

Master of Nursing Practice (Nurse Practitioner)

Cloud Campus (online)

Course outcomes

The Master of Nursing Practice (Nurse Practitioner) aims to extend the advanced practice of registered nurses in their specialty practice as well as broadening and deepening their theoretical knowledge for their scope of practice. This course contains core units of study to support each graduate's application for endorsement as a Nurse Practitioner by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), through the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA).

By extending their advanced practice nursing role, graduates following endorsement as a Nurse Practitioner, will be expected to deliver high quality health services to achieve the best possible outcomes for patients. This role encompasses critical reasoning to inform health assessment, diagnosis formulation, care plan development and its evaluation supported by reflective practice; diagnostics use and their interpretation; and use of evidence-based practice and digital technologies. Attributes also include skilful communication abilities with patients, their families, community and in collaboration with other health professionals. Nurse Practitioner capabilities include research, education and leadership in for example, appropriate care delivery, patient safety and risk management.

Course delivery

The units of the Master of Nursing Practice (Nurse Practitioner) are delivered via Cloud campus (online) modules and seminars.

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 (NURSE PRACTITIONER)

Course structure

Course code: H773

The Master of Nursing Practice (Nurse Practitioner), equivalent to 12 credit point course, can be undertaken over 2 years part-time and up to 4 years. It contains 4 credit points for speciality practice and qualification, to be completed prior to commencement of the 8 core unit sequence, equivalent to 8 credit points of study. Recognition of prior learning is available when evidence of successful postgraduate courses is provided and considered according to academic requirements.

Year	Credit points	Trimester 1	Trimester 2
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 credit points from 4 x core units Completed in partnership with an appropriate specialty area, a minimum of 20 hours clinical experience per week, and completion of other requirements, such as assessment for clinical competence. 	Core units	
		HNN730 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	HNN780 Quality and Safety in Medication Management
		HNN731 Contemporary Nurse Practitioner Role	HNN704 Clinical Leadership and Collaborative Practice

Year	Credit points	Trimester 1	Trimester 2
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 credit points from 4 x core units Completed in partnership with an appropriate specialty area, a minimum of 20 hours clinical experience per week, and completion of other requirements, such as assessment for clinical competence. 	Core units	
		HNN749 Patient Safety and Risk Management	HNN732 Clinical Research Methods
		HNN781 Therapeutic Medication Management	HNN733 Clinical Excellence in Nurse Practitioner Practice

Core unit outlines

HNN730: ADVANCED HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSTIC REASONING

The aims of this unit are to prepare students to extend their advanced practice skills within their clinical domain of their specialty practice with an emphasis on clinical decision making. This role extension encompasses comprehensive patient assessments, clinical reasoning; formulation of diagnosis, interpretation of diagnostic testing or procedures, use of evidence, implementation and evaluation of care. This role is according to the Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice and other professional practice guidelines.

HNN731: CONTEMPORARY NURSE PRACTITIONER ROLE

The aim of this unit is to develop the student's knowledge and understanding of the role and function of the professional nurse practitioner in collaborative practice across complex interdisciplinary alliances, according to the Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice, and other professional practice guidelines. Practice contexts will also be examined, encompassing socio-cultural diversity, including how the advanced practice role can be extended, supported by reflective practice.

HNN780: QUALITY AND SAFETY IN MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

The aim of the unit is to prepare students for the effective and safe prescribing of pharmacological interventions using principles of Quality Use of Medicines while maintaining relationships with people at the centre of care. The unit aims to provide students with the knowledge of and resources required to prescribe or manage medicines using professional, legal and ethical principles taking into account economic, social, cultural, diversity and life span issues.

HNN704: CLINICAL LEADERSHIP AND COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE

This unit aims to prepare students for their role as a Nurse Practitioner through their clinical leadership and collaborative practice within the social political, economic and cultural contexts of health care delivery, specific for the specialty practice of their clinical domain. Leadership style and theories related to clinical, professional and political contexts; mentorship and advanced teamwork, and contexts such as relationship building and boundary management are examined.

