of the course and the fact that the taught component is delivered at weekends allows students to continue in their place of employment. This is seen as a beneficial feature in order for them to contextualize their learning.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Studies is aimed at:

- Current clinical tutors wishing to validate their skills.
- Current practitioners wishing to further their professional development in this direction
- Those wanting to gain level 4 credits for Higher Education (H.E.) recognition purposes, or want to use the credits for Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

The Programme requires the student to gain 60 credits at Level 4 and consists of:

- Two compulsory Modules, - Clinical Teaching and Clinical Learning
- Two optional '**studies in the Field**' modules. The specialisms of cranial, paediatrics, visceral, sports injuries and naturopathy, provide the background for these studies, but the focus is on learning that identifies the wider context in which these take place, rather than solely on further training and acquisition of specialist skills.



Programme Map

Type of Module	*60 credits at Level 4	
	Semester 1	Semester 2
Compulsory Module	Clinical Learning (15 Credits)	Clinical Teaching (15 Credits)
*Optional Modules	Studies in the Field (15 Credits)	Studies in the Field (15 Credits)

*** 20 current and relevant credits at level 3 may be counted towards the 60 credits required for the Postgraduate Certificate**

Entry Requirements – Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Studies (Osteopathy)

The College of Osteopaths is committed to and experienced in enabling adult learners to achieve. The diversity of skills, knowledge and experience that applicants bring are therefore considered. The entry requirements below should be used for guidance only. *This award does not constitute an entry qualification into the UK Register of Osteopaths.*

Entry Requirements - Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Studies (Osteopathy)

- a) Advanced Diploma (Osteopathy) **OR**
 - b) 2nd Class Osteopathic Degree or above **OR**
 - c) A formal qualification in osteopathy and further clinic-based practice **AND**
 - d) Membership of the relevant national osteopathic professional body which thereby permits its practice
-



If you are unsure about your qualifications or experience, please contact the Admissions Office for advice.

Short-listed applicants are invited for an interview based on the information supplied on their application forms.

The interview allows the College to assess the personal qualities of the applicants and gives the candidates the opportunity to highlight their strengths and abilities.



MSc in Professional Studies (Osteopathy)

This part time masters degree in Professional Studies (Osteopathy) is a modular based postgraduate degree which will appeal to practitioners wishing to enhance their personal and professional development. It is designed to develop, facilitate and advance clinical and professional practice. The curriculum structure provides a framework for continuing professional development that is both stimulating and accessible. It provides an opportunity to reflect upon and improve practice life.

The part time nature of the course and the fact that the taught component is delivered at weekends allows students to continue in their place of employment. This is seen as a beneficial feature in order for them to contextualize their learning. Students will also be required to undertake studies within their practice as part of the degree assessment.

This programme is delivered via both taught sessions and a work based approach that centres the programme within the student's clinical practice and specific areas of interest. Authentic practice underpins the design of this curriculum - based on the lived experience of practitioners and not on the approximation as occurs in an undergraduate training clinic.

The Programme requires the student to gain *180 credits at Level 4 and consists of:

- Five compulsory Modules (120 credits) - Clinical Teaching, Clinical Learning, Professional Development, Research Skills and a Research Dissertation

The remaining 60 credits can be made up in a number of ways

- Four optional '**studies in the Field**' modules. The specialisms of cranial, paediatrics, visceral, sports and naturopathy, provide the background for these studies, but the focus is on learning that identifies the wider context in which these take place, rather than solely on further training and the acquisition of specialist skills.

Or

- 30 credits from the level 4 options and 30 credits from other **relevant** level 3 studies.

Or

- 60 credits from modules elsewhere in the Middlesex portfolio that are deemed relevant to the overall aims of the Masters programme (30 of these credits may be at level 3).

Or

- Some combination of the above



The Programme Map

MSc in Professional Studies				
*180 credits at Level 4				
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2	
Clinical Learning (15 credits)	Clinical Teaching (15 credits)	Professional Development (15 credits)	Research Skills (15 credits)	Research Dissertation (60 credits)
<i>Compulsory module</i>	<i>Compulsory module</i>	<i>Compulsory module</i>	<i>Compulsory module</i>	<i>Compulsory module</i>
<i>Options:</i>	<i>Options:</i>	<i>Options:</i>	<i>Options:</i>	
Studies in the Field (15 credits)	Studies in the Field (15 credits)	Studies in the Field (15 credits)	Studies in the Field (15 credits)	Options must make up 60 credits. A max of 30 can be at Level 3
Other: pre-accreditation (15 credits at Level 4)	Other: pre-accreditation (15 credits at Level 3 or 4)	Other: pre-accreditation (15 credits at Level 4)	Other: pre-accreditation (15 credits at Level 3 or 4)	

30 current and relevant credits at level 3 may be counted towards the 180 credits required for the MSc.



Entry Requirements – MSc in Professional Studies (Osteopathy)

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Entry Requirements - MSc in Professional Studies (Osteopathy)

- a) Advanced Diploma (Osteopathy) **OR**
 - b) 2nd Class Osteopathic Degree or above **OR**
 - c) A formal qualification in osteopathy and further clinic-based practice **AND**
 - d) Membership of the relevant national osteopathic professional body which thereby permits its practice
-

If you are unsure about your qualifications or experience, please contact the Admissions Office for advice.

Short-listed applicants are invited for an interview based on the information supplied on their application forms. The interview allows the College to assess the personal qualities of the applicants and gives the candidates the opportunity to highlight their strengths and abilities.



Admissions procedure

Applicants are required to complete and return an application form which can be downloaded from the College website or completed on-line.

A completed application consists of the following items:

Application Form.
Rehabilitation of Offenders Form.
Equal Opportunities Form.

Applicants are also required to provide:

Two references.
Four passport sized photos.
Copies of examination certificates
(prior to acceptance on the programme)

Address for postal applications:

Admissions Office
College of Osteopaths
13 Furzehill Road
Borehamwood, Herts
WD6 2DG

Tuition fees

Tuition fees are:

£650 per 15 credit module

£1950 for 60 credit Research module

The Academic Year

The main academic year starts in September and consists of 18 teaching weekends, divided into two semesters, finishing in late June.

The Borehamwood clinic is open six days a week (including three evenings), throughout the year (Saturdays on non-teaching weekends).



Teaching Dates

You will be notified in advance of which days from the following list are relevant to the modules you are enrolled on:

TEACHING WEEKENDS ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/09

2008

06/07 September	20/21 September
04/05 October	18/19 October
01/02 November	15/16 November
29/30 November	13/14 December

2009

10/11 January (last weekend of 1st Semester)

2nd Semester, 2009

31 January/1 February	14/15 February
28 February/1 March	14/15 March
28/29 March	25/26 April
09/10 May	23/24 May
13/14 June	

TEACHING WEEKENDS ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/10

2009

05/06 September	19/20 September
03/04 October	17/18 October
31 October/01 November	14/15 November
28/29 November	12/13 December

2010

09/10 January (last weekend of 1st Semester)

2nd Semester, 2010

30/31 January	13/14 February
27/28 February	13/14 March
27/28 March	17/18 April
01/02 May	15/16 May
12/13 June	