



Master of Nursing

(Coursework)

Registered Number 21 1448



University of Ballarat

Master of Nursing (Coursework)

A message from the Dean

The new School of Health Sciences was officially formed at the University of Ballarat in July 2011 with the convergence of disciplines interested in all aspects of Health Science and wellbeing.

We have an amazing opportunity to build on the great strengths of our disciplines and provide education and research across the diverse fields of human clinical sciences, health, medical, psychological, remedial and healthy lifestyle.

We aspire to emphasise best holistic practice, foster independent and critical thinking, develop health advocacy and promote interdisciplinary collaboration. We provide education for the community at all levels from Certificate to Post-Doctoral qualifications.

Faculty and students aim to work collaboratively to serve the community by providing practitioners, advocates, teachers and researchers with a clear ethical framework. We work to affect change globally through our interaction with more than 3,000 students and 200 staff (including sessional and adjunct appointments). We are proud to be part of a global network of health practitioners working towards improved health outcomes and wellbeing.

Should you choose to study with us this would be the start of our journey together and I look forward to the opportunity of working with you as partners, collaborators and colleagues.

Kim Dowling
Associate Professor and Dean
School of Health Sciences

Organising Institutions

The Master of Nursing (Coursework) (MN) Hong Kong program is offered by the University of Ballarat, Australia, in partnership with the Hong Kong Management Association.

The University of Ballarat



The University of Ballarat is the third oldest seat of higher learning in Australia, with its predecessor institutions dating back to 1870.

It is the only regional university in Victoria providing technical, vocational and higher education programs as well as significant research opportunities. Our purpose is to provide a quality tertiary education experience that inspires our students to succeed. The University of Ballarat is also the only Victorian University to receive 5-stars for teaching quality three years running*.

The University has many programs across a wide range of disciplines including business and commerce, human and community services, the visual and performing arts, the sciences, mathematics, information technology, engineering, nursing, paramedicine, biomedical sciences, food sciences, teacher education, the behavioural and social sciences, the humanities, human movement, sport sciences, the various trades and in manufacturing services. The University also has a Technical Education Centre catering for the needs of secondary school students.

To enhance its range of research activities, the University hosts a number of research centres and has collaborative arrangements for research with a number of Australian and overseas universities.

The University has gained a national reputation for its commitment to high quality learning, teaching and training, for its applied research and for its engagement with industry, business and its regional communities and for its innovative Technology Park in Ballarat.

The University of Ballarat has around 25,000 international and domestic students. We are committed to serving regional Victorian communities, yet have a broad national and international outlook. We offer the best of both worlds; combining a strong tradition of 137 years of tertiary education with the freedom and dynamism that comes with being a multi-sector University with close links to local industry and technology.

* The Good Universities Guide (2010 - 2013)

University Website: www.ballarat.edu.au



The Hong Kong Management Association



The Hong Kong Management Association (HKMA) is a non-profit-making incorporated body established in 1960. Over the years, the Association, with a mission to train and develop human resources, has been actively taking part in training tens of thousands of management personnel and professionals, thereby raising the standard of management and improving its quality in Hong Kong.

As part of HKMA's deep commitment to providing opportunities to local executives and professionals continuing development, the Association, in partnership with a number of overseas universities, offers a series of programs leading to Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral Degrees in various areas of studies.

The Program (UBMN) Local Secretariat at the HKMA takes care of overall organisation of the Master of Nursing program, and will work with students to answer their questions as well as help solve their problems, throughout the learning process.

HKMA Website: www.hkma.org.hk



Key Features

- 5-stars for teaching quality four years running in Good Universities Guide (2010 - 2013)
- Ideal for certificate holders of the (Hong Kong) Institute of Advanced Nursing Studies as 4 courses at Stage I of the Master of Nursing (Coursework) program may be exempted
- Part time options are also available to assist with managing work/home commitments
- Entire program conducted via flexible distance learning therefore study can be conducted at a time that suits. No need to attend scheduled classes
- Highly structured course materials to guide you along
- Strong and friendly home university academic support
- Valuable advanced qualification to enhance your prospects for career advancement

Program Overview

The Master of Nursing (Coursework) has been designed specifically to meet the professional needs of busy nurses who want their study time to be flexible.

The program is offered in a modern online format that enables students to study in their own time while being supported by experienced academics. The online nature of delivery enables direct contact with course lecturers and timely feedback on assessments.

Program Objectives

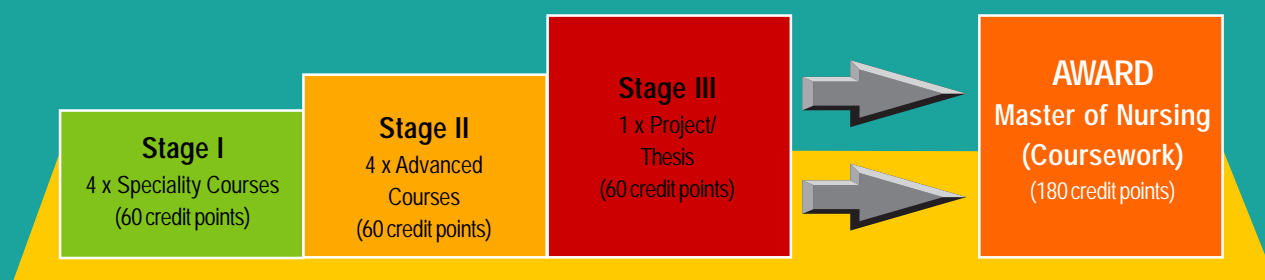
A Master of Nursing Degree qualification prepares graduates for advanced nursing practice and provides opportunities for career advancement. The program aims to meet the needs of nurses who wish to develop their leadership skills through developing innovative programs and practice in a variety of health care settings.

