

■ **NC701 ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE 1**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students will be given an opportunity to explore an area of nursing of their choice. Students are able to gain knowledge and expertise in the selected area, thereby meeting individual learning needs and interests and satisfying the requirements of the unit. It is expected that the chosen topic will have a clinical practice focus. The vehicle for specifying the selected area of practice is the learning contract designed collaboratively by the student and lecturer. Each learning contract will include the purpose of the planned experience, learning objectives, specific learning activities, methods of evaluation and projected results. Students will be assisted by clinical advisors in designated agencies and by lecturers to whom they will be assigned.

■ **NC702 ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students undertaking this unit will have completed NC701 and will have the opportunity to further explore an area of nursing of their choice. Students are able to extend their knowledge and expertise in the selected area, thereby meeting individual learning needs and interests and satisfying the requirements of the unit. It is expected that the chosen topic will have a clinical practice focus. The vehicle for specifying the selected area of practice is the learning contract designed collaboratively by the student and lecturer. Each learning contract will include the purpose of the planned experience, learning objectives, specific learning activities, methods of evaluation and projected results. Students will be assisted by clinical advisors in designated agencies and by lecturers to whom they will be assigned.

■ **NC711 PROMOTING & MAINTAINING INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH 1**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2 (Block)

This unit, in conjunction with NC712, is designed specifically for registered psychiatric nurses (Division 3) seeking to enrol on Division 1 of the Register of the Nurses Board of Victoria. The focus of student learning will be on primary, secondary, and tertiary interventions in nursing, and the strategies and skills required. The impact of specific acute physical illnesses on individuals and families will be examined.

■ **NC712 PROMOTING & MAINTAINING INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2 (Block)

This unit, in conjunction with NC711, is designed specifically for registered psychiatric nurses (Division 3) seeking to enrol on Division 1 of the Register of the Nurses Board of Victoria. The focus of student learning will be on primary, secondary, and tertiary interventions in nursing, and the strategies and skills required. The impact of specific acute physical illnesses on individuals and families will be explored, enabling nurses to restore or stabilise health or assist with a peaceful death. The impact of stressors on individuals, families and community care providers will be examined.

■ **NM401 COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING IN CONTEXT**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students enrolled in this unit will critically examine the historical, social, cultural and economic influences which have shaped and continue to influence community health nursing practice. The unit also examines the relationship between primary health care and community health care and analyses the health care delivery system within which community health nursing occurs. Finally, it considers the impact of these factors on the changing role of the community health nurse.

■ **NM402 COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING PRACTICE 1: COMMUNITY AS CLIENT**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The purpose of this unit is to address the process and practice for promoting health in a community context. It focuses specifically on the role of the nurse in community-based, population-focused practice and provides opportunities for students to develop skills necessary for community nursing and to examine selected community health issues.

■ **NM403 COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING PRACTICE 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students enrolled in this unit will explore family development, the nursing process applied to family health, the health of individuals in the family system and family health promotion issues. It also reviews the major development tasks, health needs and risk factors for individuals throughout the lifespan and considers opportunities for the community health nurse to influence the health of individuals and families in the community.

■ **NM404 FIELDWORK IN COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The purpose of this unit is to provide students with an opportunity to explore a selected area of community health practice. The vehicle for specifying the nature of the fieldwork is the student's learning contract. Students will identify what they want to learn and select a practice setting where the learning will take place. They will develop, implement and evaluate individual contracts designed to enable them to meet their identified learning needs while addressing the unit objectives.

■ **NM405 PROMOTING AND MAINTAINING THE HEALTH OF THE ELDERLY**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The purpose of this unit is to recognise the importance of planning for the current and future wellbeing of the elderly. In it, students build a profile of the needs of the elderly and their families and identify measures to promote and maintain their health.

■ **NM406 HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT SKILLS IN GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit focuses on the importance of assessment in caring for the elderly in primary, secondary and tertiary health care settings. It takes an holistic approach to assessment, emphasising the contextual determinants of health.

■ **NM407 PROMOTING & RESTORING THE HEALTH OF THE ELDERLY**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The purpose of this unit is to recognise the need for nurses to foster specialised personal and professional knowledge and skills related to promoting and restoring the health of elderly people in a variety of primary, secondary and tertiary care settings.

■ **NM408 FIELDWORK IN GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit will provide students with the opportunity to select an area of gerontological nursing which will enable them to apply knowledge and skills gained through participation in the course. Students will negotiate with lecturers and health care agencies to pursue a selected topic in an appropriate clinical setting. Students will develop personal objectives for their fieldwork and strategies which will lead to their achievement.

