

*Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health  
Course Outline*

# **NURS 528**

**Special Topic: Information and  
Communication Technologies for  
Nursing**

**Course Co-ordinator:  
Shona Wilson**

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health at Victoria University of Wellington, uses all reasonable skill and care in an effort to ensure the information and course content information contained in this outline is accurate at the time of going to print.

Students should be aware, however, that in the event course timetables and venues need to be changed, all attempts will be made to notify the students.

Produced by the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health,  
81 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn, Wellington 6021.

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# **STAFF TEACHING IN THIS COURSE**

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## **STUDENT ADMINISTRATOR**

Abbey McDonald

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Email: abbey.mcdonald@vuw.ac.nz

# **CONTACT DETAILS**

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## **POSTAL ADDRESS**

Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health  
Victoria University of Wellington  
P O Box 600  
Wellington 6140

## **PHYSICAL ADDRESS**

The Fieldhouse Centre  
Victoria University of Wellington  
81 & 83 Fairlie Terrace  
Kelburn  
Wellington 6021

Phone: (04) 463-5363 or  
0800 108-005 Freephone Graduate School Administration

Fax: (04) 463-5442

Email: [nmh@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:nmh@vuw.ac.nz)

Web site: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/nmh>

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm

## **GRADUATE SCHOOL DATES**

The Graduate School office will be open on Wednesday 3 January 2008 and close on Tuesday 23 December 2008.

In keeping with the practice of other years, academic staff will not be available on Fridays, except for the times they are involved in Schools.

# **COURSE AIMS**

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New ICTs are emerging as part of clinical nursing practice and are likely to alter the day to day function of nurses. This course aims to facilitate students to critically examine some of these technologies and their impact upon nursing knowledge and practice.

# **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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It is expected that the course will enable students to:

- Critically examine the impact of new ICTs on nursing practice development
- Relate technology acceptance/adoption models and change theory toward implementation of innovative technologies in practice
- Examine new ways of care delivery using contemporary information technologies
- Articulate the contribution nurses make to systems/software development
- Consider the influence of standards for practice and legal parameters in a data driven international health care world

# COURSE CONTENT

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The focus for this course is on exploring contemporary information and communication technologies as they relate to clinical practice in Aotearoa-New Zealand. The impact of ICT upon professional knowledge and practice development will be a central theme in the course.

Students will be encouraged to draw upon personal clinical experiences from practice and relate to extant literature to develop an approach of scholarly inquiry throughout the course. Topics will be introduced within two, two-day intensive schools at Victoria University, Wellington. Learning will be furthered and supported using flexible learning modalities including access to lecture material and resources, ongoing discussions, presentation of ideas and continuous feedback to further thought for the duration of the course.

Topics that will provide further foundation for class discussion and scholarly inquiry will include:

- Mobile computing at the point of care delivery to support practice
- Clinical decision support
- Tele-nursing including impact upon consumers
- Standards for practice
- E-health ethics
- Using ICT to support clinical decision making
- Technology adoption/acceptance models such as ‘diffusion and innovation’ theory and application to nursing in Aotearoa-New Zealand
- Change theory
- Nursing role in development of clinical systems and software
- Systems and software development lifecycle
- ICT projects in New Zealand as they relate to clinical practice
- Potentials for research and development for nursing practice

# **PREPARATION FOR COURSE**

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Students enrolling for this course will need access to the VUW flexible learning system (Blackboard) via the Internet. Instructions for using this will be provided as part of on-site learning during the school. Students will need to be able to access the Internet for a period of not less than 2-3 of the learning hours each week.

As a result students are recommended to have the following computer based resources and skills:

- Minimum computer requirements:
  - Pentium 133Mhz CPU or Apple Mac equivalent
  - Internet connection (preferably broadband)
  - Version 4 browser
  - Printing facilities
  
- Computer skills:
  - The ability to handle email and file management on local PC(s), including file download, save and storage
  - Internet browsing skills
  - Basic word processing skills

Note: If students have laptops or mobile computers of their own, they are encouraged to bring them to the schools where on-campus wireless access to Victoria University of Wellington network resources will be available. Students will be assisted to configure their laptops for wireless access.

