

Physiotherapy (Pre-registration) MSC

COURSE DETAILS

• Full-time: 24 months

KEY DATES

Apply by: <u>31 October 2025</u>
 Starts: 26 January 2026

Course overview

Gaining this qualification will promote your development as a physiotherapist. You will learn critical thinking skills, how to be resilient, resourceful and capable of providing outstanding patient care in the current and future healthcare system.

INTRODUCTION

This two year accelerated MSc Physiotherapy course will provide you with an excellent educational experience both in academic and clinical environments. It will support your development as a graduate with the ability and desire to make a meaningful contribution within the communities in which you live and work.

The programme has been divided into three key themes, clinical, professional and evidence based practice which run throughout the programme. These themes transition across the two years, ensuring that learning is applied and developed continuously to facilitate growth at each level of study. Within the themes individual modules have been developed in parallel to ensure that you benefit from a planned and coherent learning experience with an appropriate spread of workload across each year. Practice based learning is an essential part of this programme as it will allow you to experience a wide range of clinical settings and integrate theory and practice, developing clinical skills, professionalism and leadership.

Successful graduates will be eligible to apply for registration as a physiotherapist with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and to apply to become a professional member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This is a pre-registration course available to graduates wanting to study Physiotherapy for the first time and at master's level. It is not available to Physiotherapy graduates. The programme is also not a conversion course.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- An understanding of how multi-professional healthcare environments function
- Communication skills
- An ability to diagnose and manage a range of physical health problems
- Leadership qualities
- Research, report-writing and other transferrable professional skills.

ACCREDITATION

Successful graduates will be eligible to apply for registration as a physiotherapist with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and to apply to become a professional member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

YEAR ONE

All of our modules have been developed together to ensure that you benefit from a planned and coherent learning experience.

In the first year, you will be introduced to the foundational teachings of physiotherapy practice. You will also develop a base knowledge of how best to manage and treat patients presenting with different musculoskeletal complaints or surgical needs.

COMPULSORY MODULES

APPLIED SCIENCES PHYSIOTHERAPY (PHTY410)

Credits: 20 / Semester: semester 2

This 20 credit module is designed to provide students with the core knowledge and practical skills required in physiotherapy practice. Students will develop knowledge in relation to normal structure and function of bodily tissues, together with an understanding of the mechanisms of tissue healing, repair and aging, which are central to the assessment and management of all physiotherapy patients. Students will also have the opportunity to develop handling skills which are essential for providing safe and effective patient care and are fundamental to all fields of physiotherapy practice.

The learning and teaching strategy for this module uses a combination of self directed study, electures, tutorials and practical classes. Theoretical content will be delivered by electures and tutorials will support this material and assist the student with their understanding and application of the knowledge. Practical sessions will give students the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills under the supervision of experienced physiotherapists. Achievement of the learning outcomes will be assessed by an unseen written examination to assess the theoretical components and continuous assessment during practical sessions will be used to assess competency in practical skills.

FOUNDATIONS OF PHYSIOTHERAPY PRACTICE (PHTY411)

Credits: 20 / Semester: semester 2

This 20-credit module is designed to introduce students to the the core knowledge and practical skills that are required to plan and conduct an assessment and implement a management plan for patients with conditions commonly encountered in contemporary physiotherapy practice such as reduced mobility, muscular injury or balance re-education. Students will develop skills and knowledge in relation to communicating with patients, subjective assessment, objective assessment and clinical reasoning. Students will also have the opportunity to develop assessment skills which are fundamental to all fields of physiotherapy practice and plan and implement management strategies for patients based on current evidence. The module addresses the four pillars of physiotherapy practice: Clinical, Education, Leadership and Research. The learning and teaching strategy for this module uses a combination of self-directed study, electures, tutorials and practical classes using blended learning ie. online and face-to-face teaching. Theoretical content will be delivered by eLectures and tutorials will support this material and assist you with their understanding. Practical sessions will give you the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills under the supervision of experienced physiotherapists developing practical skills in relation to assessment and management. The theory and practical components will be utilised in a six week practice placement which will count towards the 1000 hours of practice placement mandated by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy for accreditation.

Achievement of the learning outcomes will be assessed by a 40-minute assessment, providing the opportunity for students to demonstrate their practical skills and theoretical / evidenced based knowledge in relation to their practice, and a six week practice placement which is a pass/fail component and must be passed.