■ **NM409 ASSESSMENT SKILLS IN MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students enrolled in this unit will critically examine and appraise the role of the nurse as part of the multidisciplinary assessment team. Such examination will evaluate the use of the nursing process, nursing diagnosis and varying methodologies which nurses currently utilise to assess and intervene in client care across the life cycle and the health-illness continuum. Strategies for effectively intervening in primary, secondary and tertiary levels will form key areas for the discussion.

■ **NM410 PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS 1**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit will provide students with the opportunity to explore and critically appraise a range of therapeutic interventions based on theories previously discussed. Interventions considered may be utilised in the community or other health care setting at either individual or group level.

■ **NM411 PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students enrolled in this unit will build on the knowledge and skills obtained by the student in NM410 Psychotherapeutic Interventions 1 to allow further critical appraisal of a range of therapeutic interventions utilised by nurses in a variety of health care settings. Emphasis in this unit will be given to the implementation and evaluation of specific psychodynamic, behavioural and cognitive individual and group counselling therapies.

■ **NM412 FIELDWORK IN MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The purpose of this unit is to provide students with the opportunity to select an area of mental health nursing that will enable them to further enhance their skills and knowledge. Students will be expected to negotiate with lecturers and health care agencies a placement related to a selected topic and to produce a strategy for accomplishing the personalised objectives of the unit. The unit will be conducted in a selected facility of personal interest which provides for the student an opportunity to study an aspect of mental health care in depth.

■ **NM413 THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students enrolled in this unit will examine the development of nursing knowledge. The historical context of nursing theory is analysed in relation to the philosophies of other disciplines. Students are encouraged to assess the applicability of theory to their specific areas of clinical specialisation.

■ **NM414 POLICY, PLANNING AND LEADERSHIP FOR NURSING PRACTICE**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The unit aims to provide registered nurses with a knowledge of our contemporary Australian health care system in order that they become more effective in influencing policy and the allocation of resources. Policy is seen as being planned, implemented and evaluated within a broad based social, political and economic context. Students will be asked to analyse ways in which they can use power and planning processes to positively influence decision making and change within the health area.

■ **NM417 ADVANCED NURSING RESEARCH**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

In this unit students will undertake advanced exploration of research methodologies and techniques useful in resolving nursing research problems. The aim of this is to allow selection of an appropriate theoretical framework congruent with their specific area of research inquiry. At the completion of this unit students will be able to defend a research base of clinical practice.

■ **NM418 GUIDED INDEPENDENT STUDY**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This is a self-directed learning unit designed to allow individual students to explore topics of particular interest to them. The topics will usually relate to the focus they have selected for their research. Students will be required to identify their own learning needs and, in regular consultation with nominated staff members, develop, implement and evaluate a learning program which will enable them to meet their identified needs and the unit objectives.

■ NM420 NURSING IN AUSTRALIA

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit is designed for nurses who wish to gain an appreciation of contemporary nursing practice in Australia, and is particularly suited to the needs of nurses from overseas countries. Students will explore the organisation and delivery of Australian nursing by examining the historical, cultural, educative, economic, demographic, socio-political, legal professional and industrial landscapes of the discipline. The examination of these landscapes and the location of nursing within complex health care systems and policy-driven initiatives, will enable students to identify key issues in the formation and delivery of Australia nursing. An orientation to future trends in nursing and nursing practice will also be provided.

■ NM421 FIELDWORK IN AUSTRALIAN NURSING PRACTICE

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit enables students from overseas countries to experience nursing in an identified health field or discipline practice area in Australia. The fieldwork provides a context for student observation, learning and critique of a specific area of nursing practice that is identified as of interest to the student. This placement follows negotiation between the student, the lecturer and the health agency or agencies involved. Where necessary, preceptorship is arranged by the unit lecturer. Completion of NM420 Nursing in Australia prior to undertaking this unit would be advantageous.

■ NM422 THE ORGANISATION OF HEALTH CARE

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit examines the social, political and economic issues which affect health care organisation and delivery. It considers the bureaucratic and professional structure and the processes and implications of selection, allocation and organisation of financial and human resources in health care. The unit also considers the influence of different interest groups in the development of health care policies and the delivery of health care services. International trends in health care policy are examined in relation to their impact on local health practices.

■ NM441 FOUNDATIONS OF MIDWIFERY PRACTICE

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 (block)

The midwife's legal and ethical framework for practice is embedded in this unit. Critical reflection is utilized to consider current midwifery practice. The professional responsibility and scope of midwifery practice is identified and explored in the context or critical evaluation of current research. The unit draws on the historical development of midwifery in Australia and considers the impact of socialization and education on current practice. The political forces that shape contemporary midwifery practice are examined and the image portrayed to the community is explored in the context of society's expectations of the professional midwife.

