

Faculty of Nursing and Health

The Faculty of Nursing and Health offers a Bachelor of Nursing, and a Master of Nursing and Graduate Certificate degrees in Clinical Nursing, Clinical Teaching and Leadership and Management. The Nursing Faculty is primarily based on the Sydney Campus in the ground of the Sydney Adventist Hospital. Students enrolling in the Bachelor of Nursing may complete first year (2 semesters) on either the Lake Macquarie or Sydney campus, and complete the final two years (4 semesters) of the course at the Sydney campus.

The Bachelor of Nursing course is designed to prepare students to practise as a registered nurse in a variety of clinical settings. Graduates apply for registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. The course provides the knowledge-base for professional nurses, and develops the attitudes, clinical and interpersonal skills essential in providing holistic nursing care. The structure of the course integrates the concepts of health and illness with related health and nursing care strategies suited to situations across the human life span from infancy, through childhood and adolescence, to adulthood and advanced age. A Christian perspective on nursing and caring values is interwoven throughout the course. As students progress through the course they are expected to develop enhanced skills of problem solving, critical thinking and knowledge discovery techniques that will improve their practice as graduates.

A range of postgraduate courses is also available in Nursing (see the Avondale College of Higher Education Postgraduate Handbook 2011–2012)

The Australasian Research Centre is also located on the Sydney Adventist Hospital grounds.

Research Centre

Australasian Research Institute (ARI)

Head of Centre:

Dr Ross Grant

BEd Avondale, MAppSc UTS, PhD UNSW

Health Science, Microbiology

Conjoint Staff

Dr Bevan Hokin

CertSc, DipMedLabSc, BSc, MAPPSc, PhD

Diagnostic Testing

Dr Ross Grant

BEd Avondale, MAppSc UTS, PhD UNSW

Health Science, Microbiology

Staff

Dean

Dr Paul T Race

BA UNE, MHA UNSW, PhD Macq, RN, PN

Nursing

Dr Alison M Smedley

BHSc(Nursing) SCU, GradCert C&FHN(Tresillian), GradDip FET USQ, MEd USQ, EdD ECU, RN, CM

Assistant Course Convenor

Dr Malcolm I Anderson

BAppSc(Nursing) Canberra CAE, MA(Ed) Macq, PhD Macq, RN, ONC

Graduate Studies Convenor (Nursing)

Senior Lecturers

Dr Malcolm I Anderson

BAppSc(Nursing) Canberra CAE, MA(Ed) Macq, PhD Macq, RN, ONC

Nursing

Dr Athena Sheehan

BN UTS, MN UTS, PhD UTS, RN, CM

Nursing

Lecturers

Wayne Bradshaw

DipTeach(Nursing) USyd, BEd (Nursing) UNE, MPH UNSW, CIT WINTEC, RN

Nursing

Linda Cloete

BSc(Nursing) University of Witwatersrand South Africa, MSc(Nursing) University of Witwatersrand South Africa, Cert IV Workplace Assessment and Training, RN

Nursing

Katherine Cooper

BN Avondale, MN(Administration and Health Promotion) Avondale, RN

Nursing

Tonia Crawford

DipAppSc(Nursing) Avondale, BHlthSc(Nursing) CSU, MHIthSc (Ed) USyd, RN

Nursing

Sonja Frischknecht

DipAppSc(Nursing) UTS, BN UTS, ICU Cert NSAHS, MN USQ, MN(Hons) USQ, RN

Nursing

Tamera Gosling

BN USA, GradDipHSt(Health Promotion) Avondale, MN (Hons) (Health Promotion) Avondale, RN, MRCNA

Nursing, Clinical Coordinator

Jenny M Kum Yuen

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

Zorana Wong
BAppSci Cumb, DipAdSci Cumb, MA(Ed) Macq, RN
Nursing

Associate Lecturers

Rebekah Hiley
BNurs UTS
Clinical Placement Officer

Kerry Miller
BN Avondale, RN
Mental Health Nursing

Linda Pope
GradCert (Anaesthetic and Recovery Room Nursing) UTS, GradCert
(Pain Management) USyd, MHsc(Education) USyd, RN
Nursing

Bachelor of Nursing

Course Code: 4030

Course Convenor: Dr Paul Race

The Bachelor of Nursing course is designed to prepare a student to function as a registered nurse, caring for people across the life span in a variety of clinical settings. The course provides not only the knowledge necessary for the professional nurse but also the attitudes and clinical and interpersonal skills essential to provide holistic nursing care in a variety of clinical settings. The organisation of units in the course integrates the concepts of health and illness and related health and nursing care strategies across the life span from infancy, through childhood and adolescence, to adulthood and older age. As students progress through the course they are expected to develop enhanced problem solving, critical thinking and knowledge discovery techniques that will improve their practice as graduates.

