



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY & HEALTH

HLTH 517: Diagnostics and Therapeutics

30 POINTS
TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 8 October 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

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SECTION 1: OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Class times and locations

1st School

Dates: Thursday 23 & Friday 24 July 2015
Times: 0900 - 1630 daily
Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

2nd School

Dates: Monday 14 & Tuesday 15 September 2015
Times: 0900 - 1630 daily
Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

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.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator & Contact Details

Name: Dr Caz Hales
Ph: 04 463 6142
Email: caz.hales@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours: Monday to Friday, student appointments 1-3pm Wednesday or by appointment

Teaching Team & Contact Details

Name: Betty Poot, Nurse Practitioner
Ph: 04 463 6151
Email: betty.poot@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Fridays

Administrator

Ph: 04 463 5363
Email: nmh@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours

The Graduate School office will be open Monday 5 January 2015 and close on Friday 18 December 2015 from 9.00am – 4.00pm weekdays.

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. Please contact the course coordinator directly either by telephone or email should you wish to make an appointment or discuss course related issues.

Postal Address

Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health
Victoria University of Wellington
P O Box 7625
Newtown
Wellington 6242

Physical Address

Level 7, Clinical Services Block (CSB)
Wellington Regional Hospital
Riddiford St, Newtown
Wellington 6021

Communication of additional information

All course information and information on changes that occur during the course will be conveyed to students via Blackboard or student Victoria University of Wellington email to all class members.

SECTION 2: COURSE INFORMATION

Prescription

This course examines the sensitivity, specificity and utility of commonly used diagnostic testing methods (including the FBC, 12 lead ECG and telemetry monitoring, radiological imaging, and cardio-pulmonary diagnostics). In addition, course modules will explore the assessments of nutrition, infection, and anaemia alongside their associated common therapies. Students must be in direct patient contact.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

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. Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Identify and apply appropriate investigations and care plans when presented with varied patient problems across care settings
2. Articulate the role of diagnostics and therapeutics throughout the lifespan in relation to health and illness
3. Analyse and synthesise data derived from investigations and current evidence to progress therapeutic interventions and improve patient outcomes
4. Evaluate diagnostic investigations in the management of patient disease
5. Utilise evidence-based practice and research skills to develop advanced nursing knowledge to support patient management
6. Evaluate current research and its application to clinical assessment and diagnostic reasoning

Teaching format

There will be 4 School days held in Wellington which will be delivered in two blocks of 2 days each over one trimester. The days will be a mix of lectures, tutorials and small group activities. A distance component supported by Blackboard forms part of the course and supports the development of the content delivered in the school.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Attend all Schools unless under special circumstances prior arrangements have been made with the course coordinator.
2. Achieve at least 35% in each piece of assessment, in order to demonstrate the achievement of all the CLOs of the course.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

As a guide each 30-point course at the Graduate School requires students to allocate approximately 10 hours per point for self-directed study, research, assessments and attendance at Schools. Consequently 300 hours should be spread evenly over the 12 week trimester, break, study week and exam period.

This course comprises approximately 32 hours of course contact time for lectures. The amount of time you should notionally assign to the completion for each of the assignments is as follows:

1. Clinical investigations and management 50%: 134 hours
2. Evidence Based Case Study 50%: 134 hours

SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Clinical investigations and management	50%	1, 3, 4, 6	Part A: 6 August 2015 Part B: 3 September 2015
3 Evidence Based Case Study (4500 words)	50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	8 October 2015

Approval is required in writing from the course coordinator if you wish to use work you have submitted from a previous course or have written for your organisation.

Marking criteria for each assessment will be posted on Blackboard.

Assignment Number One

Assignment: Clinical investigations and management

Due Date: Part A: 6 August 2015 (30%)

Part B: 3 September 2015 (20%)

This assignment is worth 50% of your final grade

This web-based assessment is designed to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of investigations that support the management of respiratory and cardiovascular disease.

Assignment outline:

To complete the web-based assessment you need to be familiar with the course content related to respiratory and cardiovascular disease management explored in the first School block and which can be found on Blackboard. It may include:

1. Chest X-ray interpretation
2. Spirometry
3. Arterial blood gas interpretation
4. 12 Lead ECG interpretation
5. Cardiac enzyme investigations
6. Angiography

You will be expected to complete two web-based online assessment comprised of:

Part A (30%): Respiratory investigations and management

Part B (20%): Cardiovascular investigations and management

In each part you will be presented with a series of diagnostic investigations where you will be required to complete a series of short answer questions.

This assessment will be available to all students from 20th July 2015. You may access the assessment as many times as desired throughout this assessment period, but can only submit each part once via the assignment submission portal.