■ NM442 MIDWIFERY IN CONTEXT

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 (block)

In this unit the art of midwifery practice in context of "with woman" is explored. Critical exploration of the social, cultural and political factors shaping women's health including reproductive health is addressed. The individual woman's physical, psychological, social, cultural, spiritual needs and expectations are the focus for exploration of childbirth and family development in multicultural Australia. It examines the experiences of women within the cultural context of their family and focuses specifically on issues relevant for rural and isolated women. Students are encouraged to examine the implications for midwives in the provision of appropriate and sensitive midwifery care.

■ NM443 MIDWIFERY CONTINUUM 1

CREDIT POINTS 20

OFFERED Semester 1 (block)

In this unit the pregnancy-childbirth continuum as a life event for a woman and her family is explored. The unit focuses on the student's development of knowledge and skill from the preconception phase through to the onset of labour. The information provided is linked to Midwifery Continuum 2 and 3 and addresses the physiology and pathophysiology related to pregnancy. The psychosocial aspects of pregnancy are explored in the context of meeting the individual woman's needs and expectations. Relevant research is critically explored and applied to the expected and unexpected pregnancy events with a particular focus on the provision of balanced information and informed consent to treatment and care. There is an emphasis on midwifery assessment and skill development throughout the pregnancy in the context of rural midwifery practice. The midwife's scope of practice and role as a member of the maternity multidisciplinary team is addressed.

■ NM444 MIDWIFERY CONTINUUM 2

CREDIT POINTS 20

OFFERED Semester 1 (block)

This unit addressed the midwife's responsibility during a woman's labour and birth experience. The information provided moves through the knowledge and skill required in the care of a woman during her labour and birth. The unit is linked to Midwifery Continuum 1 and 3. It focuses on the physiology and pathophysiology of labour and birth. Relevant research is explored and applied to practice with a focus on the specifics of rural midwifery practice. There is an emphasis on midwifery assessment and skill development during the progress of labour and birth in the context of actual and potential problems. The midwife's scope of practice during a woman's labour and birth in the context of the multidisciplinary team is identified.

■ NM445 MIDWIFERY CONTINUUM 3

CREDIT POINTS 20

OFFERED Semester 1 (block)

This unit addresses the midwife's responsibility to the woman and her baby during the postnatal period, which extends from immediate post birth phase through to six weeks following birth. There are two aspects to the theory and clinical components. One related to the specific requirements of the mother and the other relates to the specific requirements of the baby.

The central focus is the mother and baby within the context of the childbearing family. The information provided is linked to Midwifery Continuum 1 and 2 and addresses the physiology and pathophysiology related to the woman and the baby after birth. Relevant research is explored and applied to the context of, rural midwifery practice, short hospital stay and domiciliary care. Actual and potential problems related to both the mother and the baby during the postnatal phase are explored. The midwife's scope of practice and role as a member of the maternity multidisciplinary team is identified. The midwife's responsibility in emergency situations and accountability to ensure the provision of ongoing midwifery care is addressed.

■ NM446 RESEARCH IN MIDWIFERY

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 2 (block)

In this unit students will undertake exploration of research methodologies and techniques useful in addressing research questions in midwifery. The aim of this unit is to facilitate selection of an appropriate theoretical framework and methodology congruent with the midwifery student's specific area of research inquiry. The unit prepares the student to defend a research base for midwifery practice.

■ NM447 CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES OF PREGNANCY AND BIRTH

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 2 (block)

This is a self-directed unit allowing students to observe cultural beliefs and childbirth practices of particular interest in a fieldwork setting outside the mainstream Australian maternity settings. Students will be expected to identify their own learning needs and, in regular consultation with the appropriate staff member, explore and critically analyse the provision of alternative maternity models of care to women and their families in another culture. The unit is intended to give practitioners a much broader understanding of the cultural diversity of childbearing practices.

■ NM449 MIDWIFERY AND NEONATAL PAIN MANAGEMENT: THEORY AND PRACTICE

CREDIT POINTS 15

The aim of this unit is to equip the midwifery student with knowledge that can be put into practice with a view to improving the management of pain for both the mother and newborn infant. Effective pain management is seen as an essential component of midwifery practice. To achieve this aim, the unit examines pain and pain management from a number of dimensions including neurophysiology, pharmacology, psychology and sociology. Nonpharmacological adjuvant therapies including cognitive-behavioural, osteopathy and acupuncture are presented and related to midwifery practice highlighting the value of a multidisciplinary approach to pain management.

