

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF NURSING IN ADVANCED PRACTICE ¹ (MN)

(See also General Regulations)

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

The degree of Master of Nursing in Advanced Practice (MN) is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of a course of study in the Department of Nursing Studies, Faculty of Medicine.

N21 Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Nursing in Advanced Practice, candidates:

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) shall be Registered Nurses holding Bachelor's degree with honours in nursing from this University, or from another university, or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
- (c) shall be eligible for active nursing registration with the Nursing Council of Hong Kong, or its equivalent;
- (d) shall have completed one course in each of the following: research, statistics, nursing theory, health assessment, and community nursing at the undergraduate level; and
- (e) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.

Exemption from certain requirements may be considered in special cases.

N22 Qualifying examination

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test candidates' formal academic ability or their ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent and may include a project report.
- (b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.

N23 Award of degree

To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Nursing in Advanced Practice candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations; and
- (b) shall complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.

N24 Length of curriculum

The curriculum shall extend over three years of part-time study.

¹ For 2000-2001 intake only.

N25 Completion of curriculum

- (a) To complete the curriculum, candidates within the prescribed maximum period of study stipulated in Regulation N24 above:
- (i) shall follow courses of instruction in the syllabus prescribed and complete satisfactorily all written, practical or clinical work;
 - (ii) shall satisfy the examiners in (i) the papers for eleven courses of study in continuous assessment and/or written examinations, and in the presentation and examination of a dissertation/scholarly project, or project report, on a subject within their approved fields of study.

The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination.

- (b) Candidates who fail to fulfil the requirements within the specified four years of part-time study shall be recommended for discontinuation under the provision of General Regulations G12, except that candidates who are unable because of illness or circumstances beyond their control to complete the requirements within the prescribed maximum period of study, may apply for permission to extend their period of studies. Any such application shall be made within two weeks of the first day of the examination paper in question.
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N26 Course Selection

Selection of study patterns shall be made in consultation with the candidate's Academic Advisor and be subject to the approval of the Department of Nursing Studies.

N27 Title of dissertation/scholarly project

The title of the dissertation/scholarly project shall be submitted for approval before the end of the second semester of the second year of study and the dissertation/scholarly project shall be presented not later than June 30 of the third year of study. Candidates shall submit statements that the dissertation/scholarly project represents their own work (or in the case of conjoint work, statements countersigned by their co-workers, which show their share of the work) undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree. The examiners may also prescribe an oral or a written examination on the subject of the dissertation/scholarly project.

N28 Examinations

- (a) Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in a course of instruction shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provision of General Recommendation G12.
- (b) Candidates who have presented an unsatisfactory dissertation/scholarly project and/or have failed to satisfy the examiners in the examination of the dissertation/scholarly project, but have satisfactorily completed the prescribed written and practical work, may be permitted to resubmit the dissertation/scholarly project and/or be re-examined on it, within a specified period of not more than four months after receipt of a notice that it was unsatisfactory.
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N29 Examination results

At the conclusion of the examination and after presentation of the dissertations/scholarly projects, the names of successful candidates shall be published alphabetically.

SYLLABUS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF NURSING IN ADVANCED PRACTICE

Leininger's theory of Culture Care Diversity and Universality (Leininger, 1991), incorporating the concepts of Primary Health Care (World Health Organization, 1978), shall provide the conceptual framework for the curriculum. The curriculum shall require a minimum of 39 credits (585 hours) and shall be comprised of eleven courses (3 credits each) and a dissertation/scholarly project (6 credits). It is organized into four components: (1) knowledge development for direct nursing care roles in advanced practice (six courses); (2) advanced clinical development for direct nursing care roles (three courses); (3) indirect nursing care role development (two courses); and (4) research in advanced practice (dissertation/scholarly project). Each three-credit course will be 45 hours. In the Clinical Practica three hours of clinical practice is equivalent to one hour of theory. Courses open to interdisciplinary/international candidates have been designated as "I".

FIRST YEAR

NURS7001 Philosophical Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits - 45 hours)

The development of science requires the formalization of the phenomena and events with which each science is concerned. This course provides the opportunity to examine the history and philosophy of modern science and the formalization of the science of nursing. Competing theories of science generally, and nursing science specifically, their evolution and methods, will be analyzed and evaluated; and the role of theory in the development of nursing as a discipline, and its implications for advanced nursing practice, will be explored.

Topics include history and philosophy of science; logical reasoning; theory development, analysis, and evaluation; nursing theory development; feminist critical theory, cultural theory.

NURS7002 Research Methods for Health Professionals (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course provides the opportunity to examine the processes of research, research use, and knowledge development for evidence-based practice and scholarly inquiry in nursing and other health professions. Its focus is on the understanding of factors which guide the selection of methods for research inquiry, problems amenable to investigation, and research utilization. Critical analysis of research, which uses quantitative and qualitative methodologies, and their integration, will be conducted and their implications will be explored.