The first year of the course may be undertaken on either the Lake Macquarie Campus or the Sydney Campus. Subsequent years (semesters 3–6) are based at the Sydney Campus that is co-located with the Sydney Adventist Hospital (the “San”).

Students may commence the course in the first semester, or part-time students can enter the program in either semester of the academic year.

Duration

Three years full-time or equivalent part-time. There is a maximum of eight years duration for completion of the degree requirements, including any time on leave or intermission.

Credit points

144 credit points

Mode of delivery

Predominantly on campus but with flexible delivery of some units (this may include intensive classroom teaching, student self-directed learning, contract learning, distance education supported by print or electronic media or a combination of approaches). Over 1000 hours of clinical experience are also a requirement of the course.

Abbreviation of course title

BN

Accreditation

The degree is accredited by the NSW Department of Education and Training and the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

Nurse registration

Students should be aware that the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) requires educational institutions to register students upon commencement of the nursing course. This process is undertaken by Avondale on a student's behalf and students have no responsibility for this process.

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Nursing course, students will need to apply to AHPRA via the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) to register as a Registered Nurse prior to employment as a nurse. This process requires meeting various personal identification and course completion details but is also dependent upon a suitability for practice clause as defined in legislation and outlined on the NMBA website (www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au). This includes an assessment of good character and review of criminal history for Australia and overseas, and charges or convictions for an offense. There are also English language requirements for all applicants for registration. For the current requirements see the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia website (www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/). This currently requires evidence of completion of a minimum of 5 years education in selected English speaking countries (including Australia and New Zealand) or an IELTS score of 7, or an Occupational English Test (OET) score of a pass overall and a score of at least a B in each component. Other registration requirements are set by the NMBA and can be amended at any time and are outlined on the Board's website. Applicants seeking registration as a nurse for other countries should ascertain the requirements for that country.

Entry requirements

The general entry requirements for Avondale degree courses are stated in the Academic Policies section of the Handbook.

In addition to the Avondale general Admission requirements, the nursing course has specific entry requirements as indicated:

- Current first aid certificate from an accredited course. It is strongly recommended that this be obtained prior to the commencement of the course or must be completed by the end of first semester
- HSC (or equivalent) Biology is recommended
- Applicants for the Bachelor of Nursing whose first language is not English will normally be required to provide documentary evidence at the time the application is lodged of a satisfactory pass in the standardised Academic IELTS test with a score of 6.5 or better, with no individual band score less than 6.5 and dated within 2 years of the expected commencement of the degree.
- Exemptions to this requirement will normally be granted to Permanent Residents/Australian citizens who have completed all their secondary schooling in Australia and completed the Higher School Certificate or equivalent

An academic support program is offered for students.

A criminal records/national police check and child protection screening program must be undertaken at the commencement of the course as per NSW legislation/NSW Ministry of Health policy. This includes a criminal records check and completion of a student undertaking related to notification of any further criminal charges or convictions. A charge, payable by the student to the police is required for the national criminal check. An unsatisfactory criminal clearance may result in the student being unable to complete clinical requirements and hence may be unable to continue in the BN program.

The Bachelor of Nursing course also includes work-integrated learning/clinical practice requirements. Meeting these requirements involves shiftwork, travel to differing clinical venues, possible clinical placement scheduling across much of the year including holiday periods, providing health care to male and female patients in health care venues, and meeting skill, competence and safety requirements.

There is a requirement to adhere to the NSW Ministry of Health and other venue requirements related to clinical placements in order to access clinical practice areas. This will require completing additional forms and verifying compliance with codes of conduct and child protection requirements, as well as vaccination for various diseases as required by the NSW Ministry of Health. There may be a cost associated with vaccinations that students would need to meet. The cost will depend on the previous exposure to diseases and the vaccinations required as a result of this. Further detail on this is available from the NSW Ministry of Health website, the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia or the Faculty of Nursing and Health.