HNN749: PATIENT SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

This unit has as its focus a critical examination of patient safety and risk management in health care contexts. Particular attention is given to human error theory and clinical governance as an overarching guiding framework for progressing patient safety and taking a systems approach to reducing the incidence and impact of preventable adverse events in health care domains.

HNN781: THERAPEUTIC MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

This unit will expand the student's knowledge of pharmacological principles and management of medicines specific for their clinical domain of practice with presentation of broad medication classes and their potential for adverse interactions, effects, and events. The principles of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics; interpreting the relationship among symptoms, medication effects and risk management for the patient requiring prescription and administration of medicines are explored.

HNN732: CLINICAL RESEARCH METHODS

Students will be challenged to integrate critical analysis of multiple types of available evidence and knowledge of research design to analyse problems affecting their practice as a nurse practitioner. They will also be challenged to explore opportunities to contribute to evidence to inform clinical decision making. The application of research is supported by reflective practice encompassing critical analysis, interpretation, evaluation and synthesis.

HNN733: CLINICAL EXCELLENCE IN NURSE PRACTITIONER PRACTICE

The aim of this unit is to combine the different components of advanced practice that constitutes the nurse practitioner role encompassing responsibility, accountability and patient/client advocacy. Students will be prepared to integrate advanced patient assessment skills, diagnostic reasoning, mental health, cultural issues and pathophysiology and pharmacology knowledge in the development of a patient management plan for those with complex care requirements.

Case study

Hamish Alker-Jones

Endorsed Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Master of Nursing Practice (Nurse Practitioner)



The Master of Nursing Practice allowed me to develop a skill set beyond the role of a registered nurse, which for me was important from not only a career perspective, but it also allowed me to nurse autonomously in a holistic way, as part of a collaborative team.

Deakin's course is accredited, offers flexibility in terms of course structure and learning and also recognised that I had clinical skills that could be developed to support me in pursuing a direction I'm interested in – youth mental health.

Deakin's School of Nursing and Midwifery has developed key industry relationships to ensure quality research and student learning. Deakin understands the complexity of the Nurse Practitioner role and was able to provide realistic and appropriate learning opportunities.

Key health professionals contribute to ensure the course meets industry needs. For example, a director of pharmacy was included in regular intensive learning and reflective preparations around pharmacotherapies. These sessions helped to prepare me to work as a highly skilled Nurse Practitioner with the responsibility for making safe and appropriate decisions when prescribing medications for clients experiencing mental health illness.

Clinical requirements

Students are required to undertake clinical practice for their specialty domain, for at least 20 hours each week throughout course enrolment, to support the extension of an advanced practice role.

Other requirements include for example:

- Evidence of clinical experiences and role extension as specified by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) through the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia for endorsement as a nurse practitioner.
- Successful completion of *Clinical Competency Assessment Tools*.
- Notes of meetings with clinical supervisors and mentors.

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. There are to be NO restrictions placed on this registration.

Applicants are required to have:

- a minimum of **five years full-time experience** (FTE) (or equivalent PT) as a Registered Nurse
- **three years FTE** in a **specialty area**
- **one year FTE** at an advanced practice level.

Applicants are also required to hold requisite postgraduate education or equivalent in a specialty field prior to entry in the Master of Nursing Practice (Nurse Practitioner). This requirement is essential in the development of an advanced practice role.

Apply

Refer to deakin.edu.au/courses/find-a-course/nursing-and-midwifery/nurse-practitioner

Contact us

Postgraduate Enrolment Officer:
postgrad-nurs@deakin.edu.au
03 9244 6102

deakin.edu.au/nursing-midwifery

Published by Deakin University in April 2017. While the information published in this guide was accurate at the time of publication, Deakin University reserves the right to alter, amend or delete details of course offerings and other information published here. For the most up-to-date course information please view our website at deakin.edu.au

Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B



CELEBRATING
30
YEARS 1987-2017

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF NURSING
AND MIDWIFERY