■ NM450 INTRODUCTION TO BREASTFEEDING

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 2 (Flexible Delivery)

This unit is designed to help you further your knowledge in lactation and breastfeeding. A broad perspective of breastfeeding education is provided within eight modules which cover the physical, social and psychological aspects for mother and baby. The midwife plays an integral role in the education and support of infant feeding. This unit aims to provide students with the requisite skills and knowledge to support women in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenting.

■ NN711 THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1

Students will examine the theoretical aspects of nursing that guide their professional practice. Critical analysis of the historical and philosophical aspects of knowledge, logical reasoning and science (systematic and formulated knowledge) can assist nurses to gain an understanding of theory development and its application to practice. Nurses need to know *why* they are undertaking an activity (thinking), as well as knowing *that* they are performing it correctly (doing). The delivery of high-quality nursing requires that nurses identify and analyse the concepts that define and influence practice.

■ NN712 CULTURE, HEALTH AND NURSING

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 2

The focus of this unit is on the influence of culture on health and illness, health-related behaviours and nurse-client interactions. Opportunities will be provided for students to examine different perceptions of health and illness, and the nature of health care systems. Selected topics relating to the provision of culturally sensitive health care and initiatives in nursing designed to provide culturally appropriate care will be analysed.

■ NN714 INDEPENDENT NURSING STUDY

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This is a self-directed learning unit designed to allow individual students to explore topics of particular relevance to their practice as RNs. Topics chosen may relate to the focus selected for *NN791 Research and Clinical Nursing Practice* or *NN719 Nursing Praxis*. Students will be required to identify their own learning needs and, in regular consultation with the unit lecturer, develop and implement a learning program that will enable them to meet their identified needs and the unit objectives.

■ **NN717 PAIN MANAGEMENT: THEORY & PRACTICE IN NURSING & ALLIED HEALTH CARE**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1

In this unit students will be provided with the opportunity to study pain as a multidimensional experience. The unit begins with an international focus on pain management. The science of pain is examined with strong emphasis on the neurophysiology and pharmacology of pain. The psychology of pain and emotion is explored in a manner that links theory and practice and draws from the students' own experiences. Both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies are examined and applied to pain related issues in clinical research. Acute and chronic pain across the life span will be covered and an in-depth focus on pain in the elderly, and in children, as distinctive groups with special needs will be examined. A number of nonpharmacological adjuvant therapies are presented highlighting the value of a multidisciplinary approach to pain management. The role of health professionals with regard to pain management in the terminally ill person will also be explored.

■ **NN718 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1

This unit is designed to be challenging, informative and exciting, and give students an opportunity to challenge entrenched thinking and practices in nursing. Students will examine the changing nature of professional nursing in the broader context of health care change. Social and political factors affecting nursing practice will be examined. The nature and influence of selected legal, ethical, technical and health care delivery issues on contemporary nursing will be analysed.

■ **NN719 NURSING PRAXIS**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

Students undertake this as the final or penultimate unit in order to explore the concept of nursing praxis. The unit is designed to assist students integrate their learning in core and elective units and relate it to their nursing practice. It is a largely self-directed learning unit in which students are required to reflect on, and critically examine, a topic of interest that is relevant to their own nursing practice and meets the unit objectives.

■ **NN720 THE NURSE AS EDUCATOR 1: THE TEACHING ROLE IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit is designed to assist students to develop teaching skills and examine the nature and process of teaching and learning. Students will compare selected theories and models of adult learning. The principles and practice of teaching needed for the roles in a range of areas of nursing practice such as patient education, staff development and clinical teaching will be examined. The acquisition of new skills related to such areas as quality assurance programs and preparing staff for role changes will also be discussed.

■ **NN721 THE NURSE AS EDUCATOR 2: THE NURSE AS HEALTH EDUCATOR**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

In this unit practicing nurses will be encouraged to engage in critical reflection on their own educational practices. Students undertaking this unit will be able to build on knowledge and skills gained in NN720 and develop core knowledge in the areas of education for health promotion. Students will learn to undertake needs analyses to identify knowledge deficits. They will also engage in the planning, implementation and evaluation of nursing educational interventions with individuals, families and communities. Students will be encouraged to examine educational problems stemming from their own practice.

■ **NN722 LIVING WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS: THE MEANING AND EXPERIENCE OF LONG-TERM ILLNESS**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The unit is designed to encourage students to examine the cultural and personal meanings of chronic illness, and explore the way in which such meanings shape the experience of living with such illness. Chronic illness cannot be viewed simply as a physiological condition in isolation from a person's relationships with their social and physical world. Nurses need to consider the impact of chronic illness on the individual, the family and the community and consider collaborative strategies, which can be introduced to help people live in optimal health. The day-to-day responsibility for care of people with chronic illness falls most heavily on patients and their families, but nurses can facilitate effective collaborative support structures for better outcomes and more effective management plans. Students are encouraged to examine the increasingly complex role of nurses caring for those with chronic illness.

