

# Master of Nursing Practice – Emergency Care

Cloud Campus (online)

## Course outcomes

The Master of Nursing Practice – Emergency Care course aims to prepare graduates to practise effectively at an advanced practice level in emergency care settings. Graduates will demonstrate ethical, safe, high quality, expert clinical decision making within an interdisciplinary team, and psychomotor skills commensurate with specialised theoretical knowledge, evidence-based practice and person or client-centred care.

## Course delivery

The units of the Master of Nursing Practice – Emergency Care are delivered as a combination of classes, Cloud (online) modules and seminars. Students enrol as Cloud students, however there are significant campus requirements. This includes a compulsory 4 day (Certificate) or 5 day (Certificate and Diploma) introductory program held at the Melbourne Burwood campus in early February each year.

The School of Nursing and Midwifery is internationally renowned and distinguishes itself through world leading research and education programs.

Our courses offer flexibility in terms of course structure and learning, and respond to the demands of industry and partnership/ collaborating hospitals for nurses with sophisticated specialty skills and knowledge to improve quality of care and patient safety.



# MASTER OF NURSING PRACTICE – EMERGENCY CARE

## Course structure

Course code: H771

Offered at: Cloud Campus (online)

Duration: 1.5 years full-time or up to 4 years part-time study

Intake: March (Trimester 1)

Students will enrol in the Master of Nursing Practice (H771) and may exit either at the graduate certificate or graduate diploma level.

Level	Credit points + duration	Trimester 1	Trimester 2
Graduate certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 credit points of core specialty study.</li> <li>Completed part time over a period of one year in partnership with an appropriate specialty area with a minimum of 24 hours clinical employment per week.</li> </ul>	Core units	
		HNN751 Advanced Physiology and Patient Assessment	HNN766 Emergency Care Nursing 1
		HNN752 Core Principles of Care for the Critically Ill Patient	HNN776 Emergency Care Nursing 2

Level	Credit points + duration	Trimester 1	Trimester 2
Graduate diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 credit points of study.</li> <li>Usually completed over a period of two years of part-time study, but can be taken over one year full time. Study cannot exceed a three-year period.</li> </ul>	Core units	
		HNN750 Inquiry into Specialty Nursing Practice	HNN788 Advanced Concepts in Specialty Nursing Practice
		Elective units	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students must complete 2 x additional elective units to complete 8 credit points of study for the Graduate Diploma.</li> <li>Refer to the Master of Nursing Practice flyer for a list of available electives.</li> </ul>	

Level	Credit points + duration	Trimester 1 +2	
Master	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A total of 12 credit points of study (including previous units taken at graduate certificate or diploma level).</li> <li>Can be undertaken up to 4 years part-time.</li> </ul>	<b>Elective units (if completing Master of Nursing Practice by coursework)</b>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students must complete 4 x additional elective units to complete 12 credit points of study for the Master of Nursing Practice by coursework.</li> </ul>	
		<b>Thesis units (if completing Master of Nursing Practice by minor thesis)</b>	
		HNN725 Research Thesis A (2 credit points)	HNN726 Research Thesis B (2 credit points)
		<b>Note</b>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To graduate at Master Level and meet Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) requirements, students must complete a 2 credit point research unit (HNN727).</li> <li>Students may elect to do this unit as part of the Graduate Diploma or in place of 2 elective units if completing Masters by coursework.</li> </ul>	

## Core unit outlines

### **HNN751: ADVANCED PHYSIOLOGY AND PATIENT ASSESSMENT**

This unit covers the role of specialist nurses in managing critically ill patients in relation to: the principles and concepts of homeostasis related to acid-base status, fluid and electrolyte balance, haematology and electrocardiography; advanced complex patient assessment and monitoring of cardiovascular, respiratory, haemodynamic, neurological, renal and gastrointestinal systems based on physiological and pathophysiological considerations for critically ill and injured patients; and basic and advanced life support by critical care specialist nurses.

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### **HNN752: CORE PRINCIPLES OF CARE FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT**

This unit covers the role of specialist nurses in managing critically ill patients in relation to: the implementation and management of therapeutic technologies for major organ insufficiency and failure including oxygen therapy, artificial airways and mechanical and non-invasive ventilation; interventional cardiac procedures; pharmacological therapies including vasoactives, fibrinolytics and antiarrhythmics; and principles of specialist critical care practice in clinical risk management and clinical decision making based on best research evidence.

