

Faculty of Nursing and Health

The Faculty of Nursing and Health offers postgraduate courses at the levels of:

- Master of Nursing by research (18 months full-time, or part-time equivalent), *or*
- Master of Nursing (18 months full-time, or part-time equivalent)

Exit points from the Master of Nursing are available at:

- Graduate Diploma in Nursing (one year full-time, or part-time equivalent), *and*
- Graduate Certificate in Nursing (one year part-time)

Options for specialisation

An option exists for the student to select a single specialty, or two specialties at the Masters level.

Specialties include:

- Clinical teaching
- Critical care
- Day surgery care
- Gerontology
- Health services management
- Oncology
- Orthopaedics
- Perioperative, anaesthetics and recovery

The courses are designed to extend and deepen the practising registered nurse's knowledge, skills and appreciation of accountable practice. They focus on further development of students' generic skills such as problem solving, research skills, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation through critical and reflective thinking. Students are facilitated in the pursuit of learning within a nursing related area of their choice, with the long-term goal of applying learning to life so that graduates are prepared to become lifelong learners.

Graduate studies in Nursing at Avondale College are shaped by philosophies of nursing, health and education, adult learning principles and inductive learning through experiential learning. While utilising the scholarships of teaching, discovery, integration and application identified by Boyer (1990), students can embrace their Christian commitment to caring for the person as a whole integrated being, including the physical, mental, social, cultural and spiritual dimensions of personhood. These philosophies underpin the curriculum that is designed to facilitate the development of the individual's autonomy and responsibility, analytical and reflective thinking and professional standards of practice.

Staff

Dean

Dr Paul T Race
BA, MHA, PhD, RN, PN, MRCNA

Dr Malcolm I Anderson
BAppSc(Nursing) Canberra CAE, MA(Ed) Macq, PhD Macq, RN, ONC, FRCNA
Graduate Studies Coordinator (Nursing)

Dr Alison M Smedley
BHSc(Nursing) SCU, GradCert C&FHN(Tresillian), GradDip FET USQ, MEd USQ, EdD ECU, RN, CM, MRCNA, MACMI
Assistant Course Coordinator (Nursing)

Senior Lecturers

Dr Malcolm I Anderson
BAppSc(Nursing) Canberra CAE, MA(Ed) Macq, PhD Macq, RN, ONC, FRCNA
Nursing

Dr Paul T Race
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Nursing

Lecturers

Wayne Bradshaw
DipTch (Nursing) USyd, BEd (Nursing) UNE, MPH UNSW, CIT WINTEC, RN
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Nursing

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Nursing

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BN Uni SA, GradDipHSt (Health Promotion) Avondale, MN
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Nursing

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DipAppSc(Com Hlth) Lincoln, BAppSc(Adv Nurs) Lincoln, MA
Macq, MPH UNSW, RN

Nursing

Dr Drene Somasundram

BA Andrews, MA Andrews, DProf Middlesex

Chaplain and Lecturer

Research Centre

Australasian Research Institute

Director: Dr Ross Grant PhD

Australia is recognised internationally as a contributor to high quality research in the areas of health and health education. However, Australia's capacity to conduct research is limited by available funds and facilities in which to carry out studies of high quality. The Sydney Adventist Hospital (SAH) is one of Australia's oldest and largest private healthcare facilities with an historical commitment to quality healthcare and education. While the staff at SAH have historically contributed to improved understanding and practice within the healthcare setting this has been largely carried out on an ad hoc basis. It has become increasingly recognised that a more coordinated approach to research and development within the SAH and its allied institutions could make a more significant contribution to Australia's research effort by enabling effective use of the considerable resources available within these institutions for the purpose of advancing knowledge in health and human physiology.

For this purpose the Australasian Research Institute (ARI), at Sydney Adventist Hospital, was incorporated as an association on September 31, 2003 as a centre from which to conduct, facilitate and promote research within its member organisations within the broad context of service to humanity. The ARI operates from offices in the Faculty of Nursing and Health at the Sydney Adventist Hospital with corporate members including, Sydney Adventist Hospital Ltd, Avondale College Ltd, and the Australian Health and Nutrition Association Ltd.

The Australasian Research Institute (ARI) is well placed to contribute to Australian research, as its purpose and scope are consistent with many recommendations of the 1998 'Wills Report' on Australian research including:

- 2.1.2 ...encourage larger, multidisciplinary, investigator initiated projects.
- 2.1.4 create incentives for researchers and groups to come together...and to strengthen links with teaching and patient care.
- 2.1.5 improve efficiency and effectiveness of shared systems and processes.
- 2.2.3 build capacity for quality research involving health practitioners of all kinds including those in... alternative and complementary therapy.
- 5.1.1 involve the community in research processes and communicate about the role, benefits and results of research...
- 6.1.4 broaden the funding base by facilitating international and cooperative opportunities, involving the tax environment for philanthropy and considering innovative funding ideas.