■ **NN724 CONFLICT AND CHANGE IN THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

In this unit students will consider the health care industry as an organisation with a particular culture in which conflict and change are prevalent. Examination of forces producing rapid change within health care will be examined and consideration of factors affecting the degree and rate of change and the impact of power distribution on managing change. The process of planned change in organisations are examined and awareness raised of opportunities for students to participate in managing change within their health care agencies.

■ **NN728 CRITICAL THINKING IN NURSING PRACTICE**

CREDIT POINTS 15

OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This is the first unit undertaken by students on enrolment in the BN(P) and it is designed to help them develop critical thinking for use in their everyday life and professional nursing practice. It is based on the premise that professional nursing practice has both clinical and academic components. Since writing is an important skill in both settings the unit uses the principles of critical thinking to enhance students' writing and analytical skills. Successful completion of this unit will facilitate student progress through the BN(P).

■ **NN730 FIELDWORK IN AUSTRALIAN HEALTH CARE**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2 (block)

This fieldwork unit is designed for students to observe the organisation and delivery of health care in Australia, and is particularly suited to the needs of nurses from overseas countries. Fieldwork provides an for students to have an overview of the nurse's role in the delivery of care in the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of health care that form part of the Australian health care system. The particular focus of the observational fieldwork placement follows negotiation between the student, lecturer and health care agency or agencies involved.

■ **NN733 MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

The aim of this unit is to introduce students to the concepts of leadership and management within the nursing context. Attention is paid to the nature of organisational behavior and the knowledge and skills required by leaders and managers in the various settings in which nursing takes place. The influence on various contextual factors on the operations of those in leadership and management positions and issues and trends in a changing health care environment is explored.

■ **NN735 INTRODUCTION TO GERONTOLOGIC NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

In this unit students will be provided with an introduction to gerontologic nursing. Students will identify current policy initiatives and issues, and trends relating to older persons and their family. Theoretical foundations and legal and ethical dimensions of ageing will be explored, as will the health and functional status of older adults. Planning, implementing and evaluation of health care and services to meet the identified needs will be discussed. Students will reflect on the role as a nurse and multidisciplinary team member in the provision of aged care.

■ **NN736 INTRODUCTION TO CANCER NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

This unit aims to give students an introduction to cancer nursing and explore the impact of cancer on clients and their families. Students will gain insight into common forms of malignancies and their treatment. The issues of palliative care will be discussed. Students will have the opportunity to discuss ethical issues and values in relation to end of life decisions, and the role of the nurses in supporting the client and family.

■ **NN791 RESEARCH AND CLINICAL NURSING PRACTICE**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2

In this unit students will examine the role of research in nursing and its importance in evidence-based practice. Related ethical issues will be analysed and discussed. Various research designs and methodologies will be discussed. Selection of a suitable methodology for a particular research project will be addressed. Students will explore the application of research findings to nursing practice and learn how to become critical readers of research.

■ **NO401 ONCOLOGY AND PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING IN CONTEXT**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 (off-campus)

This unit introduces the student to broad concepts, principles, themes and issues related to oncology and palliative care nursing. Oncology and palliative care resources available in the home, community, acute care settings and long-term facilities are examined as is the role and function of the oncology nurse and the palliative care nurse. Other unit topics discussed in relation to oncology and palliative care include: epidemiology, the nature and management of stress, the nature of multidisciplinary teams, and effective communication, counselling and client education.

■ **NO402 ONCOLOGY AND PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING 1**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1 (off-campus)

Students enrolled in this unit develop their knowledge and skills in caring for individuals experiencing cancer and their families. The processes of carcinogenesis and metastasis are examined as is the epidemiology of cancer and blood dyscrasias and those at risk of these conditions. Students review the cultural meanings people associate with cancer, disease and death and look at the physiological and psychosocial impact of cancer and blood dyscrasias, and their treatments, on individuals, families, and communities

Students not only review strategies for preventing cancer in the population but also examine the major options for treating cancers and blood. The unit focuses on the nursing management of individuals undergoing cancer therapies especially the management of symptoms directly related to the disease and the toxicities of various therapies.

■ **NO403 ONCOLOGY AND PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2 (off-campus)

This unit examines the epidemiology and aetiology of cancers and blood dyscrasias common to Victoria and Australia, in particular, breast, bowel, lung, and skin cancers as well as lymphoma and leukaemia. The medical and nursing management of individuals experiencing these common cancers and blood dyscrasias will be reviewed with a particular focus on the impact of these cancers on clients and their families and the multidisciplinary strategies required to mediate these problems. The unit will highlight to students the type of clients at risk of developing oncological emergencies and identify the medical and nursing interventions required to overcome these emergencies.