Students will need to verify their fitness for practice when attending clinical placement requirements. The fitness for practice declaration requires that any existing impairment or change in impairment that could detrimentally affect your capacity to complete the clinical requirements is brought to the attention of the Faculty of Nursing and Health and an assessment undertaken prior to any further clinical placement. Impairment includes any injury, illness, or chronic mental or physical condition, disability or disorder that could affect your capacity to undertake the clinical practice requirements of the course including the occupational demands of the workplace, or could adversely impact patients or the public during these placements. Applicants with concerns regarding these requirements should discuss the issues in confidence with Faculty Administration - phone 02 9487 9630 for further discussion.

Equipment and uniform requirements

Students will need to purchase a range of equipment in order to complete the Bachelor of Nursing degree. The Faculty of Nursing and Health coordinates this upon commencement of the course. This includes a designated student uniform for undertaking clinical practice, a stethoscope, and faculty approved personal protective equipment such as goggles/glasses and other equipment that may be determined as necessary to protect the individual in the workplace.

Course structure

The course includes study in numerous general and specialty nursing areas such as medical, surgical, maternal and child health, mental health, community, and aged care. Related unit material from the physical, biological and behavioural sciences is integrated into the course to present an holistic perspective of nursing.

The course is currently undergoing accreditation and the structure of the program is expected to change in semester 2, 2012. The program outlined below is the proposed program commencing in 2012. It is subject to accreditation being achieved in 2012. If accreditation is delayed students would be enrolled in the the existing program.

Revised Program for 2012

(Enroll in these units if commencing in 2012)

Semester 1

CSTD10400	Spiritual Care in Health	6 cr pts
HESC14700	Health Science I	6 cr pts
HESC14800	Health Science II	6 cr pts
NURS10100	Foundations of Health and Nursing	6 cr pts

Semester 2

HESC14900	Health Science III	6 cr pts
NURS11300	Health of Australian Society	6 cr pts
NURS11600	Mental Health Nursing 1	6 cr pts
NURS12000	Nursing Practice 2	6 cr pts

Existing Program (see above for 2012 units)

Year 1

Semester 1

NURS10100	Foundations of Health and Nursing	6 cr pts
HESC14700	Health Science I	6 cr pts
HESC14800	Health Science II	6 cr pts
HEPS11900	Introductory Psychology and Sociology	6 cr pts

Semester 2

CSTD10400	Spiritual Care in Health	6 cr pts
HESC14900	Health Science III	6 cr pts
NURS10200	Clinical Practice II	6 cr pts
NURS10300	Primary Health Care	6 cr pts

Year 2

Semester 1

NURS20200	Medical/Surgical Nursing A	6 cr pts
NURS20300	Clinical Practice III	6 cr pts
NURS20700	Utilising Research	6 cr pts
NURS20800	Promoting Holistic Health	6 cr pts

Semester 2

NURS20400	Clinical Practice IV	6 cr pts
NURS20500	Medical/Surgical Nursing B	6 cr pts
NURS20600	Mental Health	6 cr pts
NURS21900	Maternal, Child and Family Health	6 cr pts

Year 3

Semester 1

NURS30200	Medical/Surgical Nursing C	6 cr pts
NURS30300	Community Health Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS30500	Clinical Practice V	6 cr pts
NURS31900	Health Care of the Ageing Adult	6 cr pts

Semester 2

CSTD30400	Ethics and Professional Accountability	6 cr pts
NURS30600	Clinical Practice VI	6 cr pts
NURS30700	High Dependency Nursing	6 cr pts
NURS30800	Clinical Nursing Elective	6 cr pts

Progression through the course

It is generally expected that students will complete the units in the order listed for the course in the structure. Therefore the first-level (100-Level) units would normally be completed before proceeding to second level (200-Level) units. Specific corequisites and prerequisites are listed in the unit synopses section of this handbook. Exceptions to these progression rules may be made with approval of the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing and Health.

