

514-847 Foundations in Mental Health 1

Credit Points:	25.000
Level:	Graduate/Postgraduate
Dates & Locations:	2008, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, - Taught on campus. On Campus and field practice.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 54 hours on-campus lectures and tutorials. Field practice component of a minimum of 300 hours. Total Time Commitment: Students are expected to devote approximately 6-10 hours per week to this subject. Students can anticipate a time commitment of approximately 24 hours per week concurrent field practice.
Prerequisites:	NBV Registration (Unrestricted) Students must be employed at an affiliated clinical agency and provide documentation of clinical support arrangements necessary to undertake the professional practice portfolio prior to enrolment.
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's courses. Students who feel their disability will impact on meeting this requirement are encouraged to discuss this matter with the Course Coordinator and the Disability Liaison Unit.
Coordinator:	Natisha Sands
Subject Overview:	<p>This subject is designed to promote the integration of theoretical and practical aspects of psychiatric nursing to support safe practice for mental health consumers presenting to practice settings where they will be the recipients of care delivered by nurses who are beginning level specialty practitioners.</p> <p>Students will learn about the principles and practices required to: complete a psychiatric admission assessment, conduct mental status examination, understand the classification and diagnosis of the major mental disorders across the lifespan, and conduct a psychiatric risk assessment. Students will become familiar with immediate interventions required to establish patient safety and a therapeutic environment; ongoing monitoring requirements; the underpinning biological basis of mental health and illness; and principles behind treatment, symptom management, and recovery from mental illness. Nursing interventions will be described in terms of the research evidence underpinning practice in the context of pre-requisite knowledge for skill development. The subject has a strong consumer focus, with an emphasis is on person-centred, bio/psych/social approaches to care.</p> <p>Students engage in field practice in mental health care environments to address learning objectives focussing on the application of theoretical knowledge to skill development and the practice of caring for patients experiencing changes to their mental health status.</p>
Assessment:	Theoretical Component 60% 1. Written assignment of 2000 words due mid semester (25%);2. Closed book, 3 hour written examination at the end of semester (35%)Clinical Component 40%3. A professional practice portfolio which must include evidence of clinical competency achievement and is equivalent to 3,000 words due by the end of semester (40%). Students must achieve a pass in both the theoretical and clinical component in order to pass the subject.
Prescribed Texts:	Elder, R. Evans, K., & Nizette, D. (2005). Psychiatric and mental health nursing. Marrackville NSW: Elsevier.Stuart, G., & Laraia, M. (2005). Principles and practices of psychiatric nursing. (8th ed.). St Louis: Mosby.

Recommended Texts:	<p>Bloch, S., & Singh, B.S. (Eds.). (2002). Foundations of clinical psychiatry (2nd ed.). Melbourne: Melbourne University Press.</p> <p>Carson, V. (2000). Mental health nursing: The nurse-patient journey (2nd ed.). Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders</p> <p>Gamble, C., & Brennan, G. (2000). Working with serious mental illness: A manual for clinical practice. Edinburgh: Elsevier.</p> <p>Rogers, A., & Pilgrim, D. (2006). A sociology of mental health and illness. (3rd ed.). New York: Open University Press.</p> <p>Townsend, M.C. (2006). Psychiatric mental health nursing: Concepts of care in evidence-based practice. Philadelphia: Davis.</p>
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<p>Students will be expected to be able to demonstrate their beginning specialty nursing practice through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # integration of the theoretical content covered within the subject to develop new knowledge that supports safe practice as a beginning specialty nurse in mental health settings; # the ability to integrate knowledge and skills learnt in the subject to recognise and plan a response to patients experiencing alterations to health and wellness that occur in the specific context of psychiatric nursing; # the ability to understand and evaluate specialised interventions as described in the subject content to provide a foundation for participating in the delivery of care at the beginning level of psychiatric nursing practice; # the capacity to use skills in problem-solving, critical thinking, rational inquiry and self-directed learning to apply knowledge learnt in the theoretical component of the subject to beginning level psychiatric nursing clinical practice; # an understanding of the changing knowledge base in the specialist area; # the ability to apply knowledge to understand skills and techniques applicable to the specialist area. <p>On completion of the subject students should have developed the following generic skills of the Melbourne graduate and postgraduate coursework student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # a capacity to articulate their knowledge and understanding in oral and written modes of communication; # a capacity to manage competing demands on time, including self-directed project work.
Links to further information:	http://www.nursing.unimelb.edu.au
Notes:	<p>Level: 4th year</p> <p>This subject has a multi-media tutorial component delivered via the University's on-line Learning Management System (LMS). Students must have access to appropriate computer facilities and the Internet.</p> <p>The minimum computer hardware and software specifications for the subject are consistent with the University's guidelines on the expected standard of computer equipment (http://www.unimelb.edu.au/student/CompStd.htm):</p> <p>No special computer skills are required. Students are required to have skills consistent with the University's Statement of "Basic Expectations of Student Computer Skills" : http://www.infodiv.unimelb.edu.au/stuskills.html which includes basic knowledge of computer operating systems, word-processing skills, email use, and the internet. Specifically students need to be able to write, edit and save an essay on the computer and be competent in the use of standard WWW browsers and should be able to use information searching techniques.</p>