■ **NO404 FIELDWORK IN ONCOLOGY AND PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2 (off-campus)

In this unit students are expected to plan, implement, and evaluate a learning contract designed to increase individual knowledge and skills in oncology and palliative care nursing. Students will be expected to integrate knowledge, principles and skills associated with NO401, NO402 and NO403 into clinical practice. In the fieldwork unit students will also be required to demonstrate effective communication skills with clients and their families, nursing colleagues and other members of the health care team and participate effectively in a multidisciplinary team.

■ **NR510 FOUNDATIONS IN NURSING PRACTICE 1**

CREDIT POINTS 20
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit introduces students to the foundational nursing knowledge and skills required to care for individuals in a variety of settings. Students begin by examining key nursing concepts and themes central to contemporary nursing. The unit then focuses on the assessment of healthy individuals as well as those with minimal health dysfunctions in order to identify nursing diagnosis and related interventions that promote and/or maintain and/or restore optimal client stability.

■ **NR511 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN BEHAVIOUR**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

Students enrolled in this unit examine relevant psychological dimensions of individuals. The unit acknowledges and discusses the numerous approaches to studying human behaviour. Content explores human behaviour in relation to biology, learning, cognition, personality and the social environment.

■ **NR512 BIOSCIENCE 1**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit introduces students to the structure and function of the human body. Particular emphasis is placed on the interrelationships of body organ systems and the complementarity of structure and function. The student also reviews basic physical and chemical principles underlying human structure. To reinforce the integrated nature of human anatomy and physiology students are expected to relate unit content to current nursing practice.

■ **NR513 CRITICAL THINKING IN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 1**

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit will address the following themes: Independent learning and tertiary study, principles of critical thinking and their application, information literacy and research strategies, and academic reading and writing.

■ **NR520 FOUNDATIONS IN NURSING PRACTICE 2**

CREDIT POINTS 20
OFFERED Semester 2

This unit is a continuation of NR510 (Foundations of Nursing Practice 1). The central themes of NR510 remain. Students are encouraged to use and critically appraise the nursing process. They will continue to develop the foundational communication, assessment and diagnostic skills required to provide care to clients with minimal health dysfunctions. The unit continues the focus on physical and psychosocial safety for the client and the nurse by expanding the students' skills in infection control and basic numeracy skills.

■ **NR521 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE LIFESPAN**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

This unit examines physical, cognitive and psychological development of the individual across the lifespan. The role of environment is emphasised by exploring significant internal and external stressors experienced by individuals at particular stages of the life cycle and how individuals react and adapt to these stressors. Health promotion and primary prevention measures are discussed. Fundamental helping skills relevant to nursing are developed with particular reference to illness, loss, death and dying, and management of stress.

■ **NR522 BIOSCIENCE 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

This unit continues with the themes and content discussed in NR512. The unit examines the structure and function of the human body. The emphasis on the interrelationships of body organ systems and the complementarity of structure and function is continued. The student will continue to review basic physical and chemical principles underlying human structure. To reinforce the integrated nature of human anatomy and physiology students are expected to relate unit content to current nursing practice.

■ **NR523 CRITICAL THINKING IN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 2**

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Semester 2

This unit will continue to address the themes identified in NR513. These are: independent learning and tertiary study, principles of critical thinking, information literacy and research strategies, and academic reading and writing. In addition to these, this unit will also examine students' numeracy skills and apply critical thinking principles to the media and professional practice.

■ **NR611 ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit explores the complex relationship between human beings and their environment. Health is discussed in regard to this relationship with topics such as infectious diseases, workplace hazards and ecological disruption. Strategies to promote health, to prevent illness and disease and to restore health following exposure to environmental hazards are identified throughout the unit.

■ **NR612 ISSUES IN PROFESSIONAL NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit focuses on the professional development of the student. Selected ethical, legal and professional issues related to contemporary nursing practice are discussed.

■ **NR613 FOUNDATIONS OF MEDICAL/
SURGICAL NURSING 1**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit builds upon NR510 (Foundations of Nursing Practice 1) and NR520 (Foundations of Nursing Practice 2). NR613 is the first of four core units that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals and families experiencing conditions that require medical and/or surgical nursing interventions. Students review selected acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan. The unit takes an integrated approach to content incorporating nursing care with relevant concepts from pathophysiology and pharmacology. Integration of content also occurs by students undertaking fieldwork placements in appropriate acute care settings throughout the semester.

