

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

NURS 510

**Special Topic: Diagnostics and
Therapeutics**

Course Co-ordinator:

Rebecca Menza

TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI



VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

2009

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.

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Where course content is provided to you in streaming video format you may only view this content from the original location as provided by Victoria University of Wellington and in the original streaming format. You may not make a further copy for any other purpose or capture and change the format of the streaming content. Failure to comply with the terms of this warning may expose you to legal action for copyright infringement and/or disciplinary action by the University.”

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

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STAFF TEACHING IN THIS COURSE

Rebecca Menza

Ph: 04 463 6155

Email: Rebecca.menza@vuw.ac.nz

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/CONTRIBUTORS OF MATERIAL TO COURSE

Dr. Jill Howie-Esquivel, PhD

Associate Clinical Professor, University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)

Vice-Chair Clinical Programs and Personnel

Nurse Practitioner

Dr. Barbara Drew, PhD

Professor Department of Physiological Nursing, University of California: San Francisco (UCSF)

Clinical Professor of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, UCSF School of Medicine

Carlos Lopes, PharmD

Clinical Pharmacist for Infectious Diseases, UCSF

STUDENT ADMINISTRATOR

Abbey McDonald

Ph: 04 463-6144

Email: Abbey.McDonald@vuw.ac.nz

CONTACT DETAILS

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
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 5 January 2009 and close on Tuesday 22 December 2009.

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

NURS 510 Special Topic: Diagnostics and Therapeutics examines the sensitivity and specificity of commonly used diagnostic testing methods, the fiscal and physiological costs associated with diagnostics, and the utility of diagnostics towards refining of a differential diagnosis. In addition, course modules will describe the application of and efficacy of common therapies.

Specifically NURS 510 Special Topic: Diagnostics and Therapeutics aims to:

1. Advance the understanding of interventions employed by nurses in their daily practice, leading to increased engagement with patient related data (such as 12 lead ECG interpretation, xrays, and blood tests).
2. Enhance knowledge of the need for further testing or intervention, and for monitoring of expected outcomes as a result of testing/intervention.
3. Further develop the evidenced based practice of clinical nurse specialists and nurse practitioners who are responsible for ordering diagnostic testing and recommending care plans which include therapeutic intervention.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At successful completion of the course the student will be able to demonstrate advancing practice competencies congruent with those outlined by the Nursing Council of New Zealand for Nurse Practitioners:

Demonstrate knowledge of pathophysiological processes and utilize advanced diagnostic enquiry skills to support evidence based diagnostic reasoning and care plan development (4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.4)

Interpret diagnostic testing results, apply them into practice, anticipate follow up consequences of diagnostics, and communicate the outcome of these assessments to the client/family and other health professionals in the interdisciplinary team with a high degree of competence (4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.6)

Assess the client's health status, make a diagnosis, implement interventions and treatments, order/prescribe appropriate diagnostic tests or therapeutic interventions, and/ or refer the client to other health professionals (4.2.2, 4.2.6)

Assess utility of diagnostic testing and assessment tools against individual clients and populations within a practice which reflects commitment to quality and risk management, and encourages increased access to care (4.2.4, 4.2.6).

For more detail refer to:
Framework for post-registration Nursing Practice Education:
www.nursingcouncil.org.nz/postregnursing.pdf

COURSE CONTENT

The content is divided into 8 modules that may be amended based on professional make up and practice goals of the students and the profession.

Modules will include:

1. **Infection and Antibiosis:** General principles of infection surveillance and control, specific concepts of antibiosis, common [infectious] disease states; evaluation and management. Mixed Web based tutorials and in person workshop/lecture
2. **Chest XRAY interpretation:** General principles, infiltrative disease, atelectasis, congestive heart failure (CHF), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), pneumothorax, 'tubes and lines'.
3. **12 Lead ECG interpretation:** Acute ischemia, Chronic conditions, Arrhythmias. On line tutorials (10 @ approximately 90 minutes each)
4. **Anemia/Disorders of Coagulation:** Chronic/Acute (testing for and associated diseases); Transfusion; Thrombocytopenia; Strategies for treating anemic conditions (non-transfusion)
5. **Nutrition:** Nutritional Assessment (laboratory values, health/disease status, Body mass index (BMI); Disease States with specific goals: cardiac, diabetic, renal; Repletion: parenteral, enteral (largely web-based).
6. **GI/GU disease states:** Liver function tests (LFTs), Urinalysis/ Fractional excreted Sodium ratio (FeNa), glomerular filtration rate (GFR), Spinning urine (casts etc), screening for bowel cancer, work up and evaluation of ulcer disease.
7. **Radiological Imaging:** Use of: Ultrasound, computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), Head/Chest/Abdomen, Xrays (general)
8. **Cardiac Evaluation:** echo (stress/non-stress), treadmill testing, angiogram, acute ischemic events and their work-up, and evaluation for chronic conditions.

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PRE-READINGS

Students are required to complete assigned web-based tutorials prior to school days (see attached schedule Course Timetable). In class discussions will assume completion of these modules and, on occasion, reading assigned articles. "Assigned" articles will be posted as a link on blackboard or on e-reserve.