This assignment addresses the following course learning objectives:

1. Identify and apply appropriate investigations and care plans when presented with varied patient problems across care settings
2. Analyse and synthesise data derived from investigations and current evidence to progress therapeutic interventions and improve patient outcomes
3. Evaluate diagnostic investigations in the management of patient disease
4. Evaluate current research and its application to clinical assessment and diagnostic reasoning.

Please submit this assessment via the Blackboard portal

Assignment Number Two

Assignment Name: **Evidence Based Case Study**

Due Date: 8 October 2015

Word limit: 4500 words

This assignment is worth 50% of your final grade.

This case study assignment requires an in depth exploration of the appropriate investigations and management of a patient population who presents regularly to your health service. It provides the opportunity to apply advanced nursing knowledge and expertise to critically review the literature base that underpins current management of this patient group.

Assignment outline:

Choose a patient who presents to your service with one of the following health issues:

- Respiratory disease
- Cardiovascular disease
- Blood disorder
- Nutritional deficiency
- Infection / sepsis

Write a short case study (500 words) where you present a concise and focussed history of the patient's presenting, social and other relevant history, significant physical examination findings, and results of diagnostic tests undertaken within the health assessment specific to their identified health issue. Use this case to inform your discussion throughout the assignment on the diagnosis, diagnostic tests/indices and subsequent management plan for this patient.

Within this assignment you need to address the following areas:

1. Presentation of your patient case (as above)
2. A critical analysis of the literature to support your decision-making for the types of diagnostic tests/indices used to support your assessment and diagnosis of the patient's presenting complaint
3. A critical analysis of the literature to support the management plan for this patient

This assignment should take the form of a formal academic essay and follow the American Psychology Association (APA) 6th edition referencing practice.

This assignment assesses the following course learning objectives:

1. Identify and apply appropriate investigations and care plans when presented with varied patient problems across care settings
2. Articulate the role of diagnostics and therapeutics throughout the lifespan in relation to health and illness
3. Analyse and synthesise data derived from investigations and current evidence to progress therapeutic interventions and improve patient outcomes
4. Evaluate diagnostic investigations in the management of patient disease
5. Utilise evidence-based practice and research skills to develop advanced nursing knowledge to support patient management
6. Evaluate current research and its application to clinical assessment and diagnostic reasoning.

Please submit this assignment via the Blackboard portal.

Submission and return of work

For submission details, please see individual assessment items. Student coursework assignments submitted by the due date will normally be returned with feedback within three weeks of the due date.

Extensions

An extension to a deadline will only be considered where there are extenuating circumstances. An application for an extension must be made by you in writing/e-mail to the course coordinator at least 24 hours before the due date. When communicating your request you must include the following information:

- name, student number and contact details
- course code
- date of submission and request date for new submission
- reason for extension request

Upon receipt of your request, course coordinators may grant an extension of up to 2 weeks. Any further request for an extension may require Head of School approval.

Penalties

Late assignments or assignments with extensions may be subject to delays in marking and may not receive comprehensive feedback.

A penalty will be incurred for late submission of work **where no prior arrangement** has been made as follows:

- Work submitted up to 7 days after the due date without an extension will receive a 2 grade penalty. For example a B+ to a B-.
- Work submitted 8-14 days after the due date without an extension will receive a 4 grade penalty. For example a B+ to a C.
- Work submitted more than 15 days late without an extension will not be marked and will receive an 'E' (fail) grade.

SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Set texts

There is no set text for this course.

Recommended reading

Links to articles will be made available via Blackboard:

- Corne, J., Carroll, M., Brown, I., & Delany, D. (2009). *Chest X-Ray made easy* (3rd ed.). London: Churchill Livingstone.
- Hampton, J.R. (2008). *The ECG made easy* (7thed.). London: Churchill Livingstone.
- Hyatt, R.E., Scanlon, P.D., & Nakamura, M. (2014). *Interpretation of pulmonary function tests: A practical guide* (4th ed.). London: Wolter Kluwer Health.
- Van Leeuwen, A.M., Poelhuis-Leth, D.J., & Bladh, M.L. (2013). *Davis's comprehensive handbook of laboratory and diagnostic tests with nursing implications* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: F.A Davis.

Pre-Readings

Students are required to complete assigned web-based tutorials prior to school days. 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.

Recommended Websites

Links to websites will be made available via Blackboard.

Student feedback

To reflect the changing needs of health care this course has had some major changes with a new emphasis on health screening and patient management across care settings. The assessments, which have been reduced from three to two pieces of work, align themselves accordingly with the new course learning objectives and provide application of clinical practice to all health care settings. Students in 2014 reported that they valued learning about diagnostic enquiry and management of disease and illness, and some have utilised this knowledge in practice.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades

- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Blackboard Information

Students enrolling for this course will need access to the Victoria flexible learning system (Blackboard) via the Internet.

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/>

Students are encouraged to use Endnote to manage the research material they use and cite. Endnote can be obtained at <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/guides/endnote.html>

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**