

Master of Nursing

You will study a total of 9 subjects that combine to provide a comprehensive blend of practical, strategic and research skills to enable you to lead positive change at both the clinical and industry level. Among these nine courses are eight taught subjects and one independent research project that gives you the opportunity to explore an academically-oriented area of your own interest.

Core Subjects

Legal and Professional Issues

This subject is designed to assist students to deal with legal, ethical and professional issues in relation to their area of clinical practice. Relevant legislation, appropriate case law, principles of conflict management, and examples of ethical and moral reasoning will be used to provide a framework for clinical decision-making. Advances in scientific knowledge and technology and demands on health care resources mean that health care professionals such as midwives and nurses participate in decisions of legal, moral and professional significance. In order to be accountable to their clients and their profession, health professionals need the opportunity to study legal, moral and professional issues so that they are capable of engaging in clinical decision-making processes which take into account the inherent legal, ethical and professional concerns. This subject is designed to assist students to think critically and creatively. It draws on different ways of thinking and learning so that students can form connections between insights, inspiration, logic and questions. It is built on the assumption that effective learning occurs when students are interested in resolving an issue in their own mind. The subject design enables students to develop their inquiry skills, develop their own criteria for criticism of the hypotheses and answers they develop, synthesize complex information and conduct intellectual simulations of their answers. In this way the subject provides a real and relevant connection with clinical practice.

Emotional Intelligence for Leaders

Contact School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Health for subject description

Leading Change in Healthcare

The healthcare system of today is complex and often resistance to change. Good leadership is integral to change management and leaders are needed to assist the workforce to build and lead change initiatives, access resources and negotiate difficult systems. In addition, transformational leaders are critical to effectively dealing with barriers in order to work creatively to implement innovation. This subject assists a student to explore the fundamental concepts and modes related to change management so that they can understand and adapt health systems to achieve efficiency and effectiveness. The subject focuses on national health reform and a range of service improvement approaches and tools to implement change at national, state-wide and health care organisational level.

Promoting Clinical Excellence

Nurses and other leaders face important challenges in today's health care organisations. It is important that registered nurses have a sound understanding of many aspects of service delivery including; an appreciation of operational policies and strategies and how to implement those strategies and policies. This subject will focus on issues of clinical governance, in particular that of quality management within clinical governance. The aim of this subject is to introduce students to the various aspects of service design and delivery within a clinical governance and quality assurance framework.

Applied Analysis in Health Research

Contact School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Health for subject description

Clinical Governance

Ensuring safety and providing quality care are fundamental principles used by health care professionals to guide and structure practice. This subject provides an overview of emerging health policy with particular attention to clinical governance. Clinical governance is one framework through which healthcare organisations are accountable for continuously improving the quality of their services and safeguarding high standards of care. In analysing a clinical governance framework, students will firstly consider healthcare design, analysis and improvement, error reporting and investigation, public accountability and open disclosure. In addition, students will discuss and apply the tools needed for healthcare improvement and examine the risks faced by health service managers and leaders. International approaches to safety and quality in healthcare delivery are also discussed with an emphasis on error reduction and meeting national quality and safety standards within health services settings.

Tools for Practice Development

The subject focuses on participatory teaching practices. Students will explore concepts of engagement and collaboration, clinical puzzling, future focused approaches to practice change, practice development, clinical evaluation and the evolution of cultures of learning in clinical contexts.

Essential Skills for Health Researchers

Many Health Professionals have had minimal exposure to health research methods and strategies in their undergraduate studies, and often the exposure they have had is rather narrow. The intent of this subject is to assist students to acquire the essential skills required to be a successful post graduate student. The topics selected for the subject are those which have been found to be of interest and value to all post graduate students to consider and/or conduct their own small project.

Research Project

Minor Project

The main aim of this subject is to enable students to synthesise their learning throughout their course in the context of health-related policy, practice, education or leadership. In groups, students will collaboratively develop a research based project proposal about a contemporary issue impacting their field. Individually, students will then further develop a specific component of the proposal for their individual project. This subject aims to enable the student to develop skills and practice in collaborative work leading to the creation of a project proposal and output. The completed project demonstrates students' ability to identify contemporary issues, synthesise salient information, and articulate original ideas and thought processes to make a practical contribution to the existing body of knowledge relevant to health-leadership, policy, practice or education. In preparing a written report, and making a presentation of their process and outcomes, students demonstrate professional-level competence.

OR

Preliminary Research Project

This is a preliminary research project undertaken for the Master of Research training pathway degree. The purpose of the subject is to ensure candidates will have advanced knowledge and skills for professional work or future learning. The project is undertaken under the supervision of a supervisor. The report will contain a literature review and formulate and scope the major research project to be undertaken in the second year of the MRes. A seminar will be presented describing the project. This is an independent project. It is essential that this subject be conducted in the context of regular consultation with your supervisor(s). The subject provides a scaffold, whereas supervisors will work with you on your project. Please organize times to meet with supervisors regularly.