



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND HEALTH

HLTH 529 Special Topic: Prescribing Practicum

30 POINTS
TRIMESTER 2 & 3 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July 2016 to 17 February 2017

Teaching dates: 11 July 2016 to 17 February 2017

Mid-trimester break: 22 August 2016 to 4 September 2016

Christmas break: 23 December 2016 to 6 January 2017

Last assessment item due: 10 February 2017

Withdrawal dates: Refer to 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).

SECTION 1: OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Class times and locations

1st School

Dates: Thursday 4 and Friday 5 August 2016
Times: 0900 - 1630
Venue: CS802, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

2nd School

Dates: Friday 30 September 2016
Times: 0900 - 1630
Venue: CS802, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

3rd School

Dates: Friday 10 February 2017
Times: 0900 - 1630
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

Betty Poot
Ph: 04 463 6151
Email: betty.poot@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Fridays only by appointment

Teaching team

Kathy Nelson
Ph: 04 463 6138
Email: kathy.nelson@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Thursdays and by appointment

Administrator

Ph: 04 463 5363
Email: nmh@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm

Office Hours

The Graduate School office will be open 09.00 – 16.00 weekdays. It will close on Thursday 22 December 2016 and reopen on Monday 9 January 2017.

Please contact the course coordinator or teaching team 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 email.

SECTION 2: COURSE INFORMATION

Prescription

This course will develop prescribing knowledge and skills, drawing on the student's previous learning in advanced health assessment, diagnostic reasoning/therapeutics and pharmacology. This course will meet the Nursing Council of New Zealand requirements for prescribing authority.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Provide an evidence based rationale for differential diagnosis and diagnostic decisions
2. Perform in depth and comprehensive medicines assessment demonstrating safe decisions within professional and regulatory frameworks
3. Articulate and justify appropriate pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapies in partnership with clients and other health professionals
4. Analyse and synthesise data from diagnostic investigations in relation to pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapies
5. Recognise and manage situations of drug misuse and drug seeking

Teaching format

This course is delivered via three face-to-face seminar type block Schools at the Graduate School of Nursing Midwifery & Health. 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. In addition, students will be required to have one-on-one mentoring and supervision from a designated authorised prescriber regarding prescribing in their clinical setting.

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. Expert clinicians with specialist knowledge and experience in diagnostics and prescribing present and participate in prescribing activities with students. This enables students to develop critical awareness of therapeutics and prescribing informing their scope of practice.
2. Achieve at least 50% for each assessment in order to demonstrate the achievement of all the CLOs of the course. This is required by Nursing Council of New Zealand for the competencies of nurse prescribing.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the mandatory course requirements 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 full year.

This course comprises approximately 32 hours of course contact time for lectures and tutorials.

The amount of time you should notionally assign to the completion for each of the assignments is:

1. Assignment one: Clinical investigations and management (35%) 54 hours
2. Assignment two: Clinical log of practice experience (30%): 160 hours
3. Assignment three: Oral presentation (35%): 54 hours

SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Clinical investigations and management (2 Case study)	35%	1,3	15 Sept 2016 27 Oct 2016
2	Clinical log of prescribing practice	30%	1,2,3,4,5	25 Jan 2017
3	Viva Voce: Prescribing presentation	35%	1,2,3,4,5	10 Feb 2017

Marking criteria for each assessment will be made available on Blackboard.

Assignment one

Assignment: Clinical investigations and management (Case Study)

Due Date: Case study 1: 15 Sept 2016

Due Date: Case study 2: 27 Oct 2016

Length: 3500 words

This assignment is worth 35% of your final grade

This assignment focuses on critically reviewing student's diagnostic processes and therapeutic management including medicine management, medicines safety, and medicines education of two patient/client cases they managed. Assignment outline for each case:

Case (500 words)

- Comprehensive health history (covering chief complaint; history of presenting illness; past medical and other history; medications; allergies; family and social history; review of systems; previous diagnostic tests; physical examination);
- Provisional and differential diagnoses;
- Screening and diagnostic tests ordered and carried out;
- Diagnosis; and
- Plan of management.

Case discussion (3000 words)

- Critically discuss provisional and differential diagnosis
- Critically discuss relevant diagnostic tests and screening tools requested
- Discuss the pathophysiology of the diagnosis and the diagnostic tests and demonstrate your clinical reasoning for the selection of the tests related to the diagnosis
- Describe the pharmacological and non-pharmacological (including health education) treatment plan to address the diagnosis
- List all the medications prescribed, showing the rationale for inclusion, pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, dosing and administration (including interactions)
- Discuss monitoring of treatment plan including drug therapies
- Discuss collaboration with other health professionals (including mentor/authorised prescriber)
- Outline your evaluation of the effectiveness of the treatment plan
- Provide a sample prescription of all medications prescribed

Please submit this assignment via Turnitin/Blackboard.

