

NURS90058 Cancer and Palliative Care Nursing

Credit Points:	6.25
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2010, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: October, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 18 lectures/tutorials/seminars, 6 clinical laboratory sessions, 80 clinical practicum, TOTAL: 104 hours Total Time Commitment: Approximately 140 hours Students are expected to devote approximately 5-6 hours a week to this subject and 40 hours per week for two weeks during clinical practicum.
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	This subject requires students to actively and safely contribute to clinical activities. Students who think their disability will impact on meeting this requirement are encouraged to discuss this matter with the Nursing Course Coordinator and the Disability Liaison Unit.
Coordinator:	Ms Amanda Kiernan
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Subject Overview:	This subject provides the opportunity for students to enhance their knowledge in the specialty practice area of cancer or requiring palliative care. Key content relates to understanding the pathophysiology of cancer and carcinogenesis, and the principles of cure, control, symptom management and palliation. Surgery, chemotherapy and radiation will be described as core treatments and elements of a multi-modal approach. The impact of diagnosis, treatment, prognosis and survivorship on the person confronted with a life threatening illness and their family, as well as the ethico-legal aspects of care will be explored. Emphasis is placed on health assessment for implementing and evaluating physical and psychosocial care across the disease trajectory. Throughout the subject the development of knowledge and skills in therapeutic communication will be promoted. Interventions initiated by nurses at a beginning level of specialty practice will be described in terms of the research evidence underpinning practice.
Objectives:	Students will be expected to be able to demonstrate their beginning specialty nursing practice through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # the ability to understand, apply and evaluate assessment data to recognise and plan a response to patients experiencing alterations to health and wellness that occur in the specific context of caring for patients with cancer and/or requiring palliative care; # the ability to understand and evaluate specialised interventions as described in the subject content to provide a foundation for understanding the delivery of care at the beginning level of specialty practice for patients experiencing cancer and/or requiring palliative care; # an understanding of the changing knowledge base in the specialist area;

	# the ability to apply scientific knowledge to understand skills and techniques applicable to the specialist area.
Assessment:	500 word plan for problem solving exercise (20%) - Due week 42,000 word problem solving exercise (80%) - Due week 12
Prescribed Texts:	Specific readings and web-based resources selected by the subject coordinator will be made available to students through the Learning Management System (LMS).
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>At the completion of this subject, students should be able to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # the capacity for information seeking, retrieval and evaluation; # critical thinking and analytical skills; # an openness to new ideas; # cultural sensitivity; # planning and time management skills; # the ability to work effectively in a team; # the ability to communicate knowledge through classroom and web-based discussions and written material.
Related Course(s):	Master of Nursing Science