



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: Social Determinants of Health

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
NUR	1120	86907	1, 2009	ONC	1.00	Fraser Coast

Academic group:	FOSCI
Academic org:	FOS004
Student contribution band:	National Priority Nursing
ASCED code:	060301

STAFFING

Examiner: Lyn Forrest
Moderator: Lisa Beccaria

RATIONALE

Fundamental to nursing practice is an understanding of how health and illness can be conceptualised and what factors determine health at an individual, community and population level. Providing holistic care is also dependent on the nurse developing an understanding of how an individual's health or experience of ill health may be influenced by developmental life stages. To meet changing health care demands, nurses need to have an understanding of how different models and frameworks used to respond to health priorities are used within the context of the Australian Health Care System.

SYNOPSIS

Students will be able to describe how health, illness and wellness can be conceptualised and how these concepts can be applied in terms of contemporary health models, theories and frameworks. Students will be able to identify a range of determinants which may impact on health and behaviour including social / psychological/ biological/ and environmental. In addition students will also begin to develop knowledge of how social influences, health beliefs and human developmental stages and changes can also impact on an individual's experience of health or ill health. Students will also begin to develop knowledge of a nurse's role in preventing illness and promoting health and apply this at an individual and community / population level. Students will be able to identify significant major health issues in Australia including indigenous, rural health and lifespan issues. Students in this course will develop critical thinking skills by exploring how a determinants approach can be incorporated into their nursing practice.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Describe how health and illness can be conceptualised (including lay perspectives, models, frameworks and theories of health, wellbeing and illness) (Assignment, Group Presentation, Exam)

2. Identify and describe significant health issues in Australia (Group Oral Presentation, Exam)
3. Compare and contrast determinants of health between specific populations e.g. Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, urban Vs rural (Group Oral Presentation; Exam)
4. Locate and retrieve appropriate literature from a variety of sources to examine a significant health issue; (Group Presentation)
5. Apply knowledge of human developmental stages, changes and events for people experiencing ill health and also in promoting health across the lifespan (Exam)
6. Describe the variables which may influence an individual's behaviour and how this may affect an individual and their family (Exam)
7. Discuss the role of power and politics in the provision of health care and health related policies of the Australian Health Care System; (Group Presentation; Exam))
8. Apply understandings of a determinants of health approach to individuals for the purpose of providing holistic care (Exam)

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Understanding health, illness and wellbeing (Defining health, Wellness, sickness, and illness)	10.00
2.	Contemporary Models of Health and Illness	10.00
3.	Determinants of Health (Social /Psychological// Biological/ Environmental)	15.00
4.	Health in Australia (Health and illness patterns, Contemporary health issues)	15.00
5.	Responding to Health Priorities (Health promotion and Illness prevention)	10.00
6.	Individuals' responses to ill health	15.00
7.	Factors affecting Health and Behaviour	15.00
8.	The nurse and health care	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).

Jones, K & Creedy, D 2007, *Health and human behaviour: an introduction*, 2nd edn, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.

Keleher, H & MacDougall, C 2008, *Understanding health: a social determinants approach*, 2nd edn, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.

USQ Publication 2008, 'Instruction guide' (Available: USQ StudyDesk).

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.

Germov, J 2005, *Second opinion: an introduction to health sociology*, 3rd edn, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.

Keleher, H & MacDougall, C 2008, *Understanding health : A Social determinants Approach*, 2nd edn, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.

Peterson, C 2005, *Looking forward through the lifespan*, 4th edn, Prentice Hall, Frenchs Forrest, N.S.W.

Rogers-Clark, C, Martin-McDonald, K & McCarthy, A (eds) 2005, *Living with illness: psychosocial challenges for nursing*, Churchill Livingstone, Sydney.

Smith, J 2007, *Australia's rural and remote health: a social justice perspective*, 2nd edn, Tertiary Press, Croydon, Victoria.

Willis, K & Elmer, S 2007, *Society, Culture and Health: An Introduction to Sociology for Nurses*, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assignment or Projects	50.00
Lectures	13.00
Online Discussion Groups	13.00
Private Study	40.00
Tutorials	26.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
SELF REFLECT U'standing Health	20.00	20.00	30 Mar 2009
GROUP LEARNING CONTRACT	5.00	3.00	24 Apr 2009
ORAL PRESENTATION	20.00	12.00	29 May 2009 (see note 1)
FINAL CONTRIBUTION DOCUMENT	25.00	15.00	29 May 2009
PT A OF 2HR RESTRICT EXAM CMA	40.00	25.00	END S1 (see note 2)
PT B OF 2HR RESTRICTED EXAM SA	20.00	25.00	END S1 (see note 3)

NOTES

1. Oral presentations will be delivered between weeks 12 & 13 Marks will be allocated for Oral (Presentation) & Written Components (Group Learning Contract & My Final Contribution Document)
2. Exam will be held during the end of semester examination period (date to be advised)
3. Exam will be held during the end of semester examination period (date to be advised)

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, on-line topic exploration) 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.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To satisfactorily complete an assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the mark. Refer to Statement 4 below for the requirements 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 gained by the student for the assignment will apply for each working day late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 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 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 the next examination period 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

- 9 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.
- 10 In accordance with USQ Regulation 5.6 Assessment 5.6.10 Resubmission of Assessment Items, students will be allowed to resubmit the following item for re-assessment: (Assessment #1).
- 11 In accordance with University Policy, the Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 12 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 13 Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements.
- 14 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.
- 15 Students may be required to provide a copy of assignments submitted for assessment purposes. Such copies should be dispatched to the USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request to do so.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students will require access to e-mail and internet access to USQConnect for this course. Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonably 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.