Vision and ethos

The ARI endeavours to be an integrated multidisciplinary locus for the coordination and conduct of innovative and developmental research generally involving wide collaboration with a focus on human benefits. The ARI will be known as a centre to which researchers from outside the institute can collaborate in order to benefit from the national and world-wide Adventist healthcare network.

All activity and research-and-development supported and conducted by the ARI will have outcomes clearly aimed at the betterment of humankind and will be consistent with the ethos of the Sydney Adventist Hospital.

Purpose and scope

The ARI is established to:

- coordinate, promote and facilitate research activities within the SAH and member organisations,
- provide advice and support to researchers within the SAH and member organisations,
- fund high quality research that is within the guidelines of the ARI,
- act as a resource centre for researchers, ie for consultation with project development and grant writing, collaborator contacts, statistical analysis and writing for publication,
- promote the SAH and the wider health mission and objectives through the activities of the ARI,
- solicit where and when appropriate for commercial research projects.

ARI management and structure

The ARI is administered by a Management Committee consisting of

- CEO, Sydney Adventist Hospital Ltd (or its nominee),
- CEO, Australian Health and Nutrition Association Ltd. (or its nominee),
- Health Director, Australasian Conference Association Ltd. (or its nominee),
- Vice-President (Administration and Research), Avondale College,
- Executive Officer (ARI), ex officio,
- Chair, Research Advisory Committee (RAC), ex officio.

The day-to-day activities of the ARI are administered by the Executive Officer, who is appointed by the ARI Management Committee. The Executive Officer is assisted by a professional assistant, and answers directly to the Management Committee.

All applications for funding of research projects are assessed by the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) before being approved for funding. The RAC is made up of approximately twelve academic/professional researchers from the wider community. The ARI Executive Officer serves as secretary to the RAC.

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) members:

- attend scheduled meetings
- review and rank grant applications for:
 - scholarships (up to \$1,500)
 - small grants (up to \$5,000)
 - large grants (up to \$30,000)
- serve as a reference source to members of the ARI executive on matters relating to their area of expertise.

The members of the RAC are considered to be a valuable resource from which the executive management of the ARI can call on for advice and direction for the purpose of furthering the activities of the ARI in line with its objectives.

Grant application procedure

All grant applications will be received in electronic format and e-mailed to all committee members at least one month prior to the RAC meeting date. The Chair of the RAC will nominate (by e-mail) one committee member as 'Primary Reviewer' for each application. The Primary Reviewer will speak to the committee on behalf of the application at the RAC meeting. The person chosen, as Primary Reviewer will generally have expertise related to the field of research covered in the application.

In the case of *Scholarship and Small Grants* applications a rank score will be given by each committee member in attendance, after the Primary Reviewer has addressed the committee on behalf of the applicant and there has been time allowed for relevant discussion. Rank scoring will be completed according to set criteria and on the score sheets provided.

The *Small Project and Scholarship* application scores will be averaged for the number of RAC member responses and displayed before discussion of the next Small Project or Scholarship application.

NOTE: The RAC secretary completes the task of collating the scores given by each RAC member so they remain anonymous.

In the case of *Large Grants*, the procedure is identical except that two external referees (generally nominated by the applicant) will have been asked to review and score each application. The combined external reviewers' marks will constitute 60% of the final ranking, the final 40% will come from the RAC member ranking on the night.

NOTES

- 1 All ARI funded activity must have a genuine collaboration with an employee or recognised associate of an ARI member corporation.
- 2 Associate members are not employees of a member organisation but have applied for and received endorsement as associate members by the ARI Management Committee.

Master of Nursing

Course code 2093

Course coordinator: Dr Malcolm Anderson

The Master of Nursing (by coursework) provides registered nurses the opportunity to extend and deepen their knowledge, attitudes and skills in nursing or a specialised field, integrating related themes into the delivery of holistic practice and professional care.

Duration

Eighteen months full-time or part-time equivalent, or over a longer time as negotiated, but not more than seven years from course commencement.

Credit points

Twelve units totalling 72 credit points

Mode of delivery

Units are offered by distance education, however additional non-mandatory on-campus sessions may be organised to support the learning needs of students.

Abbreviation of course title

MN

Accreditation

The course is accredited by the NSW Department of Education and Training.

