

Health Sciences

MASTER OF NURSING (ACUTE CARE)

DIVISION OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

The Master of Nursing (Acute Care) (integrating the Graduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma) is designed to provide students with in-depth knowledge and skills necessary to practice in a variety of contemporary acute care nursing settings. This course offers a strong evidence base supported by appropriate clinical skill development

Admission Requirements

Potential students must be employed by an agency approved by the Course Coordinator. They must also have a minimum one year recent relevant nursing experience.

The course is open to students who are registered as a Division 1 nurse with Nurses Board of Victoria or similar registration in another state or territory and currently hold a degree or diploma from a college or university.

Duration

Graduate Certificate:	1 year part time
Postgraduate Diploma:	1 year full time 18 months part time 2 years part time
Masters:	1.5 years full time 2 years – 3 years part-time

Mode of Study

This course can be undertaken via face to face teaching mode or distance education. At the Diploma and Master's level, elective units of study are offered in a variety of delivery modes such as class time, on-line or independent study.

Clinical Practice

Students are expected to undertake supervised and assessed clinical practice during their period of study. Students will be assessed in accordance with competencies relevant to acute care nursing.

Institutional Credit

The Division of Nursing and Midwifery have arrangements in place with Austin Health, The Alfred Hospital, Box Hill Hospital, Southern Health, Bendigo Health, Werribee Health and South West Health Care whereby certain programs undertaken at these health care organisations may attract credit towards some of the postgraduate courses offered within the Division of Nursing and Midwifery.

Special Requirements

Applicants must apply to the hospital for their clinical placement at the same time they apply for the Master of Nursing (Acute Care).

Advanced Standing

The Division of Nursing and Midwifery will consider requests for recognition of prior studies. At La Trobe, this is known as 'Advanced Standing'. Students can obtain an 'Application for Advanced Standing' form from the Division of Nursing and Midwifery.

Students who have completed a Postgraduate Diploma within the Division of Nursing & Midwifery may receive up to 120 credit points of Advanced Standing in the Masters.

Students who have completed Postgraduate Study with another institution may receive up to 60 credit points of Advanced Standing.

Course Structure

- **Masters of Nursing (Acute Care)**
= 9 Units or 180 Credit points
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing (Acute Care)**
= 6 Units or 120 Credit points
- **Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Acute Care)**
= 3 Units or 60 Credit points

The Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Acute Care) will consist of 3 units of study:

NSG4CHA Comprehensive Health Assessment
NSG4AMS Advanced Medical/ Surgical Nursing
NSG4SIA Specialty Practice Issues for Acute Care

The Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing (Acute Care) will consist of a Clinical Audit or Clinical Practice unit and 2 elective units.

The Master of Nursing (Acute Care) will consist of 3 elective units at level 5. Students wishing to complete their Masters are required to complete 60 credit points at level 4 (Cert/Dip units) and 120 credit points at level 5 (Masters level units)

Career Prospects

A variety of career prospects can be forthcoming following this course as it prepares the student for patient management in a variety of clinical venues, such as Surgical, Medical, and Orthopaedic wards.

Further Information and How to apply

Division of Nursing and Midwifery
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 Bendigo Campus
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