## **RECOMMENDED READING/TEXT**

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### **Pre-reading**

Staggers, N. & Thompson, C.B. (2002) The Evolution of Definitions for Nursing Informatics: A Critical Analysis and Revised Definition. *In Journal American Medical Informatics Association*. 2002 May–Jun; 9(3): 255–261. Online at: <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?artid=344585> [Retrieved 09 November]

Smedley A The importance of informatics competencies in nursing: an Australian perspective. [Journal Article, Review] *Comput Inform Nurs* 2005 Mar-Apr; 23(2) :106-10.

**A selection of recommended readings and relevant internet sites hyperlinked to source will be available for your use via Blackboard as the course progresses.**

## **WORKLOAD**

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30 point courses in the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health have an average workload of twelve hours per week. However as this course is run over one trimester the workload will be approximately 24 hours per week.

## **MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

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In order to successfully complete this course you are required to attend all Schools unless under special circumstances prior arrangements have been made with the course co-ordinator.

Students must submit and pass all pieces of assessment to satisfactorily complete the course.



# GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

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Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the VUW homepage at:

[http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/calendar\\_intro.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html)

Information on the following topics is available electronically at:

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/publications/General\\_University\\_policies\\_and\\_statutes\\_28Jun07.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/publications/General_University_policies_and_statutes_28Jun07.pdf)

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

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Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning,
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course,
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html)

# **SCHOOL CATERING**

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The Graduate School will provide a **light snack for lunch** while students are attending Schools, and hot beverages (tea & coffee) for morning and afternoon break. While we try to cater for the majority of students please feel free to bring your own supplies if your needs are not being met.

During the lunch breaks you may wish to investigate a variety of student cafes within walking distance on campus and several cafes at Kelburn shops approximately 10 mins walk from the School.

# COURSE TIMETABLE

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WEEK STARTING Monday	DATES	EVENT	ACTION
4 February	6 February	Waitangi Day	
	<b>7 &amp; 8 February</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> School</b>	
11 February			
18 February			
25 February			
3 March			
10 March			
17 March	21 March	Good Friday	
24 March	24 March 25 March	Easter Monday VUW holiday	
31 March	<b>4 April</b>		<b>Assignment 1 due</b>
7 April			
14 April			
21 April	25 April	ANZAC Day	
28 April	<b>28 &amp; 29 April</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> School</b>	
5 May			
12 May			
19 May			
26 May			
2 June	2 June	Queens Birthday	
9 June			
16 June	<b>20 June</b>		<b>Assignment 2 due</b>
23 June			

# SCHOOL TIMETABLE

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**Attendance at Schools is mandatory.**

**1<sup>st</sup> School:** Thursday 7 & Friday 8 February

**2<sup>nd</sup> School:** Monday 28 & Friday 29 April

**Times:** 0830 - 1630

**Venue:** 83 Fairlie Terrace

**Note:** There are two onsite schools for this course on the above dates. Introduction to the course concepts will be presented during these times. Flexible learning modalities including online discussion will give ongoing learning and support over the rest of the trimester.

# ASSIGNMENTS

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**Assignment information including grade descriptions, the procedures for submitting assignments and referencing information is available on the Graduate School's Website.**

Assignment cover sheets and acknowledgement postcards are attached at the back of this outline. Please ensure you complete an assignment cover sheet and attach it to the front of each assignment you submit. All assignments are to be sent to **Abbey McDonald, Student Administrator**, who will record the details and pass it to the appropriate marker. **Please do not address assignments to members of the academic staff, as they are not necessarily the markers of the assignment.** If you want to have receipt of your assignment acknowledged, complete an acknowledgement postcard and attach it to the front of your assignment.

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health has set a number of assessment tasks and due dates to best meet the outcomes of the course. In keeping with the Graduate School's stated philosophy that no assessment work shall serve the Graduate School alone, it is possible to negotiate alternative assessments and schedule. This should be undertaken in consultation with the course co-ordinator.

