



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

Graduate Diploma in Nursing Science

PERIOPERATIVE NURSING

Overview

The Graduate Diploma in Nursing Science (Perioperative Nursing) aims to provide graduates with the opportunity to develop advanced specialist skills. Students undertaking this program of study are provided with a rigorous grounding in the essential knowledge and practical skills necessary to safely practice within this clinical practice setting at an advanced level.

The degree consists of six courses as outlined in this brochure. Successful completion of Semester 1 specialty courses is a prerequisite for continuing in Semester 2 specialty courses.

Teaching Methods

The courses within this program of study are offered in a variety of teaching methods. Students will undertake courses via distance education using a mixture of both on-line and offline delivery methods.

Degree Duration

The Graduate Diploma in Nursing Science degree can be undertaken part-time over two years. The maximum time limit to complete a Graduate Diploma is four years as specified in the Coursework Academic Programs Policy.

Entry Requirements

An applicant for admission to the program of study for the Graduate Diploma in Nursing Science shall:

- be registered, or be eligible for registration, as a nurse in Australia and be employed at a minimum of 0.64 FTE (full time equivalent) in perioperative nursing; and
- have qualified for a degree of Bachelor of Nursing, or equivalent, from a university accepted for the purposes by the University; and

- have at least two years experience as a registered nurse in the field of the specialisation to be undertaken.

Fees

For the fees applicable to this degree, refer to Degree Finder:

adelaide.edu.au/degree-finder/

Contact



Jo Perry

Telephone: +61 8 8313 2010

Email: jo.perry@adelaide.edu.au

Speciality Core courses

7145 Introduction to Perioperative Nursing

Units: 6 units

Teaching period: Semester 1

Contact hours: Flexible Learning Mode with online classroom contact.

Content: This course provides the clinician with the clinically-focused skills and knowledge to function at a baseline perioperative nurse level within the perioperative environment. The course follows a patient's experience through their perioperative pathway and analyses the common phases along this journey. Topics presented cover the knowledge and skills required during preoperative, intraoperative and post anaesthesia recovery phases of care. There is a strong focus on the skills acquirement within the student's clinical environment. Following this course the clinician will be able to function at a base level within the areas of perioperative nursing.

7152 Specialised Perioperative Nursing

Units: 3 units

Teaching period: Semester 2

Contact hours: Flexible learning mode with online classroom contact

Content: This course provides the clinician with the specialty-focused skills and knowledge to function at an advanced perioperative nurse level within the perioperative environment. The course builds upon the knowledge and skills acquired along the patient's perioperative pathway and how these are applied to the numerous subspecialties of surgery and the implications on perioperative nursing practice, specifically the instrument and circulating nurse roles. The course examines and investigates the advanced knowledge and skills required to competently manage these patients. There is a strong focus on the acquisition of skills in the clinical environment. The completion of this course will enable the clinician to function at an advanced clinical level within their specialised area of perioperative nursing.

7153 Concepts Perioperative Nursing Practice

Units: 6 units

Teaching period: Semester 2

Contact hours: Flexible learning mode

Content: Within this course, students will examine and debate key concepts of perioperative nursing practice that are essential for safe and effective patient outcomes. Whilst these topics do not encompass technical skills of clinical practice, understanding of topics such as quality management and mental health does influence the quality of care provided by professional nurses practicing within the perioperative environment.

Core courses

71020L Research Literacy

Units: 3 units

Teaching period: Semester 1 or Semester 2

Contact hours: Flexible Learning Mode

Content: This course is designed to familiarise students with the methodologies used in health research. Students will learn about empirical methods such as experimental studies and also the fundamentals of interpretive and critical methodologies, such as phenomenology. The aim is for student to learn how to read and critically evaluate research relating to their practice.

71000L Knowledge Translation

Units: 3 units

Teaching period: Semester 1 or Semester 2

Contact hours: Flexible Learning Mode

Content: This course is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to access, critique and incorporate evidence into their practice with the aim of improving patient care. Students will consider the context in which their practice occurs, and use pragmatic methods of assessing where practice needs to improve through facilitating a multi-disciplinary team.

71010L Professional Practice

Units: 3 units

Teaching period: Semester 1 or Semester 2

Contact hours: Flexible Learning Mode

Content: This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to consider a number of issues faced by registered nurses in advanced practice settings. Concepts such as accountability, ethical decision-making, advocacy, leadership in nursing practice, culturally competent nursing, evidence based practice and the nurse practitioner role are considered as this course assists the student to explore the perimeters within which nurses practise.

Study Plan

Students must follow the study plan to guide enrolment for the duration of the degree. Any deviations from the study plan must be discussed with the Specialty Coordinator.

Applications

For application and admission information refer to Degree Finder: adelaide.edu.au/degree-finder/

Application for this program is made through SATAC: satac.edu.au

SATAC code: 3GD042



FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES

The University of Adelaide SA 5005 Australia

ENQUIRIES future.ask.adelaide.edu.au

TELEPHONE +61 8 8313 5208

FREE-CALL 1800 061 459

 nursing.adelaide.edu.au

 facebook.com/uoa.health

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Published December 2018
CRICOS 00123M

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