



MCAST



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

MQF/EQF Level 6

AS6-04-21

**Northumbria University Bachelor of Science
(Honours) in Nursing Studies**

Course Description

This Northumbria University programme offered in collaboration with MCAST provides learners with the necessary competences and qualifications required to register as a Level 1 Staff Nurse in Malta and across all EU member states. Learners will pursue a minimum of 2,300 hours of theoretical work and 2,300 hours of practical work (most of which is carried out on placement) as stipulated by EU directive 2005/36/EC, leading to a clinically skilled and compassionate nurse with professional values and who is fully capable of taking on accountable responsibility. Learners must successfully pass all theoretical and practical components of the course to be eligible for registration.

Programme Learning Outcomes

At the end of the programme the students are able to:

- 1. Practise in a safe, professional, compassionate, caring and respectful way, advocating for the people in the learner's care and maintaining their dignity and wellbeing;*
- 2. Undertake nursing assessment of health status, care planning, delivery and evaluation of nursing care to provide patients and families with effective holistic, evidence-based, person centred nursing care;*
- 3. Work collaboratively in teams with nurses and other health and social care professionals, contributing to shared decision making and partnership working;*
- 4. Promote the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities through raising awareness of health needs and facilitating health enhancing activities;*
- 5. Use lifelong learning, key skills and other research skills to inform learner's practice and facilitate learner's ongoing continuing professional development; supporting others with theirs;*
- 6. Demonstrate organisational, management and leadership skills in the delivery of high quality nursing care.*

Entry Requirements

MCAST Advanced Diploma in Health Sciences

or

MCAST Advanced Diploma for Pharmacy Technicians

or

2 A-Level passes and 2 I-Level passes.

Preferred A-Levels: Biology, English, Psychology, Sociology, Chemistry

Preferred I-Levels: Chemistry, Mathematics, Sociology.

Other Entry Requirements

Applicants will be subject to an occupational health screening and a values-based competitive interview to establish the suitability of candidates for nursing and that will ultimately act towards the final selection of candidates. Learners must also provide evidence of a clear criminal conduct.

Key Information

Awarding Body - MCAST & Northumbria University

Accreditation Status - Accredited via MCAST's Self Accreditation Process (MCAST holds Self-Accrediting Status as per 1st schedule of Legal Notice 296/2012)

Type of Programme: Qualification

MQF Level	Examples of Qualifications	'Qualification' Minimum Credits Required	'Award' Credits Required
Level 8	Doctoral Degree Third Cycle Bologna Process	NA	NA
Level 7	Masters Second Cycle Bologna Process	90-120	Less than 30
	Post-Graduate Diploma	60	
	Post-Graduate Certificate	30	
Level 6	Bachelor ²³ /Bachelor (Hons.) ²⁴ First Cycle Bologna Process	180-240	Less than 180
Level 5	Short Cycle Qualification	120	Less than 60
	Undergraduate Higher Diploma	90	
	Undergraduate Diploma	60	
	Undergraduate Certificate	30	
	VET Level 5 Programme ²⁵	60-120	
Level 4	Pre-Tertiary Certificate	30	Less than 120
	VET Level 4 Programme ²⁶	120	
	MATSEC Certificate	NA	
Level 3	VET Level 3 Programme ²⁷	60	Less than 60
	General and Subject Certificate	NA	
Level 2	VET Level 2 Programme ²⁸	60	Less than 60
	General and Subject Certificate	NA	
Level 1	VET Level 1 Programme ²⁹	40	Less than 40
	General and Subject Certificate	NA	
Introductory Level A	Preparatory Programme	30	Less than 30
Introductory Level B	Pre-entry Basic Skills Course	30	Less than 30

Table 1: Minimum number of credits for 'Qualifications' and parameters for 'Awards'

Fig.1: p56, Ministry for Education and Employment & National Commission for Further and Higher Education Malta (2016). *Referencing Report, 4th Edition*. NCFHE.

Total number of Hours: 4500

Mode of attendance: Full Time

Duration: 3 Years

Target audience for MCAST full-time courses is 16 to 65+

The official language of instruction at MCAST is English. All notes and textbooks are in English (except for language courses which will be in the respective language being

instructed). International candidates will be requested to meet English language certification requirements for access to the course.

