

Faculty of Nursing and Health

The Faculty of Nursing and Health operates in conjunction with the Sydney Adventist Hospital to offer a three-year Bachelor of Nursing undergraduate degree. Students enrolling in the Bachelor of Nursing may commence first semester study on either the Lake Macquarie or Sydney campus, and complete the final five semesters of the course at the Sydney campus located in the grounds of the Sydney Adventist Hospital (also known as the “San”).

The Bachelor of Nursing course is designed to prepare students to practise as a registered nurse in a variety of clinical settings. Graduates obtain registration with the Nurses and Midwives Board New South Wales. 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 both Nursing and in Health (see the Avondale College Postgraduate Handbook 2007–2008).

Research Centre

Australasian Research Institute (ARI)

Head of Centre:

Dr Ross Grant

BEd Avondale, MAppSc UTS, PhD UNSW

Health Science, Microbiology

Research Centre

Avondale Centre for Exercise Sciences (AES)

Head of Centre:

Dr Dr Darren Morton

BEd, MAppSc(HumanMovement), PhD, AAES, ASMS

Exercise Science, PDHPE

Staff

Dean

Paul T Race

BA, MHA, PhD, RN, PN, MRCNA

Alison M Smedley

RN, CM, Cert Ced, BHSc(Nursing) SCU, GradCert C&FHN(Tresillian), GradDip FET(USQ), MEd USQ, EdD Edith Cowan, MRCNA, MACMI

Assistant Course Coordinator

Gwen M Wilkinson

DipT Cumberland Coll, BEd Armidale CAE, MA Loma Linda, RN, CM, CorCare Cert, MRCNA

Graduate Studies Coordinator

Senior Lecturers

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Nursing

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Nursing

Lecturers

Katherine Cooper

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

Nursing

Tamera Gosling

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

Nursing

Jenny M Kum Yuen

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

Nursing

Drene Somasundram

BA Andrews, MA Andrews

Chaplain

Bachelor of Nursing

Course code: 4030

Course coordinator: 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 subjects 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 semester of the course may be undertaken on either the Lake Macquarie Campus or the Sydney Campus. Subsequent semesters 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.

Credit points

144 credit points

Mode of delivery

Predominantly on campus but with flexible delivery of some subjects (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).

Abbreviation of course title

BN

Accreditation

The degree is accredited by the NSW Department of Education and Training and by the Nurses and Midwives Board New South Wales.

Nurse registration

On successful completion of the course, graduates are eligible to apply for nurse registration in NSW, Australia.

After first registering in NSW, students may then also apply for registration in other Australian states, and New Zealand, due to mutual recognition legislation. Students from other countries should ascertain the requirements for those countries in which they intend to register.

Entry requirements

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

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

- HSC (or equivalent) Chemistry or completion of an appropriate chemistry bridging course
- 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
- All students for whom English is not a first language and who did not undertake their senior schooling in English and obtain a satisfactory pass in English in a British O-level examination are required to demonstrate proficiency in English by obtaining an overall IELTS score of 6.5 or better, with a written score of at least 6.5 and no other individual band score less than 6.0 (post 1987)
- A word processing competency test is undertaken in the first two weeks of semester. A satisfactory result must be obtained in word processing by the completion of first semester
- An academic bridging program (skills refresher and orientation to tertiary education) is offered for mature age students or others with special requirements for admission to degree courses
- A criminal records check will be undertaken at the commencement of the course as per NSW legislation. 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
- There is an expectation of adhering to the NSW Health department vaccination guidelines in order to access clinical practice areas. This may require vaccination for various diseases as required by the Health Department and there may be a cost associated with this 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 Health Department, the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia or the Faculty of Nursing and Health.

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 (including trousers, two shirts, cardigan and watch), a stethoscope, 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.

Progression through the course

It is generally expected that students will complete the subjects in the order listed for the course in the Structure. Therefore the first-level (100-level) subjects would normally be completed before proceeding to second level (200-level) subjects. Specific corequisites and prerequisites are listed in the subject 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.

Course structure

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

Year 1

Semester 1

NR101	Foundations of Health and Nursing	6
PS119	Introductory Psychology and Sociology	6
SC147	Health Science I	6
SC148	Health Science II	6

Semester 2

CR104	Spiritual Care in Health	6
NR102	Clinical Practice II	6
NR103	Primary Health Care	6
SC149	Health Science III	6

Year 2

Semester 1

NR202	Medical/Surgical Nursing A	6
NR203	Clinical Practice III	6
NR207	Utilising Research	6
NR208	Promoting Holistic Health	6

Semester 2

NR204	Clinical Practice IV	6
NR205	Medical/Surgical Nursing B	6
NR206	Mental Health	6
PS219	Maternal, Child and Family Health	6

Year 3

Semester 1

NR302	Medical/Surgical Nursing C	6
NR303	Community Health Nursing	6
NR305	Clinical Practice V	6
PS319	Health Care of the Ageing Adult	6

Semester 2

CR304	Ethics and Professional Accountability	6
NR307	High Dependency Nursing	6
NR308	Clinical Nursing Elective I	6
NR306	Clinical Practice VI	6

Bachelor of Nursing

Year					
1	Level 1	SC147 Health Science I	SC148 Health Science II	PS119 Introductory Psychology and Sociology	NR101 Foundations of Health and Nursing
	Level 2	SC149 Health Science III	NR103 Primary Health Care	CR104 Spiritual Care in Health	NR102 Clinical Practice II <i>Prerequisite:</i> NR101
2	Level 3	NR202 Medical/Surgical Nursing A <i>Prerequisites:</i> SC147, SC148, NR102, SC149	NR208 Promoting Holistic Health	NR207 Utilising Research	NR203 Clinical Practice III <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR102, SC149 <i>Corequisite:</i> NR202
	Level 4	NR205 Medical/Surgical Nursing B <i>Prerequisites:</i> SC147, SC148, NR102, SC149	PS219 Maternal, Child and Family Health <i>Prerequisites:</i> SC147, SC148	NR206 Mental Health <i>Prerequisite:</i> PS119	NR204 Clinical Practice IV <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR102, SC149 <i>Corequisites:</i> NR205, PS219, NR206
3	Level 5	NR302 Medical/Surgical Nursing C <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR203 or NR204	NR303 Community Health Nursing <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR103, NR203 or NR204	PS319 Health Care of the Ageing Adult <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR203 or NR204	NR305 Clinical Practice V <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR203 or NR204 <i>Corequisites:</i> NR302, PS319
	Level 6	NR307 High Dependency Nursing <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR204 or NR305	NR308 Clinical Nursing Elective <i>Prerequisites:</i> NR204 or NR305	CR304 Ethics and Professional Accountability <i>Prerequisite:</i> NR102	NR306 Clinical Practice VI <i>Prerequisite:</i> NR305 <i>Corequisite:</i> NR307

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 college 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 a clinical practice subject each semester. The content of this clinical subject is related to the areas being studied in the concurrent theoretical subjects. Some clinical placements are provided by the courtesy and cooperation of the Sydney Adventist Hospital, but there are many placements in other public/private hospitals, mental health facilities, paediatric units, aged care and community facilities.

In order to maximise clinical learning there is occasionally a need to travel off campus to settings where specialist nursing practice is occurring. Because of the variety of settings there is a requirement for students to travel to clinical learning venues themselves. It should be noted that clinical learning experiences are a compulsory component of the course.

Delivery approaches

Contemporary and proven approaches are utilised in the teaching of the course. These include 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 subjects 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 subjects. 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 to earn a proportion of their fees and living expenses 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.