



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY & HEALTH

# HLTH 522: Health Systems, Policy and Practice

**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:** 30 October 2015

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

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## SECTION 1: OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

### Class times and locations

#### 1<sup>st</sup> School

Dates: Monday 20 – Wednesday 22 July 2015  
Times: 0900 - 1630 daily  
Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

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#### 2<sup>nd</sup> School

Dates: Monday 21 – Wednesday 23 September 2015  
Times: 0900 - 1630 daily  
Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

N.B: On Wednesday 23 September the class *may* go on a fieldtrip to Parliament for the day

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### 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 Martin Woods  
Ph: 04 463 5034  
Email: [martin.woods@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:martin.woods@vuw.ac.nz)  
Office Hours: by appointment

#### Administrator

Ph: 04 463 5363  
Email: [nmh@vuw.ac.nz](mailto: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.

## **SECTION 2: COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Prescription**

This course explores health care policy and service delivery in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally. The structural, political, professional and ethical dimensions of health service delivery are examined.

### **Course learning objectives (CLOs)**

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of specific political, economic, ethical, financial and professional aspects of health care systems
2. Critically analyse the genesis of national and international health care policies
3. Critically evaluate the relationship between health policy and practice
4. Influence policy and practice.

### **Teaching format**

There will be six School days held in Wellington which will be delivered in two blocks of two days each over the 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. Students are expected to read a selection of the recommended resources listed in this outline and on Blackboard. The three assignments are each designed to engage students in learning different aspects of the relationship of health policy to practice.

### **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 CLOs in 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 46 hours of course contact time for lectures. Preparation for class time 10 hours; blackboard comments and review 10 hours; general reading 20 hours. The amount of time you should notionally assign to the completion for each of the assignments is as follows:

1. Assignment 1: Comparative Evaluation of Health Policy & Practice Essay (40%): 100 hours
2. Assignment 2: Meeting – with politician or at District Health Board (10%): 15 hours
3. Assignment 3: Submission (50%): 100 hours

## SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

### Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1   Essay: Comparative Evaluation of Health Policy and Practice (3500 words)	40%	1, 2, 3	21 Aug 2015
2   Attend a meeting with a Member of Parliament OR attend a local District Health Board meeting (700 words)	10%	2, 3, 4	7 Sept 2015
3   Submission (4000 words)	50%	1, 3, 4	30 Oct 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 Name: **Essay: Comparative Evaluation of Health Policy and Practice**

Due Date: 21 August 2015

Word limit: 3500 words

This assignment is worth 40% of your final grade.

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This essay focuses on comparison of an aspect (policy or service arrangements) of the New Zealand Health System with that of another country of your choice. For example comparing how New Zealand and another country fund care of the older person; approach euthanasia, organise maternity services.

Using the reputable sources you have available,

- Describe the two countries including their political, economic, social and geographical context. Provide only the background and context that you think is important to the policy or service arrangement being discussed;
- Outline the overall structure of each policy or service arrangement including target group, policy or service components, funding arrangements, governance and workforce requirements;
- Provide evidence of the effectiveness (e.g., health outcomes, throughput, staff turnover) of each system; and
- Finally present your analysis of the strengths and weakness of the two policy or service arrangements.

**Please submit your assignment via Blackboard.**

This assessment meets learning objectives 1, 2 & 3.

## Assignment Number Two

Assignment Name: **Account and reflection on a meeting with a Member of Parliament  
OR the District Health Board**

Due Date: 7 September 2015

Word limit: 700 words

This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade.

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### Format

Arrange to either: meet with a Member of Parliament in your region OR attend a public meeting of your District Health Board (DHB) or Primary Health Organisation (PHO). If you wish you can arrange to do these meetings in groups i.e. several students together.

The Member of Parliament (MP) can be either a local member or a list MP. At the meeting find out what their interests and policy responsibilities are and how you can input to these and how you can use the MP to address issues of interest to you.

The District Health Board or Primary Health Organisation meeting can be either a full meeting or a subcommittee meeting. At the meeting identify key items on the agenda, how decisions are made including whose voice (accountants, managers, patients/clients, health professions and which ones) is heard.

Write no more than 700 words (2 pages) that includes:

- i. Type of meeting – e.g. Meeting with list MP; District Health Board meeting
- ii. Date of meeting
- iii. Your preparation for the meeting
- iv. Who was present – if DHB or PHO can say Board members as a group, but include details of non-Board members, and names of colleagues if you did not go alone
- v. What you learnt
- vi. Reflections on whether you would now approach MPs or DHB members differently.

**Please submit your assignment via Blackboard.**

This assessment meets learning objectives 2, 3, & 4.

## Assignment Number Three

Assignment Name: **Submission**  
Due Date: 30 October 2015  
Word limit: 4000 words

This assignment is worth 50% of your final grade.

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### Format

Write a formal submission on either: a policy out for consultation, a policy that you presently work with that you consider should be retained or requires changing. The policy can be internal or external to your organisation.

Identify the agency responsible (if internal to your workplace, the manager responsible) for the development or review of the policy. Write a submission to the agency or manager using the format outlined below.

Key components are:

- A title page bearing the author's name and contact address, the title and topic of the submission and the person or agency to whom the submission is addressed and date of submission
- A one page executive summary which is succinct and sums up your main points in order of priority
- The Body of the submission should contain
  - i) a statement about the focus of the submission,
  - ii) a statement about who the submission is from and how it was formulated,
  - iii) evidence about what is good and what is problematic with the current or proposed policy,
  - iv) a proposal (using evidence and argument) about what should be contained, and/or what should be changed and why, and
  - v) an argument about why your proposed changes are feasible.
- A conclusion
- References

Students can request permission from the Course-Co-ordinator to write a Service Proposal instead of a submission. The format of the assignments are similar with the exception that Service Proposals require a budget and a risk benefit analysis.

**Please submit your assignment via Blackboard.**

This assessment meets learning objectives 1, 3 & 4.

### 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 text

Hughes, F., & Caulder, S. (2007). *Have your say: Influencing public policy in New Zealand*. Wellington: Dunmore Publishing Limited.

You may obtain this text book at Dunmore Books <http://dunmore.co.nz>

### Pre-Readings

Came, H. (2014). Sites of institutional racism in public health policy making in New Zealand. *Social Science & Medicine* 106, 214 – 220.

Carnegie, E., & Kiger, A. (2009). Being and doing politics: An outdated model or 21<sup>st</sup> century reality? *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 65(9), 1976-1984.

Cookson, R., McCabe, C., & Tsuchiya, A. (2008). Public healthcare resource allocation and the Rule of Rescue. *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 34, 540-544.

Gauld, R. (2012). New Zealand's [post-2008 health system reforms: Toward re-centralization of organizational arrangements](#). *Health Policy*, 106(2), 110-113.

Penno, E. & Gauld, R. (2013). How are New Zealand's District Health Boards funded and does it matter if we can't tell? *N Z Med J.*, 126(1376), 71-84.

Villeneuve, M. J. (2008). Yes we can! Eliminating disparities as part of the core business of nursing on a global level. *Policy, Politics & Nursing Practice*, 9(4), 334-341.

### Recommended Reading

Links and suggested titles will be made available via Blackboard.

### Student feedback

Feedback from previous cohorts of students has been positive for HLTH 522. In response to confusion about the second assignment from students and staff the assignment has been altered and title changed to make it very clear. Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)

- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://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](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> 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**