

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN PALLIATIVE CARE



This is a three-year distance-learning course culminating in a BSc in Palliative Care, awarded by Makerere University. The course is suitable for health professionals with an interest in palliative care or supportive care. Those who already hold a diploma in palliative care can enter into the second year of the programme.

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Programme Title:</b>      | Bachelor of Science in Palliative Care                    |
| <b>Final Award:</b>          | Degree of Bachelor of Science in Palliative Care (BSc.PC) |
| <b>Awarding Institution:</b> | Makerere University                                       |
| <b>Teaching Institution:</b> | Institute of Hospice & Palliative Care in Africa (IHPCA)  |
| <b>Programme</b>             | Uganda National Council of Higher Education               |

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Accredited by:</b>       |   |
| <b>Fees:</b>                | International Students: USD\$2800 per annum<br>East African Community Students: USD\$2400 per annum<br>Excludes accommodation costs   |
| <b>Payment Structure:</b>   | For fee-paying students annual fees can be paid each year at registration or a 50% payment made at the commencement of each semester.   |
| <b>Scholarships/Grants:</b> | See "FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS" link   |
| <b>Entry Requirements:</b>  | <p>Entry to the programme comes under diploma, degree or previous palliative care training schemes as follows:</p> <p><b>Diploma Holders Entry Scheme</b><br/>For admission to the B.Sc in Palliative Care degree programme under the Diploma Holders Entry scheme, a candidate must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) A diploma in a health discipline</li> <li>ii) Working experience of at least one year in health related fields</li> <li>iii) A letter of support from a current employer</li> </ul> <p>Such Diploma Holders shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Clinical Officers</li> <li>b) Clinical Ophthalmic Officers</li> </ul> |

- c) Clinical Dental Officers
- d) Psychiatry Clinical Officers
- e) Pharmacy Technicians
- f) Physiotherapists
- g) Occupational therapists
- h) Social workers

#### **Degree Holders Scheme**

For admission to the B.Sc in Palliative Care degree programme under the Degree Holders Entry scheme, a candidate must have a first degree or its equivalent in a health related discipline such as Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, etc.

#### **Previous Palliative Care Training Scheme**

For admission to the B. Sc in Palliative Care degree programme under the "Previous Palliative Care Training Scheme", a candidate must have:

- i) A Diploma in Palliative Care from Makerere University/Hospice Africa Uganda awarded. In this case the student may be admitted to Year 2 provided he/she obtained good grades as judged by HAU
- ii) A Diploma in Palliative Care from any training institution that is recognised by HAU. The students may be admitted to Year 2 provided they had covered equivalent program content

|                             | relevant for year 1 as judged by HAU.   |       |            |       |           |  |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |  |
|-----------------------------|---|-------|------------|-------|-----------|--|--------|--|--|--|--|--|------------|--|--|------------|--|--------|--------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|------------|--|--|------------|--|--------|--------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|------------|--|--|------------|--|--|
| <b>Duration:</b>            | 3 years   |       |            |       |           |  |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |  |
| <b>Frequency of Intake:</b> | Once per year   |       |            |       |           |  |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |  |
| <b>Mode of Study:</b>       | <p>This course is structured over 6 semesters and two recess terms. The majority of the course is given through distance learning. A 4-week period of in-contact hours is held once per year. The programme has 2 entry levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year One: Applicants without prior training in palliative care.</li> <li>• Year Two: Applicants with a diploma in palliative care</li> </ul> <p>Must be registered to their professional regulatory body.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="6" style="background-color: #cccccc;">YEAR 1</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Semester 1</th> <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Semester 2</th> <th style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Recess</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Face to face</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Self study</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Exams</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Self study</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Exams</td> <td style="width: 20%;">Placement</td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="6" style="background-color: #cccccc;">YEAR 2</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Semester 1</th> <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Semester 2</th> <th style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Recess</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Face to face</td> <td>Self study</td> <td>Exams</td> <td>Self study</td> <td>Exams</td> <td>Placement</td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="6" style="background-color: #cccccc;">YEAR 3</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Semester 1</th> <th colspan="3" style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">Semester 2</th> </tr> </table> |       |            |       |           |  | YEAR 1 |  |  |  |  |  | Semester 1 |  |  | Semester 2 |  | Recess | Face to face | Self study | Exams | Self study | Exams | Placement | YEAR 2 |  |  |  |  |  | Semester 1 |  |  | Semester 2 |  | Recess | Face to face | Self study | Exams | Self study | Exams | Placement | YEAR 3 |  |  |  |  |  | Semester 1 |  |  | Semester 2 |  |  |
| YEAR 1                      |   |       |            |       |           |  |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |  |
| Semester 1                  |   |       | Semester 2 |       | Recess    |  |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |  |
| Face to face                | Self study  | Exams | Self study | Exams | Placement |  |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |  |
| YEAR 2                      |   |       |            |       |           |  |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |        |              |            |       |            |       |           |        |  |  |  |  |  |            |  |  |            |  |  |
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|                                     |  |              |                                       |       |                                       |
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| Face to face                        | Self study   | Exams        | Clinical Placement & research project |       |                                       |
|                                     | <p><b>One Year Diploma Option:</b></p> <p>Some students may exit the course following year one. If they have successfully completed the course units for the year they will leave with a Diploma in Palliative Care.</p>   |              |                                       |       |                                       |
| <p><b>Programme Objectives:</b></p> | <p>The main objective of the programme is to produce graduates from across Sub-Saharan Africa who possess the multiple skills to develop and manage palliative care services appropriate to their country situations as well as to lead the development and running of appropriate training, evaluation and advocacy programmes. It will also continue to increase the number of nurse/ clinical officer prescribers for palliative care in Uganda as those completing the first year of the programme (Diploma) would be recognised as prescribers according to the statute in place in Uganda.</p> |              |                                       |       |                                       |
| <p><b>Programme Outcomes:</b></p>   | <p>It is expected that a graduate with the <b>BSc. in Palliative</b> care would be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an advanced level of health professional skills in relation to complex clinical situations.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an advanced level of skills in the training, supervision and skills assessment of others.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an ability to design and run appropriate teaching and training programmes for</li> </ul>  |              |                                       |       |                                       |