## **Graduate School guidelines for submission and return of student assignments:**

1. All assignments are to be submitted to the Graduate School by 5.00pm on the nominated due date.
  - 1.1 An extension to the due date may only be given in exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances would typically be sickness (as evidenced by a medical certificate) or bereavement.
  - 1.2 Application for an extension must be made to Course Co-ordinators at least 24 hours before the due date.
  - 1.3 Course Co-ordinators may grant an extension of up to 2 weeks.
  - 1.4 Any extension requested for longer than 2 weeks must be agreed to and signed off by the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or in her absence the Head of School.
2. Dean's extensions
  - 2.1 are available in exceptional circumstances for only the final piece of assessment in any course,
  - 2.2 must be applied for in writing at least 48 hours prior to due date,
  - 2.3 may be approved for up to 4 weeks by the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or Head of School with the appropriate documentation provided,
  - 2.4 may be extended beyond 4 weeks with written approval by, and an interview with, the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or Head of School.

3. Student coursework assignments submitted by the due date will be returned with feedback within four weeks of the due date. Students who do not submit within this timeframe may be subject to delays in their assignment being returned and may not receive comprehensive feedback.
4. Assignments which remain outstanding for up to two weeks without due cause beyond the due date will be marked, but cannot attract a grade higher than a 'C' (pass) grade.
5. Assignments that remain outstanding beyond two weeks from the due date without due cause will attract an 'E' (fail) grade. These assignments will not be marked and will not be able to be resubmitted for grading.
6. In exceptional circumstances withdrawal from assessment is a mechanism that may be recommended by the Course Co-ordinator to the Head of School when all avenues for extension have been exhausted and the Course Co-ordinator is satisfied that the student will be able to complete the required work in the negotiated timeframe. This timeframe will normally be to the end of the following trimester and will not extend beyond three trimesters.

**Final assignments will not be accepted by email.**

Students must submit and pass all pieces of assessment to satisfactorily complete the course.

# ASSIGNMENT WRITING: GUIDELINES FOR FORMAT AND PRESENTATION

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The Graduate School recommends the use of APA referencing for all assignments and information on APA referencing can be found by searching online:

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association: 5th ed. (2001).

Students can also request a copy of the Referencing the APA Style A Brief Guide (Brochure) from Student Learning Support Services or view on:

[http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st\\_Services/slss/studyhub/reference/APA.pdf](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_Services/slss/studyhub/reference/APA.pdf)

- Assignments should be concise and relevant; when a word limit applies students should avoid exceeding it. Keep within 10% of the stated limit, e.g. 3000 words means 2750 - 3300. Word count includes references
- Font size 12, Times New Roman or Arial only
- Double or 1.5 line spacing. Justify all text
- 4.5-5 cm margin on the left side for marker's comments.
- Assignments must be typed and printed clearly on one side of A4 size white paper only, with all pages fastened together by staple or secure clip.
- All pages should have a footer which includes the following:
  - Course number, assignment number and student ID number (left aligned), e.g. *NURS 512, Assignment 2, 300011122*
  - Page number (right aligned)
- Include a title page and always attach an assignment cover sheet on top. The cover sheets are included with the Course Outline.
- Appendices: These are additional materials related to the text but not suitable for inclusion because of its length or format (e.g. policy documents, etc). These are not marked or counted in the word limit, but should be clearly referred to as appropriate within the main text (e.g. see Appendix A).
- Do not use plastic sheets, clear files or folders to put the assignment in (except for your portfolio), as these make it difficult for markers to handle.
- Ensure you keep a copy of your assignment until it is returned from being marked.

# CONFERENCE & SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

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Students of the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health are encouraged to present their work at professional conferences and as papers for publication. Students should discuss this with the course co-ordinator in the first instance. Dissemination of findings from academic work is a very important part of graduate education and assists clinical teams and professional groups to access up-to-date and new knowledge. Course co-ordinators will provide academic guidance in relation to the targeted activities, and also in relation to the proper academic processes of authorship and acknowledgement.

As a general rule, presentations and papers should cite yourselves as postgraduate students, and name the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health as the organisation. In keeping with academic conventions course co-ordinators and teaching associates who help with the ideas and preparation of the paper/presentation should be directly acknowledged or named as co-authors.

# REPORTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

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At the end of each year the Graduate School reports to the University details of student special achievements (such as awards, grants, presentations, and publications).

You are required to complete and submit this form Record of Special Achievements related to Study at Victoria (attached to back of outline) with your final assignment for this course.