Entry requirements

- current authorisation to practise as a Registered Nurse
- hold a Bachelor of Nursing degree (or equivalent qualification*)
- have a minimum of two years post registration experience

and for a Clinical Specialty focus

- one year specialty experience
- currently employed in the specialty area

*Equivalent qualification includes a Bachelor of Health Science (Nursing) or a Certificate of Nursing with experience as deemed appropriate by the Graduate Studies Coordinator (Nursing).

An alternate entry pathway exists where applicants may be asked to complete a unit to demonstrate their ability to learn at tertiary level if standard entry requirements are not met. Following successful completion of this unit a student can enter the Master of Nursing course, or its nested programs.

Enrolment

As the MN, GradCertN and GradDipN are nested courses, students enrol in the highest degree from which they expect to graduate. Students should not apply to graduate until the year in which they expect to complete all requirements for the degree in which they are enrolled. Students who do not complete all the requirements of the course, may exit with a lesser award by applying to the Faculty Research and Teaching Committee. A student who has graduated previously from a lower award in Nursing (eg GradCertN) may proceed to study for a higher award—eg GradDipN or MN—but in graduating from the higher award will be obliged to relinquish the lower award. This nesting arrangement is depicted on the following table. Unless advised otherwise, most students are encouraged to enrol in the MN.

Enrol in	Undertake	Endpoints possible
MN	Master of Nursing	Graduate with MN, or Exit with GradDipN or Exit with GradCertN
GradDipN	Graduate Diploma in Nursing	Graduate with GradDipN, or Exit with GradCertN, or Proceed to MN
GradCertN	Graduate Certificate in Nursing	Graduate with GradCertN, or Proceed to GradDipN, or Proceed to MN

Course structure

Two patterns are available:

Pattern 1—Single specialty

Four required units	24 credit points
Four specialty units	24 credit points
Two specialty elective units	12 credit points
Two elective units	12 credit points

Pattern 2—Double specialty

A minimum of four units in one strand and three from another strand is required for a double specialty.

Four required units	24 credit points
Seven specialty units	42 credit points
One elective unit	6 credit points

Required units

CHST50600	Spirituality and Health in Society	6 cr pts
CHST50700	Interpersonal Relations: Holistic Perspectives	6 cr pts
NURS50100	Research Methods	6 cr pts
NURS58500	Promoting Health and Wellness	6 cr pts

Specialties

1—Health Services Management (required units)

NHSM58100	Resource Management	6 cr pts
NURS55000	Contemporary Issues in Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS58000	Organisational Management	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts

2—Clinical teaching (required units)

NUCT58600	Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUCT58700	Investigating Practice in Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical teaching as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUCT58800	Practicum in Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical teaching as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts

3—Clinical specialties (required units)

Clinical specialties are available in critical care, day surgery care, gerontology, oncology, orthopaedics, perioperative/ anaesthetics/recovery.

NUCL55200	Management of Health Dysfunction in a Specialist area	6 cr pts
NUCL59400	Holistic Health Assessment	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Investigating Practice in chosen specialty (Student is responsible for undertaking 200 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Practicum in chosen specialty (Student is responsible for undertaking 200 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts

Electives**Nursing elective units**

Depending on the specialty area being studied, may include the following:

NUCL55200	Management of Health Dysfunction in a specialist area	6 cr pts
NUCL59400	Holistic Health Assessment	6 cr pts
NUCT58600	Clinical Teaching	6 cr pts
NURS50200	Research Applications	6 cr pts
NURS58900	Consultancy in Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS59100	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Investigating Practice in (<i>specialty area</i>)	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Practicum in a (<i>specialty area</i>)	6 cr pts

Electives from other faculties

With the approval of the Graduate Studies Coordinator, (Nursing), non-specialty electives may be selected from a list of postgraduate units offered by other faculties within Avondale College. These units may be across the year and require attendance at residential schools in the mid-year.

Graduate Diploma in Nursing

Course code 2091

Course coordinator: Dr Malcolm Anderson

The Graduate Diploma in Nursing provides registered nurses the opportunity to broaden knowledge, attitudes and skills relating to nursing generally, and from a specialist field of care, and apply the foundations of holistic practice and professional care within a specialist field of nursing practice.

Duration

One year full-time or part-time equivalent, or over a longer time as negotiated, but not more than five years from course commencement.

Credit points

Eight units totalling 48 credit points

Mode of delivery

Units are offered either by distance education, however additional non-mandatory on-campus sessions may be organised to support the learning needs of students.

Abbreviation of course title

GradDipN

Accreditation

The course is accredited by the NSW Department of Education and Training.