Students will be required to open an account and register with Medscape in order to view some of the antibiotic web-casts. Medscape is a free educational service for health professionals.

RECOMMENDED READING/TEXT

Corne, J., Carroll, M., Brown, I., & Delany, D. (2002) *Chest X-Ray Made Easy*. London: Churchill Livingstone.

Drew, B. (Ed.). (2007). *Tom Evans' Clinical Electrocardiography*. University of California San Francisco, San Francisco.

Gilbert, D., Moellering, R.C., & Eliopoulos, G.E. (Eds.). (2008). *The Sanford Guide to Antimicrobial Therapy: Thirty Eighth Edition*. Sperryville, Virginia: Sanford Publishing.

Goodman, L.R.. (2006). *Felson's Principles of Chest Roentgenology: A Programmed Text* (3rd ed). Philadelphia: Saunders

Novelline, R. (2004). *Squire's Fundamentals of Radiology*. (6th ed). Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

BLACKBOARD INFORMATION

Students enrolling for this course **will require** access to the VUW flexible learning system (Blackboard) via the Internet. **All web-modules will be posted on Blackboard, as will all of the assessments.**

Blackboard is an online environment that supports teaching and learning at Victoria by making course information, materials and learning activities available online via the internet. Blackboard provides web-based access to course content, assessment, communication and collaboration tools. Instructions for using this will be provided as part of timetable during the 1st School. Students will need to be able to access the Internet on a regular basis.

The following software, which is necessary for using material on Blackboard, is freely available to download from the internet if you don't already have it:

- Netscape Communicator v 4.78 or higher (v. 7.1 recommended) OR
- Microsoft Internet Explorer v. 5.2.x or higher
- MS Windows 2000 or XP/ MacOS 9 or Mac OS X.2 or higher

Other software: Adobe Acrobat Reader - free download from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/>

Microsoft Office or Microsoft Viewers. The viewers can be downloaded free of charge from: <http://www.microsoft.com/office/000/viewers.asp>

Computer skills required:

- Internet browsing skills
- Basic word processing skills

How to log onto Blackboard

- Open a web browser and go to myVictoria.ac.nz
- Enter your account username which you can find in your *Confirmation of Study* sheet
- It is usually made up of 6 letters of your last name and 4 letters of your first name
- Enter your password. If you have never used Victoria computer facilities your initial password is your student ID number
- Click on the Blackboard icon
- Alternatively, if you want to access Blackboard without going through the myVictoria portal, just log on at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>

Off Campus access

Blackboard is available from any location where you can access the Internet. This may be your home, work or an Internet café.

Problems with access? Contact ITS service desk 04 463 5050

WORKLOAD

30 point courses in the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health have an average workload of twelve hours per week.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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. In addition, students must complete all web based modules in order to successfully complete this course.

Students must submit and pass all pieces of assessment to satisfactorily complete the course. Students enrolled in NURS 510 must have access to high speed internet/broadband connection; several of the modules are too large to be viewed on slower internet connections.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

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 or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

USE OF TURNITIN

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>.

Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin.

Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

SCHOOL CATERING

The Graduate School will provide tea & coffee for morning and afternoon break while students are attending Schools on site (**lunch is not provided**).

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

All our students have access to the 'Treehouse' at the back of 83 Fairlie Tce while here at Schools where you may wish to use appliances (toaster, microwave & oven).

COURSE TIMETABLE

WEEK STARTING Monday	DATES	EVENT	ACTION
2 February	6 February	Waitangi Day	
9 February			
16 February			
23 February			
2 March	2 March		Antibiotic Module released
9 March			
16 March			
23 March			
30 March	30 & 31 March	1st School	
6 April	9 April		Antibiotic assessment available
	10 April	Easter Friday	
13 April	13 April	Easter Monday	
	14 April	VUW Holiday	Chest Xray Module released
	17 April		Antibiotic Assessment complete
20 April	25 April	ANZAC Day	
27 April			
4 May			
11 May			
18 May			
25 May	25 May		Chest Xray Assessment available
1 June	1 June	Queens Birthday	
	5 June		Chest Xray Assessment complete
8 June	8 June		Nutrition Module released
15 June			
22 June			
29 June			
6 July			
13 July	17 July		Nutrition Module Assessment available
20 July	24 July		Nutrition Module Assessment complete
27 July	27 July		12 lead ECG module released
3 August			
10 August			
17 August			
24 August			
31 August			
7 September			
14 September	17 & 18 September	2nd School	
21 September	25 September		12 lead ECG Assessment available
28 September	2 October		12 Lead ECG Assessment complete
5 October			
12 October			
19 October	23 October		Final Assessment available
26 October	26 October	Labour Weekend	
	30 October		Final Assessment complete

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

1ST SCHOOL

Dates: Monday 30 & Tuesday 31 March 2009

Times: 9am - 5pm

Venue: Room 203 83 Fairlie Tce, Kelburn, Wellington

2ND SCHOOL

Dates: Thursday 17 & Friday 18 September 2009

Times: 9am - 5pm

Venue: Room 203 83 Fairlie Tce, Kelburn, Wellington

ASSIGNMENTS

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

All assignments for NURS 510 will be submitted on line via the University's Blackboard website.