If you would prefer to complete and submit this form electronically, a copy of the form can be located on Blackboard, our website <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/nsemid/research/student-achievements.aspx> or you could contact [Abbey.mcdonald@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Abbey.mcdonald@vuw.ac.nz) to request a copy.

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## Assignment Number One

Assignment Name: Evaluation and Presentation

Due Date: 4 April 2008

This assignment is worth 40% of your final grade

Word limit: 3000 words for paper

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### PART A

1. Undertake an internet search for two contemporary ICT products that are:
  - Used internationally but not in use to your knowledge in New Zealand;
  - Might benefit nursing practice in New Zealand; and
  - Collect and transmit/transfer client related data.
2. Prepare and deliver an electronic presentation to at least two of your peers and one lecturer that describes the uses for the technologies including how they may further develop nursing practice in New Zealand. You are expected to lead a discussion with your peers and elicit structured feedback. The presentation should take about 20mins plus 10 minutes for discussion
3. Submit a position paper that promotes the implementation of one of the ICTs in practice in New Zealand. The paper is to consider the technology in the context of developing nursing practice in New Zealand and include suggestions for managing such an implementation.

Note: There should be clear evidence within your paper of how the feedback from the presentation informed the paper.

### PART B

Threaded discussions relevant to this assignment will be placed on Blackboard to further your learning between the finish of the 1<sup>st</sup> School and the written assignment due date. You are expected to participate in the discussions in order to pass this assignment.

Part B of this assignment will be marked as satisfactory or unsatisfactory. A 'satisfactory' grade must be achieved in order to achieve a grade for Part A.

Categories to achieve a satisfactory mark for Part B include:

- Frequency – at least once per thread
- Quality – demonstration of reflective practice
- Engagement with peers
- Congruency with topic under discussion

**Notes:** Guidelines for this assignment and use of electronic presentation modalities will be part of class work in the School.



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## Assignment Number Two

Assignment Name: Report – Essay – Developing ICT for practice

Due Date: 20 June 2008

This assignment is worth 60 % of your final grade

Word Limit: 4000 words

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### PART A

Choose a nursing practice activity that would be improved by the development of a specific technology or software. Write a proposal to develop the technology/software.

Your paper should consider the options that surround systems/software development and include comment about the audience that might be interested in tendering for such a development.

### PART B

Four threaded discussions will be placed on Blackboard to further your learning between the finish of the 2<sup>nd</sup> School and the written assignment due date. Part B of this assignment will be marked as satisfactory or unsatisfactory. A ‘satisfactory’ grade must be achieved in order to achieve a grade for Part A.

Categories to achieve a satisfactory mark for Part B include:

- Frequency – at least once per thread
- Quality – demonstration of reflective practice
- Engagement with peers
- Congruency with topic under discussion

**Notes:** Guidelines for and the learning associated with this assignment will be part of lecturer supported dialogue within the flexible learning delivery modality of this course.

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**Student Name:**

**Course Code:**

### Industry sponsorship

Name of Sponsor	Notes in relation to the conditions of sponsorship	Value	Year
eg, C&C DHB	50% Student fees paid on successful completion of the course of study	\$	2008

### Special awards, Prizes & Scholarships

Name of Award/ Prize/ Scholarship	Source/Provider	Notes in relation to the prize/award/scholarship	Value/ Form	Year
eg 'Best clinical innovation'	Mental Health College of Nurses	A project that I developed while doing my practicum course resulted in our clinical team changing the way in which we met with and involved families in patient care	\$500 Award Certificate	2008

### Professional presentations / Seminars /Conferences

If you gave any professional presentations, seminars or conference papers during the year please provide the details below use APA style for referencing these

*Example:* Student, A. (2008). New models of nursing documentation and their relevance to orthopaedic practice. Paper presented at the Orthopaedic Nurses study day 'Stepping towards the future' held in Wellington, 14 August 2008.

### Publications (Book reviews, editorials, journal articles, chapters, monographs, books etc)

*Example:* Student, A & Teacher, B. (2008). Mental Health Consumers speak about their Health Education Needs. *Contemporary Nurse*, 5(4), 114-126.

### Other Special Achievements

If you have had any other special achievements during the year please provide the details.

**Attach and submit with your final assignment thank you**