

Health Sciences

MASTER OF NURSING (CANCER/ PALLIATIVE CARE)

DIVISION OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

The Master of Nursing (Cancer/Palliative Care) (integrating the Graduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma) is designed to provide nurses with the theoretical and clinical preparation to fulfil leadership roles in the delivery of best practice within the field of cancer and palliative care. As Masters prepared practitioners graduates of this course will be in a strategic position to develop new models of care and dynamically lead changes in practice.

The first year of the program assists students to develop advanced levels of knowledge and competency in this specialty.

The second year extends these levels further in preparation for leadership roles offering a choice of three streams including the option of preparation for the Nurse Practitioner stream which may lead to endorsement for those appropriately qualified.

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 NBV or similar registration in another state or territory and normally 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 is offered via distance education which caters for people who may be working, living interstate or who may not be in a position to attend classes during normal working hours.

At the Diploma and Master's level, elective units of study are offered in a variety of delivery modes such as face to face, on-line or independent study.

Clinical Practice

Specialist units within the course require students to be working in a cancer/palliative or related health care setting.

Career Prospects

Graduates have the potential to fill leadership positions and will be in a position to develop new and exciting specialist roles in the cancer/palliative care area.

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.

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.

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

Course Structure

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

The Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Cancer/Palliative Care) consists of 3 units of study.

NSG4CHA *Comprehensive Health Assessment.*
 NSG4CPC *Principles of Cancer/Palliative Care Nursing*
 NSG4SCP *Specialty Cancer/Palliative Care Nursing*

The Postgraduate Diploma consists of a Clinical Audit or Clinical Practice unit and 2 elective units.

The Master of Nursing (Cancer/Palliative Care) consists of an additional 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).

Further Information and How to Apply

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