EVIDENCED BASED MANAGEMENT OF MEDICAL, SURGICAL AND REHABILITATION PATIENTS (PHTY412)

Credits: 20 / Semester: semester 1

This 20-credit module is designed to advance students' knowledge and practical skills required to plan and conduct an assessment and implement a management plan for patients with medical and surgical conditions encountered in contemporary cardiorespiratory and neurological physiotherapy practice. The module addresses all four pillars of physiotherapy practice: Clinical, Education, Leadership and Research. Students will have the opportunity to develop their theoretical knowledge and understanding of the pathologies related to medical (including rehabilitation) and surgical practice and the supporting evidence based practice. They will develop specific skills and knowledge in relation to completing individually tailored subjective and objective assessment based on advancing clinical reasoning skills. Students will also have the opportunity to implement advanced, innovative management strategies for patients based on current evidence. The learning and teaching strategy for this module uses a combination of self-directed study, electures, case based scenarios, developed by service users, tutorials and practical classes and uses blended learning with both online and face-to-face teaching. Theoretical content will be delivered by electures but tutorials will support this material and assist the student with their understanding. Practical sessions will give students the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills under the supervision of experienced physiotherapists developing practical skills in relation to assessment and management.

Theory and practical skills will be put into practice by undertaking a 5 week practice placement which will count towards the 1000 hours of practice placement mandated by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy for accreditation.

Achievement of the learning outcomes will be assessed by a 1,500 evaluation of a patient case study and a 30 minute practical assessment providing the opportunity for students to demonstrate their practical skills and theoretical / evidenced based knowledge in relation to their practice. The practice placement is a pass / fail component and must be passed.

EVIDENCED BASED MANAGEMENT OF MUSCULOSKELETAL PATIENTS (PHTY413)

Credits: 20 / Semester: semester 1

This 20-credit module is designed to advance students knowledge and practical skills required to plan and conduct an assessment and implement a management plan for patients with musculoskeletal conditions encountered in contemporary physiotherapy practice. The module addresses the four pillars of physiotherapy practice: Clinical, Education, Leadership and Research. Students will have the opportunity to develop their theoretical knowledge and understanding of the pathologies related to musculoskeletal practice and the supporting evidence based practice. They will develop specific skills and knowledge in relation to completing individually tailored subjective and objective assessment based on advancing clinical reasoning skills. Students will also have the opportunity implement advanced, innovative management strategies for patients based on current evidence. The learning and teaching strategy for this module uses a combination of self-directed study, electures, case based scenarios developed by service users, tutorials and practical classes employing a blended learning approach with a mix of online and face-to-face teaching. Theoretical content will be delivered by electures but tutorials will support this material and assist the student with their understanding. Practical sessions will give students the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills under the supervision of experienced physiotherapists developing practical skills in relation to assessment and management. Theory and practical skills will be put into practice by undertaking a 5 week practice placement which will count towards the 1000 hours of practice placement mandated by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy for accreditation.

Achievement of the learning outcomes will be assessed by a 1,500 evaluation of a patient case study and a 30 minute practical assessment providing the opportunity for students to demonstrate their practical skills and theoretical / evidenced based knowledge in relation to their practice. The practice placement is a pass/fail component and must be passed.

RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL417)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module will enable students to develop a research proposal for either a review of evidence, empirical project, clinical audit or service evaluation that will contribute to the development of evidence-based healthcare practice.

The module is aimed at graduates from a range of different disciplines/subjects who have a range of knowledge and experience of research methods at undergraduate level and are looking to develop their research knowledge and skills further and prepare for a masters level research project in their own area of clinical practice e.g. diagnostic radiography, mental health nursing, occupational therapy or physiotherapy. The likely range of research skills in students from different undergraduate programmes is recognised and this module is designed to raise them all to the appropriate master level in the subject.

At the end of this module, students will be able to understand and appropriately critique the elements of 'the research journey' from conception of research question, through development of a proposal. They will be both consumers and producers of research who will meet the requirements of the standard of proficiency, for each profession, as laid down by the Health and Care Professions Council and the requirements of each professional body for evidence based practice.

The proposal produced in this module will then be undertaken as the students' dissertation in the final year of their pre-registration master programme.