Assignment two

Assignment: Clinical log of prescribing practice

Due Date: 25 Jan 2017

Word Count: Portfolio

This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade

This assignment captures details of your 150 hours of clinical placement including details of medications prescribed and diagnostic tests requested.

Assignment outline:

Students will be introduced to an online portfolio system at the first school day. Details required in the portfolio for all patient/client sessions include:

- Date
- Demographic details
- Age, Gender, Patient initials
- Diagnosis and differential diagnoses
- Key findings from assessment
- Medication/Treatment plan/Diagnostic Tests
- Medication analysis

Portfolio needs to be signed by Clinical mentor who signs with information including date, practice environment and number of hours.

Assignment three

Assignment: Viva Voce: Prescribing presentation

Due Date: Friday 10 February 2017

Length: 40 minutes

This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade

The oral examination/viva is the final assessment. The aim of the viva is to examine the student's clinical assessment, clinical reasoning, diagnostic decision making knowledge and pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatment plans in response to a clinical scenario. This is an open book assessment and Wi-Fi is available.

For the oral examination/viva the student will be given a clinical scenario relevant to their area of practice. Time frames for this assessment include 10 minutes preparation time, 10 minutes for additional information gathering, and 20 minutes for panel questions and discussion.

Process

You will be given a case scenario which includes a client presenting problem, past health history and medications. You will have 10 minutes preparation time to consider the scenario and decide on any additional information required, differential diagnoses, potential diagnostics and a potential treatment plan that includes prescribing.

After the 10 minutes you will be given the opportunity to elicit more information about the client from the panel. This further information may include further health history, diagnostic information including results. From this information you will verbally articulate your diagnosis including differential diagnoses and treatment plan that includes prescribing for this case scenario.

There will be questions from the panel. These may include: pathophysiology of the presenting complaint, evidence informed practice, ordering and interpretation of diagnostic tests, treatment options including prescribing, clinical reasoning, follow up and referral.

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.

Other marking penalties

Assignments may also be penalised for poor presentation and for exceeding or being below the word limit by 10%.

SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Practicum/internship arrangements

- The student is responsible for obtaining approval from their employer in writing to complete the practicum component of the course in their clinical area.
- The student is responsible for arranging the placement and identifying a mentor who is a designated authorised prescriber (A Medical Practitioner or Nurse Practitioner employed by the Health Provider) and provide details of this person to the Course Co-ordinator for approval.
- The Course Coordinator briefs all designated authorised prescribers in writing about the expectations of the course and mentoring.
- Students adhere to their employees and their professional codes of ethics.
- All practice undertaken by the student must be conducted under the supervision of a designated authorised provider.
- Students collate a Clinical Log for a minimum of 150 mentored hours which is signed off by the mentor.
- Students submit a clinical log of minimum of 150 hours which will be graded with a standard grade (A+ to E).

Set texts

There is no set text for this course.

Recommended reading

de Vries, T. P. G. M., Henning, R. H., Hogerzeil, H. V., & Fresle, D. A. (2011). *The World Health Organization good guide to prescribing: A practical manual*. Available for free download from: <http://apps.who.int/medicinedocs/en/d/Jwhozip23e/#Jwhozip23e>

Mckenna, L., & Mirkov, S. (2014). *Australia New Zealand Nursing & Midwifery Drug Handbook* (7th ed.). Sydney: Wolter Kluwer Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Recommended reading links will be provided via Blackboard. It is imperative that students complete all pre-readings and preparation prior to attending the first block school day. Students will also be asked to read current journal articles and consult websites from a list with links posted on Blackboard. All will be accessible via Blackboard links or will be posted as e-reserve at the Victoria electronic library.

Student feedback

2016 is the first year that HLTH 529 is being offered. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Ethics 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
- 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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at 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
- 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
- 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
- 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 regular internet access to engage with the online Victoria learning platform (Blackboard).

Blackboard is an online environment that supports teaching and learning at Victoria by making course information, materials and learning activities available online. Blackboard provides web-based access to course content, assessment, communication and collaboration tools.

How to log onto Blackboard

- Open a web browser and go to <https://my.vuw.ac.nz/>
- Enter your student username which you will find in your *Confirmation of Study* sent via email. It is usually made up of 6 letters of your last name and 4 letters of your first name e.g. Bart Simpson's username would be 'simpsobart'
- Enter your password. If you have never logged in before your initial password should be 'Vuw' followed by a hyphen and your student ID number e.g. Vuw-123456789
- 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**