Graduates will exit the program with professional leadership ability and skills in project management, research and continuous quality improvement practices.

Program Structure

The program consists of eight courses (4 specialty and 4 core) plus a 60 credit point advanced nursing project or minor research thesis.

Students who hold a graduate certificate or diploma may be eligible for credit and only be required to complete the four core courses plus the 60 credit point advanced project or a minor research thesis.



Credit Transfer

Credit will be considered for previous successfully completed studies equivalent to a postgraduate certificate or a postgraduate diploma. Specific postgraduate studies completed at recognised tertiary or industry providers such as the Institute of Advanced Nursing Studies (IANS), Hong Kong will be recognised. Additionally students will be required to submit a portfolio of prior learning to be eligible for recognition of prior learning (RPL).

Certified documentary evidence and full transcripts of courses completed together with course descriptors and course results including CNE points must be submitted, with a fully completed credit application form. Credit applications must be submitted at the time of the applications.

All applications are individually assessed and credit is assessed according to the School of Health Science and University of Ballarat regulations.

Duration

The program can be completed in 18 months of full time study if the applicant has successfully fulfilled the credit requirements of prior studies and receives exemption for the four specialty courses.

A part time option is also available which allows students to undertake one course at a time rather than two.

Students who do not fulfil the credit requirements can choose to enrol in the specialty streams.

Entry Requirements

To be admitted in the Master of Nursing (Coursework) in Hong Kong, applicants should possess the following qualifications:

1. Registered nurse
2. A Bachelor degree in nursing or health related discipline, e.g. health science;
3. Evidence of English language competency at TOEFL 580 or higher, IELTS 6.5 or higher, or undergraduate studies in English;

If requiring exemption from Stage I:

1. Completed study in a speciality area equivalent to a postgraduate certificate, e.g. through the Institute of Advanced Nursing Studies or another university.

Mode of Delivery

The Master of Nursing program has been developed to be delivered via distance mode. As the course is delivered online, students are able to work at their own place without the need to attend classes.

The University of Ballarat has many years of experience in nursing education and online learning and understands the difficulties nurses have in managing work, shift hours, family and studies, while maintaining quality of life.

An initial orientation session is conducted in Hong Kong by University of Ballarat staff and this is followed by regular return support visits. Students are encouraged to interact with lecturers and fellow students using online technology such as online discussion forums, emails, podcasts and Skype.

Assessment

All courses are assessed and assessment tasks include written exercises, case studies and essays. Assessments are designed to support the development of professional practice and relate to improving outcomes in the workplace.

Recognition of the Award

Awards obtained from the University of Ballarat are internationally recognised. All graduates, whether in Australia or offshore, receive high recognition and standing, and are able to use their qualification for further education and career advancement.

Attachments

Please refer to the attachments of this brochure for:

1. Application Procedures (Information for New Applicants)
2. Program fees (Information for New Applicants)
3. Application Form
4. Application for Credit Form

Program Content

The following are course descriptions of the four (4) core subjects and the thesis/project of the program.

Coursework (Advanced) Subjects

HCNUR 6031 NURSING INQUIRY

This course explores the underpinning foundations of nursing knowledge including the related ethico-legal, socio-political and economic influences. These aspects are explored in relation to their contribution to contemporary nursing knowledge. Students are encouraged to reflect on their own personal knowledge development and how this contributes to professional knowledge in nursing practice.

HCNUR 6011 NURSING RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

This course will guide students through the process of refining a researchable problem, exploring different paradigms used in nursing research and selecting an appropriate methodology to address the specific research question. The course prepares a student to develop a research proposal that applies sound research design and the principles of ethical research. The course supports the development Nursing Projects by providing a framework to manage evaluations that requires the input from human participants.

HCNUR 6041 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN GLOBAL HEALTH

This course explores the nature of contemporary health both globally and within Australia, and the roles and practices of nurses within the health workforce. Health is examined from the determinants perspective and burden of disease is seen as underpinning the policy and resource situation. The complexities and consequences of chronic illnesses are a particular focus. Patients are seen as having shifted from passive recipients of care to critical consumers. Nurses are seen as occupying new and expanded roles supported by evidence-based reflective practice.

HCNUR 6101 POLICY, PLANNING AND LEADERSHIP FOR NURSING PRACTICE

This course aims to provide registered nurses with knowledge of leadership and contemporary healthcare systems so that they can be more effective in influencing policy and the allocation of resources. Policy is seen as being planned, implemented and evaluated within a broad based social, economic and political context. Students will be asked to use their leadership skills to analyse ways in which they can use planning processes to positively influence decision making and change within the health care arena.



Project/Thesis Courses

HCNUR 7001 MINOR THESIS

The course engages students in the development of an individual research thesis in an area of nursing practice. Students are required to outline their research project proposal at the commencement of the course and gain ethical approval to undertake the project. Students will work in consultation with their nominated supervisor to execute and complete the research project within a set timeframe. The topic of research will reflect the student's and supervisor's particular area of interest and will build on theoretical material presented in the other components of the Master of Nursing program.

HCNUR 7011 ADVANCED NURSING PROJECT

The course engages students in the development and execution of an individual work based project that advances nursing practice in that environment. The aim of this course is to prepare students in the basic skills and techniques of project management and the preparation of a realistic project plan. Students will be involved in implementation and subsequent evaluation of that project plan in the workplace. Students will be allocated a supervisor who will provide clear guidance in relation to identifying a topic that will support the learning outcomes of the course.

Academic Statutes and Regulations

Students may refer to the University of Ballarat Handbook (access on <http://www.ballarat.edu.au/aasp/student/handbooks/>) for information regarding academic statutes and regulations.



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