



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

This version produced 20 Dec 2007.

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at  
<<http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>>.

Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

### Description: Mental Health Nursing Care

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
NUR	2200	63209	1, 2007	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

**Academic group:**

FOSCI

**Academic org:**

FOS004

**Student contribution band:**

National Priority Nursing

**ASCED code:**

060305

### STAFFING

Moderator: Julie Harris

### REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: NUR2010

### RATIONALE

One in five Australians have a mental health problem and no matter where nurses are working, a holistic approach requires caring for a person's mental health. This includes working with individuals and groups of people who have a diagnosed mental illness, people suffering emotional distress as a result of stress, trauma, illness and/or hospitalisation, the families and loved ones of these people as well as the community in which they live. Effective, holistic practice develops via an integration of a range of learning including knowledge about self, the context of nursing, and subject matter knowledge. Nurses with an understanding and appreciation of the complexity of mental health issues in different practice settings, establish a solid foundation for enhancing their capacity to be a registered nurse.

### SYNOPSIS

This course enables students to acquire knowledge, develop attitudes and skills relevant to a critical understanding of individuals and groups with mental health problems. Emphasis is placed on contemporary nursing practice but students are expected to be able to place current practices within an historical context. Several other themes are addressed in the course, including an ethical framework for decision-making and critical self-analysis to explore the concepts of prejudice and stigma. The students will explore the most common and pervasive mental diseases burdening Australian society such as depression and suicide, substance-related disorders and anxiety. The nursing care of people with serious mental illness such as psychoses, affective disorders, personality disorders and eating disorders will be introduced. The mental health needs of special groups such as child and youth, older people, people from rural and isolated areas, ATSI, NESB, the homeless and the incarcerated will also be addressed. The clinical component of this course will be undertaken in NUR2599 Clinical C: Nursing Care for Mental Health. The overall nursing care focus will be on understanding the experience of the person with the mental illness as well as the condition.

## OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. debate historical changes in community response to mental illness including deinstitutionalisation, community based care and consumer participation (Exam).
2. critically reflect on personal and community attitudes to people with a mental illness (Exam).
3. discuss key ethical issues and controversies in caring for people with a mental illness including the rights of people with a mental illness (Assignment, Exam).
4. identify and describe a range of mental illnesses and plan and provide evidence-based nursing care (Assignment, Exam).
5. identify and address the mental health needs of special groups including child and youth, older people, people from rural and isolated areas, ATSI, NESB, the homeless and the incarcerated (Assignment, Exam).
6. communicate and network with multidisciplinary teams of health professionals skilled in mental health care when planning, delivering and assessing care of the person with a mental illness (Assignment, Exam).

## TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Past, current and future trends in mental health nursing care; Ethical issues and stigma.	20.00
2.	Common mental illnesses and nursing care including pharmacology	70.00
3.	Nursing people with a mental illness from special groups	10.00

## TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Elder, R, Evans, K & Nizette, D 2005, *Psychiatric and mental health nursing*, Elsevier, Sydney.

Tiziani, A 2006, *Havard's nursing guide to drugs*, 7th edn, Elsevier, Sydney.

## REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

1992, ' ' (Available: <http://www.legislation.qnc.qld.gov.au/upload/pdfs/Nursing Act 1992.pdf>).

'ANMC Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses in Australia' (Available: <http://www.qnc.qld.au/upload/pdfs/practice standards/Code of professional conduct for nurses.pdf>).

'ANMC National Competency Standards for the Registered Nurse' (Available: <http://www.qnc.qld.gov.au/upload/pdfs/practice standards/ANMC National>).

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Examinations	2.00
Lectures	26.00
Private Study	110.00
Tutorials	26.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT	100.00	30.00	30 Apr 2007 (see note 1)
EXAM PART A MULTIPLECHOICE CMA	35.00	35.00	END S1 (see note 2)
EXAM PART B: SHORT ANSWER	35.00	35.00	END S1

### NOTES

1. Assignment due date to be advised.
2. Examination dates will be available during the semester. Please refer to the examination timetable when published.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration. To ensure that students can satisfy the objectives in preparation for NUR2599 Clinical C, they must attend and actively participate in 80% of the tutorials prior to undertaking clinical experience.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive a passing grade in this course).
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 5% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each day late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
Submit all of the summative assessment items, achieve at least 50% in the examination and at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the combined summative assessment items.

- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course
- 6 Examination information:  
Exams in this course are restricted: Candidates are allowed access only to specific materials during a Restricted Examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the restricted examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination); Students whose first language is not English, may, take an appropriate unmarked non-electronic translation dictionary (but not technical dictionary) into the examination. Dictionaries with any handwritten notes will not be permitted. Translation dictionaries will be subject to perusal and may be removed from the candidate's possession until appropriate disciplinary action is completed if found to contain material that could give the candidate an unfair advantage.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during week two of the semester following this course offering and the examiner will advise students involved in writing of the date time and location of any such examination.
- 8 University Regulations:  
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

## ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.
- 2 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. If requested, students will be required to provide a copy of assignments submitted for assessment purposes. Such copies should be despatched to USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request being made.
- 3 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 4 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 5 Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non directed personal study.
- 6 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Students will require access to e-mail and internet access to USQConnect for this course.
  - 2 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonable be expected to have acquired before enrolling in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.
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