



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

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: Building Professional Nursing Attributes A

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
CMS	1008	75157	1, 2008	ONC	0.50	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOA003
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	National Priority Nursing
<b>ASCED code:</b>	060301

## STAFFING

Examiner: Jill Lawrence  
Moderator: Eleanor Kiernan

## REQUISITES

Co-requisite: MAT1008 and (NUR1120 or NUR1140)

## RATIONALE

First year students accessing and participating in the new university culture need to become familiar with, engage, master and demonstrate a range of new languages and literacies if they are to persevere and succeed, both at university and in their future professional nursing practices. These literacies/languages include mainstream university and discipline-specific learning, academic and information literacies. This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to help students access, master and demonstrate the learning, academic, critical and information literacies, principles and skills required by the academic and scientific fields generally and by the Department of Nursing in particular.

## SYNOPSIS

This course presents an introduction to the learning styles and practices and information, communication and academic practices which students need to develop and demonstrate if they are to perform competently at university, in the nursing discipline and in future professional nursing settings. In the course, students reflect on and develop their learning styles and critical practices, their information literacy and academic and communication practices as well as their capacities to develop and structure academic and scientific arguments. Their capacities to identify and critically analyse as well as develop sound academic arguments are also covered. As well students will commence building their professional portfolio.

## OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. identify, reflect on and build an online profile of their learning and study characteristics (All items of assessment)
2. reflect on and fine tune their learning styles and study practices to academic and nursing requirements and settings; (All items of assessment)
3. analyse academic and nursing tasks and develop, structure and edit logically argued and valid academic/scientific arguments using written communication; (All items of assessment)
4. develop an e- professional portfolio; (All items of assessment)

## TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Learning styles/practices (instant on-line profile of students learning and study characteristics): General self-efficacy (10 items) Proactive attitudes (11 items) Proactive coping skills (11 items) Kolb's Learning Style (48 items) or Index of Learning Styles (44 items) Approaches to learning and preferences for different types of courses and teaching (74 items) Strategic flexibility questionnaire (21 items) Conceptions of knowledge (42 items) Personality (50 items) Use of communication technologies in studies (15 items) Study Process Questionnaire (42 items) Numeracy and computing inventories (Assessment item 3)	10.00
2. Information literacy: article selection review and critique	20.00
3. Written communication in academic and nursing contexts	20.00
4. Reflective and critical thinking, logic and argumentation	20.00
5. Professional portfolios	30.00

## 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).

There is no set text for this course. Students are required to have access to the course web site, which will contain all study materials.

## 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.

Arnold, E & Underman Boggs, K 2003, *Interpersonal relationships: professional communication for nurses*, 4th edn, Saunders, St Louis.

Baker, E, Barrett, M & Roberts, L 2002, *Working communication*, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Qld.

Costantino, PM 2002, *Developing a professional teaching portfolio: a guide for success*, Allyn and Bacon, Boston.

Crisp, J & Taylor, C (eds) 2005, *Potter and Perry's fundamentals of nursing*, 2nd edn, Elsevier, Sydney.

DeVito, JA 2006, *Human communication skills: the basic course*, 10th edn, Pearson Education, Boston.

Hay, I, Bochner, D & Dungey, C 2002, *Making the grade: a guide to successful communication and study*, 2nd edn, Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Klopf, DW & McCroskey, JC 2007, *Intercultural communication encounters*, Pearson Education, Boston.

Mohan, T, McGregor, H, Saunders, S & Archee, R 2004, *Communicating as professionals*, Tomson, Victoria.

Rubin, BD & Stewart, LP 2006, *Communication and human behaviour*, 5th edn, Pearson Education, Boston.

Stein-Parbury, J 2000, *Patient and person: developing interpersonal skills in nursing*, 2nd edn, Churchill Livingstone, Sydney, NSW.

Tyler, S, Kossen, C & Ryan, C 2005, *Communication: a foundation course*, 2nd edn, Prentice Hall, Frenchs Forrest.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	34.00
Private Study	30.00
Tutorials or Workshops	18.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
PROFESSIONAL E- PORTFOLIO A	100.00	10.00	24 Mar 2008 (see note 1)
ARTICLE REVIEW/CRITIQUE	100.00	25.00	21 Apr 2008 (see note 2)
PROPOSAL/DRAFT NUR1120,1140	100.00	25.00	09 May 2008 (see note 3)
PROFESSIONAL E- PORTFOLIO B	100.00	40.00	13 Jun 2008 (see note 4)

### NOTES

1. This assessment item relates to all of the Objectives.
2. This assessment item relates to Objectives 2, 3 & 4.
3. This assessment item relates to Objectives 2, 3 & 4.
4. This assessment item relates to all of the Objectives.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
It is the student's 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. For this course, normal class attendance consists of one 2 hour tutorial every 2 weeks.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a penalty of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each of the first FIVE working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks for all summative assessment.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks / grades obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:  
There is no exam for this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by the examiner.
- 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>

## ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) All Faculty of Arts assignments on the Toowoomba campus must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. Assignments at the Wide Bay campus must be lodged at the front office assignment slot at A block. (c) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience. (d) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (e) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due

date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (f) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). 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. (g) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the 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).

10 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this information.)

11 Students will require access to email, internet, and to USQ Connect for this course

### **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Students who have successfully completed the Excell intercultural program will be granted an extra 5 marks.
  - 2 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this information.)
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