Topics includes philosophic dimensions and processes of quantitative and qualitative research; research design; research control; sampling designs; data collection methods; reliability and validity in quantitative and qualitative research; triangulation.

NURS7003 Advanced Data Analysis and Management (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course provides the opportunity to examine the theoretical principles and practical knowledge required to design and implement strategies for data collection, analysis, interpretation and integration of quantitative and qualitative data. Computer programs for managing quantitative and qualitative data will be included.

Topics include descriptive and inferential statistics; advanced statistical procedures; content/textual analysis, analytic induction, hermeneutic analysis, constant comparison, phenomenological analysis; SPSS, NUD.IST, ethnograph.

NURS7004 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course assists the student in developing skills in health assessment consistent with advanced nursing practice for health evaluation, promotion and restoration. Principles and techniques from the physical and behavioral sciences are utilized to obtain assessment data and to make diagnoses of client concerns commonly encountered in health care settings.

Topics include interview and health history; assessment of growth and development; physical assessment techniques; general survey; assessment across the life span; family, culture and environmental assessment; community assessment.

NURS7005 Clinical Practicum I: Health Assessment, Maintenance and Promotion (3 credits - 120 clinical hours)

This clinical practicum assists the student to develop the ability to apply knowledge from theories, research, and practice associated with the biopsychosocial, spiritual and cultural phenomena in nursing, in the planning, implementation and evaluation of nursing care for selected populations. The phenomena to be explored are related to health assessment, health maintenance/disease prevention, and health promotion, from a developmental and systems perspective. Analysis of case studies derived from the students' clinical experiences will further emphasize the application of knowledge, from multiple sources, in the solution of complex clinical problems.

Topics include application of health assessment, health maintenance, health promotion for individuals, families and communities.

SECOND YEAR**NURS8001 Health Maintenance and Promotion** (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course provides the opportunity to analyze and evaluate theoretical frameworks and research findings related to developmentally-oriented, personal and population-based health maintenance and promotion. It will provide the necessary foundation for validating and/or evaluating relevant practice strategies and nursing interventions for a variety of populations in hospital and/or community settings.

Topics include community diversity, demography, and epidemiology; theories/models of health promotion; needs assessment; health promotion intervention and evaluation for individuals, families, communities; ethical dilemmas in practice.

NURS8002 Clinical Practicum II: Assessment and Management of Complex Health Concerns (3 credits - 120 clinical hours)

This clinical practicum assists the students to develop the ability to apply knowledge from theories, research and practice associated with the biopsychosocial, spiritual and cultural phenomena in nursing in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of nursing care for selected populations. The phenomena to be explored pertain to the advocacy for individuals, families and communities with complex health concerns who need integrated and coordinated health care interventions. Analysis of case studies, derived from the students' clinical experiences, will further emphasize the application of knowledge, from multiple sources, in the solution of complex clinical problems.

Topics include comprehensive assessment, analysis and incorporation of intervention in management of complex health/problems with a focus on populations; case management across health settings for a selected client base; pharmacotherapeutics.

NURS8003 Advanced Practice Roles in a Changing Health Care System (3 credits - 45 hours)

This course provides the students with the opportunity to critically examine the multiple roles of advanced nursing practice including the roles of educator, manager, researcher, consultant and entrepreneur. The independent, collaborative, and leadership roles of the advanced practice nurse are emphasized. Students will learn to integrate these roles in their clinical practice.

Topics include history of advanced practice nursing; roles of advanced practitioners; power, legal and ethical issues; scope and standards; credentialing and certification.

NURS8004 Clinical Practicum III: - Advanced Nursing Practice in Organizational Contexts
(3 credits – 120 clinical hours)

This clinical practicum develops the students' ability to analyze and synthesize knowledge from theory, research, and practice and apply it to meet the needs of a select population of patients. Systems analysis related to the planning and management of complex health problems and innovative approaches to client care and systems use will be emphasized. Role development of the advanced practice nurse in organizational contexts will be explored.

Topics include systems aspects related to management of complex health problems or risks, creative approaches to client care and systems use; organizational context of professional practice; pharmacotherapeutics.

NURS8010 Pharmacotherapeutics (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course provides an opportunity for students to analyze the theories, research, and principles of pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics and ethnopharmacology for the purpose of managing, monitoring and evaluating responses to medications for clients. Major classifications of medication will be examined for their indications, efficacy, therapeutic and adverse effects, monitoring parameters, dosage principles, and common drug interactions. The analysis and interpretation of current research and clinical practice, client advocacy, client education, and the potential contribution of nurses, within a multidisciplinary health care team, are included.