This course will be offered at

MCAST has four campuses as follows:

MCAST Main Campus

Triq Kordin, Paola, Malta

All courses except for the Institute for the Creative Arts, Centre of Agriculture, Aquatics and Animal Sciences are offered here.

Institute for the Creative Arts

Mosta Campus

Misraħ Ghonoq Targa Gap,

Mosta

Institute of Applied Sciences,

Centre of Agriculture, Aquatics and Animal Sciences,

Luqa Road, Qormi

Gozo Campus

J.F. De Chambray Street

MCAST, Għajnsielem

Gozo

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The programmes offered are vocational in nature and entail both theoretical lectures delivered in classes as well as practical elements that are delivered in laboratories, workshops, salons, simulators as the module requirements dictate.

Each module or unit entails a number of in person and/or online contact learning hours that are delivered by the lecturer or tutor directly (See also section 'Total Learning Hours').

Access to all resources is provided to all registered students. These include study resources in paper or electronic format through the Library and Resource Centre as well as tools, software, equipment and machinery that are provided by the respective institutes depending on the requirements of the course or module.

Students may however be required to provide consumable material for use during practical sessions and projects unless these are explicitly provided by the College.

All Units of study are assessed throughout the academic year through continuous assessment using a variety of assessment tools. Coursework tasks are exclusively based on the Learning Outcomes and Grading Criteria as prescribed in the course specification. The Learning Outcomes and Grading Criteria are communicated to the Student via the coursework documentation.

The method of assessment shall reflect the Level, credit points (ECTS) and the schedule of time-tabled/non-timetabled hours of learning of each study unit. A variety of assessment instruments, not solely Time Constrained Assignments/Exams, are used to gather and interpret evidence of Student competence toward pre-established grading criteria that are aligned to the learning outcomes of each unit of the programme of study.

Grading criteria are assessed through a number of tasks, each task being assigned a number of marks. The number of grading criteria is included in the respective Programme Specification.

The distribution of marks and assessment mode depends on the nature and objectives of the unit in question.

Coursework shall normally be completed during the semester in which the Unit is delivered.

Time-constrained assignments may be held between 8 am and 8 pm during the delivery period of a Unit, or at the end of the semester in which the Unit is completed. The dates are notified and published on the Institute notice boards or through other means of communication.

Certain circumstances (such as but not limited to the Covid 19 pandemic) may lead Institutes and Centres to hold teaching and assessment remotely (online) as per MCAST QA Policy and Standard for Online Teaching, Learning and Assessment (Doc 020) available via link <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/>

The Programme Regulations referenced below apply. (DOC 005 available at: link <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/>

Total Learning Hours

The total learning hours required for each unit or module are determined as follows:

Credits (ECTS)	Indicative contact hours	Total Student workload (hrs)	Self-Learning and Assessment Hours
1	5 - 10 hrs	25 hrs	20-15 hrs*
2	10 - 20 hrs	50 hrs	40-30 hrs*
3	15 - 30 hrs	75 hrs	60-45 hrs*
4	20 - 40 hrs	100 hrs	80-60 hrs*
6	30 - 60 hrs	150 Hrs	120-90 hrs*
9	45 - 90 hrs	225 hrs	180-135 hrs*
12	60 - 120 hrs	300 hrs	240-180 hrs*

* The 'Self-Learning and Assessment Hours' amount to the difference between the contact hours and total student workload.

Grading system

All MCAST programmes adopt a learner centred approach through the focus on Learning Outcomes. The assessment of MCAST programmes is criterion-referenced and thus assessors are required to assess learners' evidence against a pre-determined set of Learning Outcomes and assessment criteria.

For a student to be deemed to have successfully passed a unit, a minimum of 50% (grade D) must be achieved. In case of part time programmes, the student must achieve a minimum of 45% to successfully pass the unit.

All units are individually graded as follows:

A* (90-100)

A (80-89)

B (70-79)

C (60-69)

D (50-59)

Unsatisfactory work is graded as 'U'.

Work-based learning units are graded on a Pass/Fail basis only.