The syllabus for this module is aligned to the Curriculum 2021 Hallmarks and demonstrates active learning and authentic assessment, designed to create students with greater confidence to understand research evidence, contribute to that evidence and be able to develop research in their own area of professional practice.

The module delivery will use a blended approach with face to face and online delivery supported with synchronous and asynchronous lectures, quizzes and profession specific interactive discussion boards and tutorials.

The assessments for this module will be a Research Proposal. The assessments can be tailored to focus on the student's area of interest and area of speciality and will include consideration of the ethical requirements of the selected project.

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

YEAR TWO

In year two, you will advance your professional capabilities through the exploration of more complex issues relating to the field of physiotherapy. Your clinical skills will also grow as you give more consideration to the qualities associated with physiotherapy leadership and service delivery.

COMPULSORY MODULES

ADVANCING PHYSIOTHERAPY PRACTICE (PHTY414)

Credits: 20 / Semester: semester 2

This 20-credit module is designed to advance students knowledge and practical skills required to plan and conduct an assessment and lead on holistic, innovative, individualised management plans for patients presenting with complex pathologies in musculoskeletal, medical, surgical and neurology settings and other patient groups including those with learning disabilities and mental health disorders. Students will have the opportunity to enhance their contemporary theoretical knowledge and understanding of complex or multiple co-existing pathologies encountered in practice and the supporting evidence based practice. They will develop specific skills and knowledge in relation to completing individually tailored subjective and objective assessment with complex patients based on highly advanced clinical reasoning skills. Students will utilise advanced management strategies for these patients based on their evaluation of the best available current evidence. The module builds on PHTY411, PHTY412 and PHTY413 and addresses the four pillars of physiotherapy practice: Clinical, Education, Leadership and Research. The learning and teaching strategy for this module uses a combination of self-directed study, eLectures, tutorials and practical classes and presented in a hybrid manner with a mix of online and face-to-face teaching. Theoretical content will be delivered by electures and tutorials will support this material and assist the student with their understanding. Practical sessions will give students the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills under the supervision of experienced physiotherapists developing practical skills in relation to assessment and management. Knowledge and skills will be put into practice by completing two, 5-week placements, Placement 4 and Placement 5 which will count towards the 1000 hours of practice placement hours required to be eligible to obtain accreditation with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy. Marks will be given using the Common Placement Assessment Framework (CPAF) format and provided to the student via the Online Placement Assessment Record and Evaluation (OPARE) platform.

Achievement of the learning outcomes will be assessed by a poster presentation submitted as a single PDF slide with a 1000 word limit, and a 60 minute Oral Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) relating to a clinical prioritisation task (20 minutes preparation, 40 minutes examination) providing the opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills and theoretical / evidenced based knowledge in relation to the management of complex patient presentations and prioritisation. With the clinical assessment being a pass/fail element for each placement.

DISSERTATION: HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL418)

Credits: 45 / Semester: whole session

This module comprises the dissertation for the preregistration healthcare programmers. It will enable students to undertake a piece of empirical research, a service evaluation/audit or a review of evidence in their chosen field of interest.

HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE DELIVERY (PHTY415)

Credits: 20 / Semester: semester 1

This 20-credit module is designed to provide students with the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills to become effective and innovative leaders in contemporary physiotherapy and healthcare practice. This will be achieved through the development of a community of practice in which all participants have an equal and active role within the learning. This approach spans the classroom based learning and self-directed learning activities. Key content areas including dealing with conflict, change and culture, leadership styles for contemporary practice in complex environments, resource management, workforce planning and self-development, service development and implementing change in clinical practice. It will be delivered by a range of experts with a proven track record of leadership and service delivery in demanding healthcare roles. The assessment for this module requires the students to demonstrate their leadership & service delivery knowledge and skills by presenting a written report on a proposed service development identified during students' placement experience.

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

HOW YOU'LL LEARN

Every aspect of teaching on the programme incorporates activities that stimulate, facilitate and guide your growth as a physiotherapist.

We place particular emphasis on clinical teaching. Not only will this enable you to improve your practical skills and enhance your experience of working in real healthcare environments, it will also push you to grow as a healthcare provider with strong leadership and communication skills – something you may rely on later in your professional journey.