Entry requirements

- current authorisation to practise as a Registered Nurse
- hold a Bachelor of Nursing degree (or equivalent qualification*)
- have a minimum of two years post registration experience

and for a Clinical Specialty focus

- one year specialty experience
- currently employed in the specialty area

*Equivalent qualification includes a Bachelor of Health Science (Nursing) or a Certificate of Nursing with experience as deemed appropriate by the Graduate Studies Coordinator (Nursing).

An alternate entry pathway exists where applicants may be asked to complete a unit to demonstrate their ability to learn at tertiary level if standard entry requirements are not met. Following successful completion of this unit a student can enter the Master of Nursing course, or its nested programs.

Course requirements (48 credit points)

Four specialty units	24 cr pts
Two required units	12 cr pts
One specialty unit	6 cr pts
One elective unit	6 cr pts

Required units

CHST50600	Spirituality and Health in Society	6 cr pts
NURS50100	Research Methods	6 cr pts

1—Health Services Management (*specialty units*)

NURS55000	Contemporary Issues in Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS58000	Organisational Management	6 cr pts
NURS58100	Resource Management	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts

2—Clinical teaching (*required units*)

NUCT58600	Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical teaching as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUCT58700	Investigating Practice in Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical teaching as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUCT58800	Practicum in Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical teaching as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts

3—Clinical specialties (*specialty units*)

Clinical specialties are available in critical care, day surgery care, gerontology, oncology, orthopaedics, perioperative/anaesthetics/recovery.

NUCL55200	Management of Health Dysfunction in a Specialist area	6 cr pts
NUCL59400	Holistic Health Assessment	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Investigating Practice in chosen specialty (Student is responsible for undertaking 200 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Practicum in chosen specialty (Student is responsible for undertaking 200 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts

Electives

Nursing elective units

Depending on the specialty area being studied, may include the following:

NUCL55200	Management of Health Dysfunction in a specialist area	6 cr pts
NUCL59400	Holistic Health Assessment	6 cr pts
NUCT58600	Clinical Teaching	6 cr pts
NURS50200	Research Applications	6 cr pts
NURS58900	Consultancy in Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS59100	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Investigating Practice in (<i>specialty area</i>)	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Practicum in a (<i>specialty area</i>)	6 cr pts

Graduate Certificate in Nursing

Course code 2090

Course coordinator: Dr Malcolm Anderson

The Graduate Certificate in Nursing provides registered nurses the opportunity to develop a body of advanced knowledge, attitudes and skills as the underpinning of extended specialist practice.

Duration

One year part-time equivalent, or over a longer time as negotiated, but not more than three years from course commencement.

Credit points

Four units totalling 24 credit points

Mode of delivery

Units are offered either by distance education, however additional non-mandatory on-campus sessions may be organised to support the learning needs of students.

Abbreviation of course title

GradCertN

Accreditation

The course is accredited by the NSW Department of Education and Training.

Entry requirements

- current authorisation to practise as a Registered Nurse
- hold a Bachelor of Nursing degree (or equivalent qualification*)
- have a minimum of two years post registration experience

and for a Clinical Specialty focus

- one year specialty experience
- currently employed in the specialty area

*Equivalent qualification includes a Bachelor of Health Science (Nursing) or a Certificate of Nursing with experience as deemed appropriate by the Graduate Studies Coordinator (Nursing).

An alternate entry pathway exists where applicants may be asked to complete a unit to demonstrate their ability to learn at tertiary level if standard entry requirements are not met. Following successful completion of this unit a student can enter the Master of Nursing course, or its nested programs.

Course requirements (24 credit points)

Four specialty units 24 cr pts

1—Health Services Management (*specialty units*)

NURS55000	Contemporary Issues in Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS58000	Organisational Management	6 cr pts
NURS58100	Resource Management	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts

2—Clinical teaching (*specialty units*)

NUCT58600	Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUCT58700	Investigating Practice in Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical teaching as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUCT58800	Practicum in Clinical Teaching (Student is responsible for undertaking 120 hours experience in clinical teaching as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NURS59000	Learning Contract in Nursing	6 cr pts

3—Clinical specialties (*specialty units*)

Clinical specialties are available in critical care, day surgery care, gerontology, oncology, orthopaedics, perioperative/anaesthetics/recovery.

NUCL55200	Management of Health Dysfunction in a Specialist area	6 cr pts
NUCL59400	Holistic Health Assessment	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Investigating Practice in chosen specialty (Student is responsible for undertaking 200 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts
NUXX5XXXX	Practicum in chosen specialty (Student is responsible for undertaking 200 hours experience in clinical specialty as part of this unit)	6 cr pts