Semester organisation

The semesters are organised so that

- Semester 1 matches with the Lake Macquarie Campus program. Other semesters are scheduled across the year to take advantage of clinical learning opportunities and may commence earlier and finish later than the usual Avondale program.
- Clinical practice days are scheduled across semesters on specific days per week, or in a block structure of a number of weeks.

Clinical component

The clinical component of the course is undertaken as scheduled clinical placements each semester. The focus of the placement is related to the areas being studied in the concurrent nursing units. Some clinical placements are provided by the courtesy and cooperation of the Sydney Adventist Hospital, but there are many placements in NSW

Health or other private hospitals, mental health facilities, paediatric units or aged care and community facilities. In order to maximise clinical learning there is a need to travel off campus to settings where specialist nursing practice is occurring and because of the variety of settings students will need to travel to clinical learning venues via their own transport. It should be noted that clinical learning experiences are a compulsory component of the course and that fitness for practice requirements apply (See earlier section in Handbook on Entry Requirements for more detail).

Delivery approaches

Contemporary and proven approaches are utilised in the teaching of the course. These include video conferencing of some lectures, flexible delivery of some course components, computer based learning, along with lectures, small group tutorial discussions, clinical skills demonstrations in simulated and real clinical environments and clinical learning in varied nursing areas.

Assessment methods

Assessment methods are varied within units and consist of major or minor essays, examinations, projects, tutorial presentations by students, short reports, clinical practice appraisals and clinical skill assessments. Examinations are held in approximately 60% of units. Others rely on different types of written assessments or clinical practice assessments.

Work experience

Students have the opportunity to request work at the Sydney Adventist Hospital in the holidays and semester breaks. While paid work experience in hospital wards does not form part of the course and is only available to student nurses in their own time, its value in providing educational reinforcement, increased confidence and practical skills, as well as financial benefit, has led the Faculty of Nursing and Health to expect students to take advantage of this work experience.

Textbooks

Purchase of textbooks is at the student's discretion. The library will usually hold copies of the texts.

Transport costs

Some additional costs associated with transport to required clinical venues may arise. The actual cost will depend on the distance travelled and the transport used. A public bus service links the Sydney Campus to the city rail line.

Bachelor of Nursing					
Year					
1	Level 1	HESC14700 Health Science	HESC14800 Health Science II	CSTD10400 Spiritual Care in Health	NURS10100 Foundations of Health and Nursing
	Level 2	HESC14900 Health Science III	NURS11300 Health in Australian Society	NURS11600 Mental Health Nursing 1	NURS12000 Nursing Practice 2
2	Level 3	NURS20200 Medical/Surgical Nursing A <i>Prerequisites:</i> HESC14700 HESC14800 NURS10200 HESC14900	NURS20800 Promoting Holistic Health	NURS20700 Utilising Research	NURS20300 Clinical Practice III <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS10200 HESC14900 <i>Corequisite:</i> NURS20200
	Level 4	NURS20500 Medical/Surgical Nursing B <i>Prerequisites:</i> HESC14700 HESC14800 NURS10200 HESC14900	NURS21900 Maternal, Child and Family Health <i>Prerequisites:</i> HESC14700 HESC14800	NURS20600 Mental Health <i>Prerequisite:</i> HEPS11900	NURS20400 Clinical Practice IV <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS10200 HESC14900 <i>Corequisites:</i> NURS20500 NURS21900, NURS20600
3	Level 5	NURS30200 Medical/Surgical Nursing C <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS20300 <i>or</i> NURS20400	NURS30300 Community Health Nursing <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS10300 NURS20300 <i>or</i> NURS20400	NURS31900 Health Care of the Ageing Adult <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS20300 <i>or</i> NURS20400	NURS30500 Clinical Practice V <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS20300 <i>or</i> NURS20400 <i>Corequisites:</i> NURS30200 NURS31900
	Level 6	NURS30700 High Dependency Nursing <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS20400 <i>or</i> NURS30500	NURS30800 Clinical Nursing elective <i>Prerequisites:</i> NURS20400 <i>or</i> NURS30500	CSTD30400 Ethics and Professional Accountability <i>Prerequisite:</i> NURS10200	NURS30600 Clinical Practice VI <i>Prerequisite:</i> NURS30500 <i>Corequisite:</i> NURS30700