Enquiry-based learning is something else that we attach particular value to as it encourages students to access and engage with content logically and meaningfully. It has also shown to enhance students' learning experience and support the development of graduates who have the skills to engage in self-directed, reflective learning and critical thinking.

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

Authentic assessment tasks have been included across the curriculum. These tasks demand that you demonstrate a meaningful and integrated application of relevant academic knowledge, skills and understanding. Many of these assessment tasks mirror the skills which you can expect to undertake as a registered physiotherapist.

LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

Careers and employability

Graduate physiotherapists are a vital part of modern health care and employment opportunities are available in the UK and abroad. With an MSc qualification, graduates can fill senior leadership positions across a wide array of physiotherapy settings, for private or national healthcare providers.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

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Our Careers Studio and career coaches can provide tailored support for your future plans. •
From education to employment
Employability in your curriculum for a successful transition

Networking events Make meaningful connections with like-minded professionals **YOUR FUTURE** Physiotherapists can explore a range of career paths, which venture into different aspects of the industry, including: • Research • Teaching • NHS • Sports therapy Orthopaedics • Occupational therapy.

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

TUITION FEES

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)		
Full-time place, per year	£9,250	

International fees	
Full-time place, per year	£29,100

Fees stated are for the 2025-26 academic year.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can pay your tuition fees in instalments.
- All or part of your tuition fees can be <u>funded by external sponsorship</u>.
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to <u>pay a tuition fee</u> <u>deposit</u>.

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. **Learn more about fees and funding**.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the <u>additional study costs</u> that may apply to this course.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries that could help pay your tuition and living expenses.

We've set the country or region your qualifications are from as United Kingdom. <u>Change it</u> here

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POSTGRADUATE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP - ACHIEVEMENT

• International students

If you're an international student joining a master's course with us, you could be eligible to receive a tuition fee discount of £2,500, based on your prior academic achievement, choice of course, and you not having studied with us before.

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POSTGRADUATE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP - COUNTRY

- International students
- Antigua and Barbuda
- o <u>Australia</u>
- <u>Bangladesh</u>
- o <u>Barbados</u>
- o Belize
- o Brunei
- o Canada
- o China
- o Cyprus
- o <u>Dominica</u>
- Egypt
- o Ghana
- Grenada
- <u>Guyana</u>
- o India
- o <u>Jamaica</u>
- o <u>Japan</u>
- o <u>Kenya</u>
- o Malaysia
- <u>Mauritius</u>
- o <u>Mexico</u>
- New Zealand
- <u>Nigeria</u>
- o Pakistan
- o Saint Kitts and Nevis
- o Saint Lucia
- o Saint Vincent and The Grenadines
- o <u>Singapore</u>
- o South Africa
- o South Korea
- o Sri Lanka
- o <u>Tanzania</u>
- Thailand
- Trinidad and Tobago

- Turkey
- <u>Uganda</u>
- o <u>Vietnam</u>

If you're an international student joining a master's course with us, you could be eligible to receive a tuition fee discount of £2,500, based on your nationality, choice of course, and you not having studied with us before.

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GRADUATE LOYALTY ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Home and international students

If you're a University of Liverpool graduate starting this master's degree with us, you could be eligible to receive a loyalty discount of up to £2,500 off your master's tuition fees.

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CHILEAN NATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (ANID) SCHOLARSHIP

- International students
- o Chile

If you're a Chilean student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a Chilean National Agency for Research and Development (ANID) Scholarship. Scholarship.

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CONSEJO NACIONAL DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGIA (CONACYT) AWARD

- International students
- o <u>Mexico</u>

<u>If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 30% discount on your tuition fees with a CONACyT Award.</u>

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FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES (FIDERH) AWARD

- International students
- o <u>Mexico</u>

If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree and you're in receipt of a FIDERH graduate loan, you could be eligible to benefit from a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a FIDERH Award.

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FUNED AWARD

- International students
- Mexico

If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree and you're in receipt of a FUNED loan, you can apply to be considered for a 20% tuition fee discount. A total of up to 50 awards will be available to master's and PhD students per academic year.

HONG KONG GRADUATE ASSOCIATION & TUNG FOUNDATION POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- International students
- o China
- Hong Kong

If you're a master's student from Hong Kong or the People's Republic of China who can demonstrate academic excellence, you may be eligible to apply for a scholarship worth up to £10,000 in partnership with the Tung Foundation.