■ **NR614 FOUNDATIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH
NURSING 1**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit builds upon NR510 (Foundations of Nursing Practice 1) and NR520 (Foundations of Nursing Practice 2). NR614 is the first of four core units that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals experiencing alterations in their mental health. Students review selected acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan and the impact of these conditions on clients and their families. The unit takes an integrated approach to content incorporating nursing care with relevant concepts from psychopathology, and pharmacology. Integration of content also occurs by students undertaking fieldwork placements in appropriate mental health care settings throughout the semester.

■ **NR621 SOCIETY, CULTURE AND HEALTH**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

This unit emphasises the role of sociocultural factors in determining the health of individuals and in shaping health perceptions and practices. Sociocultural factors are also examined in the context of nurse-client interactions. A particular focus of the unit is the historical and sociocultural factors impacting on Koorie and migrant health.

■ **NR623 FOUNDATIONS OF MEDICAL/
SURGICAL NURSING 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

This unit builds upon NR613 (Foundations of Medical/Surgical Nursing 1). NR623 is the second of four core units that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals and families experiencing conditions that require medical and/or surgical nursing interventions. Students review selected acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan. The unit takes an integrated approach to content incorporating nursing care with relevant concepts from pathophysiology and pharmacology. Integration of content also occurs by students undertaking fieldwork placements in appropriate acute care settings throughout the semester.

■ **NR624 FOUNDATIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH
NURSING 2**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

NR624 is the second of four core units that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals experiencing alterations in their mental health. Students review selected acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan and the impact of these conditions on clients and their families. The unit takes an integrated approach to content incorporating nursing care with relevant concepts from psychopathology, and pharmacology. Integration of content also occurs by students undertaking fieldwork placements in appropriate mental health care settings throughout the semester.

■ **NR711 RESEARCH IN NURSING**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit builds upon MS521 (Statistics for Nursing Research). It provides students with the opportunity to interpret elementary descriptive and inferential statistics, to analyse various forms of scientific literature relevant to health and nursing, and to identify the stages and processes involved in preparing a proposal for nursing research.

■ **NR712 THE SOCIAL ORGANISATION OF
HEALTH CARE IN AUSTRALIA**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit examines the social, political and economic make up of the Australian health care system. It looks at the bureaucratic and professional structure, the mechanics and implications of selection, allocation and organisation of financial and human resources in health care. The unit also considers the influence of different interest groups in the development of health care policies and the delivery of health care services.

■ **NR713 FOUNDATIONS OF MEDICAL/
SURGICAL NURSING 3**

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit builds upon NR613 (Foundations of Medical/Surgical Nursing 1) and NR623 (Foundations of Medical/Surgical Nursing 2). NR713 is the third of four core units that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals and families experiencing conditions that require medical and/or surgical nursing interventions. Students review selected acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan. An additional focus of this unit is critical and emergency nursing where students consider selected illnesses or conditions that are sudden and life-threatening. The unit takes an integrated approach to content incorporating nursing care with relevant concepts from pathophysiology and pharmacology. Integration of content also occurs by students undertaking fieldwork placements in appropriate acute care settings throughout the semester.

■ NR714 FOUNDATIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH NURSING 3

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 1

This unit builds upon NR614 (Foundations of Mental Health Nursing 1) and NR624 (Foundations of Mental Health Nursing 2). NR714 is the third of four core units that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals experiencing alterations in their mental health. Students review selected acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan and the impact of these conditions on clients and their families. The unit takes an integrated approach to content incorporating nursing care with relevant concepts from psychopathology, and pharmacology. Integration of content also occurs by students undertaking fieldwork placements in appropriate mental health care settings throughout the semester.

■ NR722 THE HEALTH OF RURAL COMMUNITIES

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

This unit develops within students an appreciation of the special nature of rural communities. Students explore the historical, political, economic and geographic parameters by which rural communities are identified. They examine the scope of practice of various disciplines involved in rural health and the various models of health services in rural communities. Students are expected to analyse important rural health issues such as Aboriginal health, women's and men's health, the ageing of rural communities, mental health and the changing nature of rural communities.

■ NR723 FOUNDATIONS OF MEDICAL/ SURGICAL NURSING 4

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

NR723 is the last of four core units (NR613, NR623, NR713) that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals and families experiencing conditions that require medical and/or surgical nursing interventions. Students review selected acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan. An additional and major focus of this unit is care of the client with cancer and care of the client requiring palliative care. The unit will continue to integrate contemporary nursing care with relevant concepts from pathophysiology and pharmacology.

