Maternity Nursing

The Faculty of Health at Deakin University is a leader in providing education for people working or aiming to work in health and human services. We collaborate with major employer and professional groups, ensuring that our programs are at the cutting edge of current research and practice.

The Professional Development Unit (PDU) at Deakin University offers high quality educational learning packages. These learning packages provide nurses with the opportunity to update their professional skills, support their current practice, take another career direction or seek an alternative entry pathway into higher education.

Each learning package is equivalent to 0.5 credit point. Learning packages are delivered via distance education over a 10-week period. Students are able to work at their own pace within this timeframe and are offered in Trimester 1, Trimester 2 and Summer Trimester (numbers permitting).

Students enrolled in the Masters of Midwifery are NOT eligible to undertake and receive credit for the study of these two learning packages as they are offered at an undergraduate level.

Registered nurses intending to work in the United States of America must first get approval from the State Registering Board in which they intend to practice, before commencing these packages.

Please note: Completion of these learning packages no longer meets the California Board of Registered Nursing’s requirements.

PDU331 Pregnancy and birth
PDU332 Postnatal care

Learning package one: Pregnancy and birth

This learning package aims to prepare nurses to gain an understanding of the care of the childbearing woman and her family during pregnancy and birth. The focus is to prepare nurses who are able to work in the maternity unit to support women and their families rather than functioning as a midwife.

The content of this learning package includes:

- anatomy and physiology of reproductive system
- the childbearing woman during pregnancy
- care of the childbearing woman during pregnancy
- high risk pregnancy
- care of the woman during the first stage of labour
- care of the woman during second and third stage of labour
- care of the newborn infant immediately after birth

**Assessment:** Assignment (2000 words) and a Deakin Studies Online examination = 100%

**Learning package two: Postnatal care**

This learning package aims to prepare nurses to gain an understanding of the care of the woman and her newborn during the postnatal (postpartum) period. The focus is to prepare nurses who are able to work in the maternity unit and community to support women and their families rather than functioning as a midwife.

The content of this learning package includes:
- care of the woman following birth
- care of the newborn
- care of the family with an infant in the community
- care of the woman and family experiencing complications in the postnatal period
- health concerns and complications of the neonate
- infants with gestational age related problems

Participants will be encouraged to reflect on their experiences and to integrate theoretical concepts while developing skills for application in practice.

**Assessment:** Assignment (2000 words) and a Deakin Studies Online examination = 100%

**Admission requirements**

These learning packages are available to:

Registered nurses with hospital certificate or undergraduate diploma or degree, intending to register to work in the United States of America following approval from the US authority.

Registered nurses wishing to expand their knowledge in the area of pregnancy, birth and the postnatal care of the woman and newborn infant.

**Fees**

PLEASE NOTE: Deakin University’s ABN is listed on the enrolment form to act as a tax invoice. Employer sponsored payment of fees MUST accompany the enrolment form to guarantee enrolment in the desired Trimester. No exceptions.

**Refund Policy**

Please refer to the Deakin website for information on refund policies.

**Enquiries and applications**

Applications close four weeks prior to the start of each Trimester. Contact the PDU for dates. For information and an application form, please go to:

deakin.edu.au/health/pdu/enrolment.php

While the above information was correct at the time of publication, Deakin University reserves the right to alter, amend or delete details of course and unit offerings.

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