



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND HEALTH**

## **HLTH 504 SPECIALIST PRACTICE: LONG TERM CONDITIONS**

**30 POINTS**  
**TRIMESTER 1 2016**

### **Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 29 February to 29 June 2016

**Teaching dates:** 29 February to 5 June 2016

**Easter break:** 24 to 30 March 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 April to 1 May 2016

**Last assessment item due:** 30 May 2016

**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 in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

## SECTION 1: OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

### Class times and locations

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

Dates: Thursday 10 and Friday 11 March 2016  
Times: 08.30 – 16.30 daily  
Venue: CS802 Seminar Room, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

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

Dates: Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 May 2016  
Times: 08.30 – 16.30 daily  
Venue: CS801 Seminar Room, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

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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

Dr Caz Hales

Ph: 04 463 6142

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

Office hours: Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesdays, & Fridays 08.30 – 16.00 hrs

Student appointments: Wednesdays 13.00 – 15.00 hrs or by appointment

#### Postgraduate Student Administrator

Caleb Aveling

Ph: 04 463 6647

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

Office hours: Monday – Friday 09.00 – 17.00

#### Office Hours

The Graduate School office will be open 09.00 – 17.00 weekdays from Tuesday 5 January 2016 and close on Thursday 22 December 2016.

#### 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 VUW email.

## **SECTION 2: COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Prescription**

This specialist practice course will enhance the knowledge and skills of health care professionals who support individuals and populations living with long term conditions. Key issues for exploration during this course include: population health approaches to understand the impact of long term conditions, the role of health professionals in long term conditions management, and patient self-management strategies to improve health outcomes.

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

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Critique the challenges presented by long term conditions from individual, community and health professional perspectives and analyse how this influences health outcomes and behaviours
2. Analyse long term conditions from epidemiological, pathophysiological, therapeutic and socio-political and cultural contexts
3. Evaluate and recommend management strategies for improving health outcomes for individuals and populations living with long term conditions

### **Teaching format**

There will be 4 School days held in Wellington which will be delivered in two blocks of 2 days each over the trimester. The days will be a mix of lectures and small group activities. A distance component supported by Blackboard forms part of the course and supports student achieving their learning objectives. Online discussion groups are available to give students ways of continuing discussion about course material outside of the class room.

### **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% for each 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 and mid-trimester break.

This course comprises approximately 32 hours of course contact time for lectures, group work and on-campus activities. Blackboard activities comprise of approximately 30 hours of self-directed learning. The amount of time you should notionally assign to the completion for each of the assignments is as follows:

1. Assignment Number One: Written essay: Long term condition (40%): 95 hours
2. Assignment Number Two: Written essay: Service or quality initiative (60%): 140 hours

## SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

### Assessments

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Written essay: Long term condition ( 3000 words)	40%	1 & 2	11 April 2016
2	Written essay: Service or quality initiative (4500 words)	60%	1& 3	30 May 2016

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: **Managing long term conditions essay**

Due Date: 11 April 2016

Word Limit: 3000 words

This assignment is worth 40% of your final grade

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The assignment provides an opportunity to explore a long term condition that is relevant to your practice. You are required to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the context and management of long term conditions through the critique of local, national and international evidence.

## Assignment outline:

1. Select one long term condition either identified by the Ministry of Health as a national health priority or a condition pertinent to your practice and in which you have a particular interest in. If you are unsure whether your proposed long term condition is appropriate, please discuss this with your course co-ordinator.
2. Explore and critique the current evidence base for the pathophysiology, epidemiology, disease trajectory and therapeutic management of your chosen long term condition.
3. Consider the challenges presented by the long term condition for the individual/ population and analyse how this influences health outcomes, behaviours and engagement with health services and health professionals.
4. Conclude your assignment by outlining one management strategy from the literature that could be used to address a previously identified challenge.

This assignment meets learning objectives: 1 & 2

- Critique the challenges presented by long term conditions from individual, health professional and community perspectives and analyse how this influences health outcomes and behaviours
- Analyse long term conditions from epidemiological, pathophysiological, therapeutic and socio-political and cultural contexts

**Please submit this assignment as one Microsoft Word file via Blackboard.**

## Assignment Number Two

Assignment: **Service or quality initiative essay**

Due Date: 30 May 2016

Word Limit: 4500 words

This assignment is worth 60% of your final grade

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This assignment provides an opportunity to explore a current health service or quality initiative for individuals or populations living with long term conditions. You are required to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of key strategies discussed within the literature that support or improve health outcomes for your chosen patient/client population.

### Assignment outline:

1. Identify an aspect within your practice setting/service that you would like to see developed, changed or improved to support the health outcomes or ongoing management of a particular long term condition. Using the literature, provide a rationale for your chosen service or quality initiative.
2. Using the literature, outline your proposed service or quality initiative and explore the implications of this proposal on the health outcomes for individuals and populations living with long term conditions.
3. Describe how the initiative could be evaluated within your practice setting/service.

This assignment meets learning objectives: 1 & 3

- Critique the challenges presented by long term conditions from individual, health professional and community perspectives and analyse how this influences health outcomes and behaviours
- Evaluate and recommend management strategies for improving health outcomes for individuals and populations living with long term conditions

**Please submit this assignment as one Microsoft Word file via Blackboard.**

## 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.

### Ethical conduct

Students are expected to adhere to ethical principles in all aspects of their coursework. This applies to academic integrity and also to the way information about, or from, individuals in the practice setting is managed. Good ethical practice must be maintained in all learning activities. The Human Ethics Committee at Victoria University of Wellington has granted approval for the incorporation of data or observations from patient/client/individuals into coursework from the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health, and expects adherence to the instructions below.

Students are expected to adhere to their professional codes of conduct and standards, relevant legislative frameworks and contractual obligations to any employing organisation at all times. In addition, all students in classes where assignments might include observations, reports, images, photographs or descriptions of individuals (patients or colleagues) with whom they have worked in a clinical or practice setting as part of an assignment, must:

1. Read and sign the "Information for using individual data in an assignment: Student agreement statement"
2. Determine whether verbal or written informed consent is required, according to the guidelines provided in the student agreement statement and in consultation with their course coordinator if they are unsure;
3. Provide the patient/client/individual, or the parent/guardian of the child, whose data they intend to use with full information about how they intend to obtain and use the data;
4. Provide written information and obtain written informed consent if required.

Should students have any concerns about ethical aspects of their course requirements they should discuss them with the course coordinator.

**Your Course Coordinator will discuss the ethical implications and special requirements (if any) for this particular course.**

### 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)
- 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)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- 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)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- 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.

### How to log onto Blackboard

- Open a web browser and go to [myVictoria.ac.nz](http://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**