■ NR724 FOUNDATIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH NURSING 4

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

NR724 is the last of four core units (NR614, NR624, NR714) that assists students develop knowledge and skills in caring for individuals experiencing alterations in their mental health. This specific focus of this unit is the mental health of the elderly. The unit takes an integrated approach to content incorporating nursing care with relevant concepts from psychopathology, and pharmacology. Integration of content also occurs by students undertaking fieldwork placements in appropriate mental health care settings throughout the semester.

■ NR725 CLINICAL ELECTIVE

CREDIT POINTS 15
OFFERED Semester 2

The purpose of this unit is to assist students to further develop expertise and competence in an area of clinical practice of special interest to them. This is achieved by placing students in their preferred clinical setting over a continuous four-week period. At the same time the unit provides the opportunity for students to identify and discuss issues arising from their placements and implement leadership and managerial skills developed in the theory component of this unit. The unit enables students to practice self-directed, responsible, and accountable behaviours.

■ Code TBA - THESIS (HONOURS)

CREDIT POINTS 60
OFFERED Semester 1 or 2
PREREQUISITES NM417, NM418

Student will work under the supervision of appropriate staff, students will choose to research a topic of professional interest in discussion with course staff and their allocated supervisor. They will be encouraged to select a topic of appropriate complexity for a thesis of approximately 10,000 - 15,000 words.

Throughout the Honours Thesis units students will be expected to attend seminars convened for the purpose of promoting interaction between students and their supervisors. The seminars will also provide a focus for the meticulous consideration of appropriate research questions and methodological approaches to investigation through the interchange of ideas and critical analysis.

The thesis will be prepared according to the Guidelines for Preparation of Theses.

■ Code TBA - MINOR THESIS (Master of Nursing)

CREDIT POINTS 60
OFFERED Semesters 1 & 2

Under supervision of staff who have expertise in the specialty area chosen by the student, a topic of particular interest is studied. There will be emphasis on meticulous consideration of a research question and the appropriate methodological approach to investigation. Students will be encouraged to select a topic of appropriate complexity for a thesis report of approximately 15,000 – 20,000 words. They will be expected to demonstrate the ability to critically analyse relevant literature, to apply accepted research strategies to resolution of the problem statement and to compose their report using writing skills of a high academic standard.

■ NZ401 PHILOSOPHY OF CARE MANAGEMENT

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Block

This unit focuses on the overview of the philosophy of care and is a prerequisite for the first fieldwork placement unit. The comparison between the Australian Health Care Services (AHCS) and the Japanese Health Care Services (JHCS) will be highlighted. The benefits and costs of care management and its application in the JHCS will be discussed.

■ **NZ402 ASSESSMENT AND DOCUMENTATION SKILLS IN CARE MANAGEMENT**

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Block

This unit focuses on the assessment and relevant documentation essential for individualized-client care. An overview of the complexity in assessing the needs of clients is included. An opportunity to understand an integrated approach in formulating care plans will be provided.

■ **NZ403 COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CARE MANAGEMENT**

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Block
PREREQUISITES NZ401, NZ402 and NZ405

This unit provides an overall appreciation of how relevant community services are accessed for the identified client needs and the related costs. Students will review the referral process and the methods of forming liaisons with relevant services. Planning the implementation and ongoing review of services will be included.

■ **NZ404 LEGAL/ETHICAL PRACTICE OF CARE MANAGEMENT**

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Block
PREREQUISITES NZ401, NZ402, NZ405

The unit develops an awareness of the legal and ethical responsibility and accountability for care managers. Examples of cases of negligence will be discussed. The notion of "duty of care", clients rights, empowerment of clients, process for lodging client complaints and the role of the Ombudsman will be interlinked in the unit discussion.

■ **NZ405 AGED CARE SERVICES – RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUNITY**

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Block
PREREQUISITES NZ401, NZ402

This unit is offered in negotiation with relevant health care agencies for experiential learning. The minimum duration of each fieldwork unit will be forty (40) hours over a continual period. The unit provides students with the basic knowledge and skills essential to practice as effective care managers. Students will have the opportunity to observe caregivers in the residential and community services, such as elderly clients and those with special needs.

The fieldwork placement will offer students the opportunity to observe the assessment of clients by multidisciplinary teams; how the services are planned for implementation and the evaluation methods of these services.

■ **NZ406 ASSESSMENT, FORMULATION AND EVALUATION OF CARE PLANS**

CREDIT POINTS 10
OFFERED Block
PREREQUISITES NZ401, NZ402, NZ403, NZ405 and NZ405

This unit offers students practical experiences in assessing and documenting client needs (aged and clients with special needs) with the assistance of care managers in Ballarat. Students will formulate plans and investigate ways of evaluating them.