Topics include drug receptors and pharmacodynamics; pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics; biotransformation; autonomic drugs; cardiovascular drugs; renal drugs; drugs affecting smooth muscle; drugs affecting the CNS; drug treatment of hematological disorders, inflammation and gout; endocrine drugs; chemotherapeutic drugs; toxicology; geriatric pharmacology; perinatal and pediatric pharmacology; dermatologic drugs; GI drugs; over the counter medications; antibiotics, vaccines, immune globulins; psychotropic medications; drug interactions.

THIRD YEAR**NURS9008 Dissertation/Scholarly Project** (6 credits - 90 hours)

Under the guidance of a supervisor, the student will select and conduct a dissertation/scholarly project related to a population/clinical focus.

and ONE of the following:

NURS9001 Health Care Economics and Policy (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course assists students to develop skill in health care policy analysis and strategic planning for improved health care. Emphasis is placed on analyzing the impact of economic, political, legislative, and regulatory forces on the health of individuals, families, and communities and on the education and

practice of health professionals. The role of advanced practice nurses in financing, shaping, and improving health care delivery will be examined and political strategies which enhance their role in the policy-making process, in relation to selected health care issues, will be explored.

Topics include health care policy, frameworks and organization; health policy analysis and evaluation; economics and financing of health care, payment systems; health care reform; legislation, politics and their interrelationship.

NURS9002 Health Care Management (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course facilitates the examination of the structure and processes of the health care system and provides a comprehensive analysis of its multifaceted dimensions. It is designed to enable the student to function effectively as a leader in the dynamic environment of health care. Emphasis is on management practices affecting the advanced practice nurse including program planning and evaluation, population-based health care, and quality management in care delivery.

Topics include international health care systems, legal and ethical issues in health care administration, informatics; program planning and evaluation.

NURS9003 Instructional Design for Health Professionals (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course provides the opportunity to examine theories, models, principles and strategies in learning and instructional design which are of relevance to the Chinese learner in the contexts of patient education, nursing education, and staff development. Conceptualizations of the interrelationships among theory, research and practice are examined, and used to establish a scholarly basis for solving problems of educationally-oriented nursing practice.

Topics include learning theory, instructional theory and psychoeducational design; teaching/learning strategies; designing instructional systems for Chinese learners; models for relating research, development and practice.

NURS9004 Cultural Competence in Advanced Practice (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course provides a comparative study of prevalent cultures and subcultures in Hong Kong, and mainland China, in relation to their caring behavior, nursing care, health-illness values, beliefs and patterns of behavior. Emphasis will be placed on the analysis and synthesis of theory, research and practice associated with Western and Eastern traditions, most specifically associated with the health care of culturally diverse groups throughout the life cycle and using this knowledge as a basis for developing culturally relevant and sensitive nursing practices which will contribute to meeting the needs, and improving the health status, of individual, families, and groups.

Topics includes theoretical foundations of transcultural nursing; transcultural nursing care across the life cycle; research, clinical and ethical issues in transcultural nursing.

NURS9005 Complementary Therapies Across the Lifespan (3 credits - 45 hours) I

This course assists the students to analyze the clinical application of client controlled and client initiated therapies across the life span. Selected herbal, over-the-counter, and other therapies, such as aroma therapy and acupuncture, will be discussed and referenced to the research-based literature. The student will analyze therapies and identify their strengths, weaknesses, clinical indications, dosages, toxicities, and interactions. The role of the advanced practice nurse in advocacy, education and application of complementary therapies will be explored.

Topics include interview and complementary modality history taking; complementary therapies and their indications, dosages, toxicities and interactions; cultural implications of client choice and client control.

NURS9006 Ethical and Legal Issues in Advanced Practice (3 credits - 45 hours) I

Due primarily to advances in science and technology, traditional norms and values are being challenged by modern health care. This course will provide the student with the opportunity to analyze ethical and legal issues, and their interplay, which arise in everyday advanced practice. The questions and dilemmas posed by these issues, which profoundly effect health care professionals, patients, and society alike, and require new and effective ethical and sensitive solutions will be identified and analyzed. Strategies which increase the probability of ensuring consistency, quality, competency and safety to consumers of health services, while preserving respect for individual rights, human dignity, and the law will be generated, applied, and evaluated in clinical practice.

Topics includes ethics, ethical theory, the legal system in Hong Kong; accountability; advocacy; regulation of the nursing profession; professional competence, misconduct and malpractice; consent to treatment; patient and caregiver rights.

NURS9007 Elective (3 credits - 45 hours) I

Additional postgraduate elective courses may be offered which will be specified under this “Elective” course classification. These courses will be determined based on the changing social needs/trends, staff expertise and/or student interest. Special approval to register for an “elective” course must be obtained from the Department.