|                           | <p>both health professionals and others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an ability to design, put into effect, monitor and manage a local palliative care service, including the production of relevant policies and procedures.</li> <li>• Apply critical thinking and academic writing skills in relation to a range of tasks including the evaluation of evidence, the writing of project proposals, and the planning and undertaking of simple evaluation, audit or research studies.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the skills required for palliative care advocacy in a wide range of contexts.</li> <li>• Demonstrate abilities as team-worker and as an effective operator across professional, organisational, economic and socio-cultural boundaries, so as to deliver the best palliative care service for patients within the resources available.</li> </ul> |             |                |             |                |        |    |     |             |       |   |     |           |        |    |     |           |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------|----|-----|-------------|-------|---|-----|-----------|--------|----|-----|-----------|
| <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> | <p>a) Each course shall be assessed on the basis of 100% total marks. Written examination will constitute 60% while written assignment - 40%</p> <p>b) Assessment of practice shall include competency-based assessment through OSCE's along with case studies with reflection on practice.</p> <p>c) The grading system for the programme will be as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="737 1049 1619 1291"> <thead> <tr> <th>Marks</th> <th>Letter Grade</th> <th>Grade point</th> <th>Interpretation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>90-100</td> <td>A+</td> <td>5.0</td> <td>Exceptional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80-89</td> <td>A</td> <td>5.0</td> <td>Excellent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>75-79.</td> <td>B+</td> <td>4.5</td> <td>Very good</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>  | Marks       | Letter Grade   | Grade point | Interpretation | 90-100 | A+ | 5.0 | Exceptional | 80-89 | A | 5.0 | Excellent | 75-79. | B+ | 4.5 | Very good |
| Marks                     | Letter Grade   | Grade point | Interpretation |             |                |        |    |     |             |       |   |     |           |        |    |     |           |
| 90-100                    | A+   | 5.0         | Exceptional    |             |                |        |    |     |             |       |   |     |           |        |    |     |           |
| 80-89                     | A  | 5.0         | Excellent      |             |                |        |    |     |             |       |   |     |           |        |    |     |           |
| 75-79.                    | B+   | 4.5         | Very good      |             |                |        |    |     |             |       |   |     |           |        |    |     |           |

|          |     |     |               |
|----------|-----|-----|---------------|
| 70-74.   | B   | 4.0 | Good          |
| 65-69.   | C+  | 3.5 | Fairly good   |
| 60-64.   | C   | 3.0 | Fair          |
| 55-59.   | D+  | 2.5 | Pass          |
| 50-54.   | D   | 2.0 | Marginal pass |
| 45-49.   | E   | 1.5 | Marginal Fail |
| 40-44.   | E-D | 1.0 | Clear Fail    |
| Below 40 | F   | 0   | Bad Fail      |

d) The following additional letters shall be used where appropriate:

W = Withdrawn from the course

I = Incomplete

e) The pass grade per course shall be 2.0 i.e. 50% or a Grade D

f) No credit shall be awarded for any course in which a student fails.