HRH PRINCESS SIRINDHORN UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL SCHOLARSHIP (THAILAND)

- International students
- Thailand

If you're a student from Thailand joining a one-year master's degree, you might be eligible to apply to have your tuition fees paid in full and receive help with living costs. One award is available and only students who are new to the University will be considered.

JOHN LENNON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Home students

If you're a UK student, either born in or with strong family connections to Merseyside, you could be eligible to apply for a fee discount of up to £4,500. You'll need to demonstrate an active interest in global, community and environmental issues to be considered.

JUVENTUDESGTO SCHOLARSHIP

- International students
- Mexico

If you're a resident of the state of Guanajuato in Mexico joining a master's degree, you could be eligible for a 10% discount on your tuition fees with a JuventudEsGto Scholarship.

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP

- International students
- United States

If you're a USA student joining an eligible master's with us, you could be eligible to apply for a Marshall Scholarship. If your application is successful, your master's tuition fees will be paid in full. One Marshall Scholarship for master's study is available in each academic year.

POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITY BURSARY

Home students

If you're a UK University of Liverpool graduate joining a master's degree with us, you could be eligible to receive £3,000 off your tuition fees. You must have graduated in the last two years

and received a widening access scholarship during your undergraduate studies.

SPORT LIVERPOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

• Home and international students

<u>Apply to receive tailored training support to enhance your sporting performance. Our athlete support package includes a range of benefits, from bespoke strength and conditioning training to physiotherapy sessions and one-to-one nutritional advice.</u>

TURKISH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

- International students
- Turkey

<u>If you're a Turkish student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a Turkish Ministry of Education Scholarship.</u>

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UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE IMPACT PROGRESSION SCHOLARSHIPS

• International students

If you're a University of Liverpool International College student awarded a Kaplan Impact Scholarship, we'll also consider you for an Impact Progression Scholarship. If selected, you'll receive a fee discount worth £3,000 off the first year of your master's course.

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VICE-CHANCELLOR'S INTERNATIONAL ATTAINMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR MAINLAND CHINA

- International students
- o China

Are you a high-achieving graduate from the People's Republic of China with a degree from a Chinese university? You could be eligible to apply for a £5,000 fee discount if you're joining an eligible master's course. Up to 15 eligible students will receive this scholarship.

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
Postgraduate entry requirements	We accept a 2:1 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in biological sciences, health sciences or sports-based disciplines. Applicants with a 2.2 are invited to apply if they have relevant experience or evidence of further study. As Physiotherapy (Pre-registration) MSc isn't a conversion course, an undergraduate degree in physiotherapy isn't suitable.
	You should demonstrate a good understanding of the scope of physiotherapy practice, including an awareness of the various settings a physiotherapist might work in. This could preferably be indicated by observation experience of physiotherapists working in a variety of clinical areas, or by other experience which can be related to the skills and qualities required to work in a physiotherapy environment.
	Experience in a paid or voluntary capacity working with the general public, children, older persons or people with special needs will also help to strengthen your application.
	You should include a personal statement of no more than 700 words in support of your application. This should reflect on your understanding of the profession and relevant qualities valuable to a healthcare professional.
	An interview forms part of the selection process. The interview follows the values-based recruitment (VBR) process and you will be expected to demonstrate the relevance of the NHS" values and pertinent skills required to work as a physiotherapist.
	Please note: meeting the minimum criteria does not guarantee a place on the programme as competition is high. You are encouraged to present the strongest possible application.
	DECLARATION OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND

Requirements Your About our typical entry requirements qualification You will understand that as a health sciences student, and when you qualify, you will be asked to treat children and other vulnerable people. We therefore need information about any criminal offences of which you may have been convicted, or with which you have been charged. The information you provide may later be checked with the police. If selected for interview you will be provided with the appropriate form to complete. **HEALTH SCREENING** The University and the School of Health Sciences has an obligation to undertake health screening on all prospective healthcare students. Any offer of a place to study is conditional on completion of a health questionnaire and a satisfactory assessment of fitness to train from the University's Occupational Health Service. This will include some obligatory immunisations and blood tests. Please visit the <u>Higher Education Occupational Practitioners</u> website for further information. If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the **University of Liverpool International College**, in International qualifications partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MSc, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

THE ORIGINAL REDBRICK