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### **HNN766: EMERGENCY CARE NURSING 1**

The unit is designed to prepare nurses for specialty emergency care practice and covers: assessment and therapeutic management of patients with a variety of complex cardiovascular and neurological dysfunctions; advanced electrocardiography concepts; physical, psychosocial and functional care of clinically frail and elderly critically ill and injured patients; and risk management of mental health, paediatric, gynaecological, obstetric, oncology and primary care presentations and injuries.

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### **HNN776: EMERGENCY CARE NURSING 2**

The unit is designed to prepare nurses for specialty emergency care practice of ill and injured patients and covers principles, concepts and therapeutic nursing and collaborative management of: sepsis and multi-organ failure; complex cardiac conditions; endocrine and abdominal disorders; triage, trauma, assault and burns.

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### **HNN750: INQUIRY INTO SPECIALTY NURSING PRACTICE**

In this unit, students will be required to explore the current and emerging trends, concepts, knowledge and evidence that provides the policy and practice framework in which the care of critically ill patients takes place specifically in relation to the:

- Transcultural, ethical and psychosocial concepts of brain death, complicated loss and grief and critical incident stress debriefing within specialty areas including the nursing considerations of patient care, family and the multidisciplinary care team.
  - Current and emerging concepts of competency, specialisation and scope of practice; and considerations of nursing roles in outreach teams, managed care and critical care units without walls.
  - Clinical governance, policy and practice development within specialty areas including the contribution of patient and consumer perspectives.
  - Specialty area structure, process and outcome measures including patient and nurse-sensitive indicators for high quality safe care.
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### **HNN788: ADVANCED CONCEPTS IN SPECIALTY NURSING PRACTICE**

This unit covers the role of specialist nurses in managing critically ill patients in relation to:

- The advanced assessment and management of patients requiring complex physiological interventions and support.
  - Emerging trends in evidence-based speciality nursing practice, and knowledge translation.
  - Planning and management of contemporary and emerging workforce issues.
  - Critical examination of the social, political, economic, legal and cultural contexts of specialty practice.
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## Case study

### Carissa Trotter

#### Graduate Diploma of Nursing Practice (Emergency Care)

Carissa completed a Bachelor of Nursing at Deakin at the Melbourne Burwood Campus in 2009. During her undergraduate studies, she was able to take part in an exchange program to Denmark and a study tour to Thailand.

Carissa followed her degree with an honours year, researching nurses' use and documentation of clinical data in acute settings. 'Undertaking an honours year gave me the opportunity to meet nursing researchers and has opened the doors to the vast possibilities that a combined research and clinical nursing career has to offer.'

Following her honours year, Carissa decided to undertake the Master of Nursing Practice course specialising in emergency care at Deakin. She deferred for a year whilst working in the Emergency Department at Northern Health on a casual basis. This allowed Carissa to work in different locations throughout Australia in emergency, intensive care, high dependency and paediatric nursing and helped consolidate her critical care skills whilst broadening her experience and knowledge. Carissa completed her Graduate Diploma of Nursing Practice in Emergency Care earlier this year.

'The School of Nursing at Deakin are supportive, friendly, approachable and extremely knowledgeable. I have been fortunate to meet some amazing life mentors, who have been instrumental in my professional growth. The students in the course come from a variety of critical care areas; this has been extremely beneficial for our learning, as we all bring different clinical experiences and backgrounds to the classroom. We have campus lectures supported by a range of cloud (online) learning resources, team-based learning, frequent class discussion and guest speakers. The course is essential for me in becoming an advanced specialty practice emergency nurse, equipped with the specialty and professional skills I need to deliver high-quality patient care. In the future I wish to continue my clinical career as an emergency nurse, while undertaking nursing research to improve the health care outcomes of patients who present to the emergency department.'

## Clinical partnerships

Students are required to be employed in an appropriate clinical practice area for a minimum of 24 hours per week with a partnering hospital.



## Admission requirements

Applicants should normally possess a Bachelor of Nursing or equivalent approved qualification, and be registered as a Registered Nurse with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) through the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia or an equivalent registering authority.

Applicants should also have had a minimum of 12 months recent acute care clinical experience.

## Apply

Refer to [deakin.edu.au/courses/find-a-course/nursing-and-midwifery/emergency-care-nursing](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/find-a-course/nursing-and-midwifery/emergency-care-nursing)

## Contact us

Postgraduate Enrolment Officer:  
[postgrad-nurs@deakin.edu.au](mailto:postgrad-nurs@deakin.edu.au)  
03 9244 6102

[deakin.edu.au/course/  
master-nursing-practice](https://deakin.edu.au/course/master-nursing-practice)

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