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 received at the GSNMH or completed on Blackboard by the nominated due date.
 - 1.1 An extension to the due date may be given in exceptional circumstances.
 - 1.2 An application for an extension must be made in writing to Course Co-ordinators at least 24 hours before the due date. Email application is acceptable.
 - 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 made in writing to the course co-ordinator **and** the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or in her absence the Head of School. Email application is acceptable. The decision will be made by the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or in her absence the Head of School.
 - 1.5 All extensions are to be notified by the Course co-ordinator and the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or in her absence the Head of School to the Student Administrator for recording.
2. Student coursework assignments submitted by the due date will normally be returned with feedback within four weeks of the due date. Students who do not submit assignments within this timeframe may be subject to delays in their assignment being returned and may not receive comprehensive feedback.
3. Assignments without an approved extension which remain outstanding for up to two weeks beyond the due date will be marked, but cannot attract a grade higher than a 'C' (pass) grade.
4. Assignments without an approved extension that remain outstanding beyond two weeks from the due date will attract an 'E' (fail) grade. These assignments will not be marked and will not be able to be resubmitted for grading.

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

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

At all times students must act within the boundaries of professional Codes of Conduct, relevant legislative frameworks and the governance, rules and contracts of their employing organisation. Further information with regard to student's ethical responsibilities and relevant templates can be accessed on the Blackboard site or will be provided in class if required.

ASSIGNMENT WRITING: GUIDELINES FOR FORMAT AND PRESENTATION

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

- Assignments in NURS 510 will be submitted via Blackboard. Text based assessment (eg short answer questions and discussion board postings) shall be in font size 12, times New Roman or Arial only
- 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. 500 words includes 450-550). Word count includes references
- Uploaded documents must be Double or 1.5 line spacing, with Justified, text, 4.5-5 cm margin on the left side for marker's comments. Please do not submit uploaded documents in PDF format.

Ensure you keep a copy of your assignment until it is returned from being marked.

CONFERENCE & SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

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.

For all conference, professional and workplace presentations our VUW Power Point template should be used. You are also required to use this template for all school presentations as part of your assignment requirements. This template is available and can be accessed by those students using Blackboard or you can email: abbey.mcdonald@vuw.ac.nz for a copy of the template to be sent to you.

As a general rule, presentations and papers should cite yourselves as post-graduate 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

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 to request a copy.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER ONE

Assignment Name: Evidenced Based Contribution to Blackboard Discussion of Case Studies:
Infection

Available: April 10th, 2009

Due Date (on or before): April 17th, 2009

This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade

Students will contribute to a series of Blackboard based discussions (wikis) which address assessment of, diagnostics of and treatment of a series of infection related presentations. Assessment will be based on:

- the quality of the evidence used
- level of analysis applied to the suggested intervention/ solution
- critical thinking used to problem solve

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER TWO

Assignment Name: Chest Xray Interpretation

Available: May 25th, 2009

Due Date (on or before): June 5th, 2009

This assignment is worth 20% of your final grade

Students will be presented with a series of chest xrays for interpretation. This assessment will be time-limited and located on Blackboard. This assessment will be considered “open-book” in that students are permitted to consult with relevant literature. Importantly, students are not permitted to consult with one another, or with other health care professionals.

The contents of the assessment xrays are to remain confidential.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER THREE

Assignment Name: Nutrition Module Assessment

Available: July 13th, 2009

Due Date (on or before): July 20th, 2009

This assignment is worth 20% of your final grade

Students will complete the web-based tutorials and will complete a web-based mixed multiple choice and case study assessment. This assessment will be considered “open-book” in that students are permitted to consult with relevant literature. Importantly, students are not permitted to consult with one another, or with other health care professionals.

The contents of the assessment are to remain confidential.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER FOUR

Assignment Name: 12 Lead ECG interpretation

Available: September 25th, 2009

Due Date (on or before) October 2nd, 2009

This assignment is worth 20% of your final grade

This assessment will be time-limited and located on Blackboard. This assessment will be considered "open-book" in that students are permitted to consult with relevant literature. Importantly, students are not permitted to consult with one another, or with other health care professionals.

The contents of the assessment 12 lead ECGs are to remain confidential.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER FIVE

Assignment Name: Final Assessment Diagnostics and Therapeutics

Available on: October 23rd, 2009

Due Date (on or before): October 30th, 2009

This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade

Students will complete a web-based assessment which includes content delivered throughout the course (both in class and via web-based modules). Like the previous assignments it will be considered "open-book", however students are not permitted to discuss the contents or cases presented in the assignment with anyone else enrolled in the course or any other health care professionals. This assessment will be a mix of multiple choice questions and short answer problem-based presentations.

You are also required to complete and submit this form: [Record of Special Achievements related to Study at Victoria](#) (attached to back of outline) on or before the date of your final assignment for the 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 to request a copy.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY & HEALTH
Record of Special Achievements related to Study at Victoria

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). Please complete this form and **submit with your final assignment for the 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 to request a copy.

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