Detailed information regarding the grading system may be found in the following document: DOC 005 available at: link <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/>

Intake Dates

- MCAST opens calls for application once a year between July and August of each year for prospective applicants residing in MALTA.
- Applications to full-time courses from international students not residing in MALTA are accepted between April and Mid-August.
- For exact dates re calls for applications please follow this link <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/online-applications-2/>

Course Fees

MCAST course are free for Maltese and EU candidates. International candidates coming from outside the EU need to pay fees for the respective course. Course fees are set on a per-level and course duration basis. For access to course fee structure and payment methods please visit <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/fee-payments-for-non-eu-candidates/>.

Method of Application

Applications to full-time courses are received online via the College Management Information System. Candidates can log in using Maltese Electronic ID (eID) or European eIDAS (electronic identification and trust services) to access the system directly and create an account as the identity is verified electronically via these secure services.

Non-EU candidates need to request account creation through an online form by providing proof of identification and basic data. Once the identity is verified and the account is created the candidate may proceed with the online application according to the same instructions applicable to all other candidates.

Non-EU candidates require a study visa in order to travel to Malta and join the course applied for. For further information re study-visa please access <https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visa-unit/>.

For access to instructions on how to apply online please visit <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/online-applications-2/>

Academic qualification leading to a Regulated Profession

Council for Nurses and Midwives (Malta),
St. Luke's Hospital,
Ex- OPD (Level 1), St. Luke's Square,
Gwardamangia PTA 1010

Contact details for requesting further information about future learning opportunities:

MCAST Career Guidance

Tel: 2398 7135/6

Email: career.guidance@mcast.edu.mt

Current Approved Programme Structure

Unit Code	Unit Title	ECTS	Year	Semester
NS0429	Lifelong Learning for Professional Practice	10	1	1
NS0430	Fundamentals of Nursing Care	10	1	2
NS0431	Public Health in Contemporary Nursing	10	1	1
NS0432	Care, Compassion and Communication in Nursing Practice	10	1	2
NS0433	Practice Learning 1	20	1	1&2
NS0530	Applied Health and Life Sciences	10	2	1
NS0531	Developing and Applying Knowledge and Skills for Nursing Care	10	2	1
NS0532	Evidence Based Nursing	10	2	2
NS0533	Values and Principles for Nursing People across their Lifespan	10	2	2
NS0534	Practice Learning 2	20	2	1&2
NS0627	Foundations of Teaching and Assessing in Nursing Practice	10	3	1
NS0628	Leading and Improving Nursing Practice	10	3	2
NS0630	Practice Learning 3	20	3	1&2
NS0629	Nursing Dissertation	20	3	1&2
Total ECTS		180	/	

NS0429 Lifelong Learning for Professional Practice

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5

Credits: 10

Delivery Mode: Face to Face

Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

In this module you will begin your development as a lifelong learner. You will consider the skills and attributes required for your own continuing professional development as a student in Higher Education and to aid your future employability as a First Level Nurse. You will develop the skills to write academically including how to reference appropriately and accurately within a Higher Education context. You will develop an understanding of how different sources of knowledge can be used to support professional nursing practice with patients and clients of all ages, with diverse health and nursing needs including: older people; pregnant and post-natal women; people with mental health needs or learning disabilities. This will include an introduction to research and evidence based practice, where you will begin to learn how to critically read and analyse evidence and reflect on relevant professional issues. Your digital literacy skills will be enhanced through the use of online resources, electronic library materials, accessing 'Skills Plus', an online library learning service, completing online student activities and electronic submission of assignments and access to feedback. The “flipped classroom” will enable you to learn to work independently and in groups on structured activities drawing on knowledge you have already gained from online activity. This will equip you with the skills to fully engage with and participate in subsequent face to face learning at MCAST, in practice or in virtual classrooms. This model will be replicated in modules throughout the programme. The assessment method used within the module is specifically designed to help you develop your academic writing and it feed forward into subsequent assessments

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Demonstrate an ability to write in an academic style, utilising an appropriate referencing system and understand the implications of academic misconduct.*
2. *Develop effective searching techniques and retrieve and utilise information from a variety of professional sources.*
3. *Recognise different forms of evidence and research and understand their importance in supporting professional nursing practice with patients and clients of all ages with diverse health and nursing needs.*
4. *Reflect on the relevant skills and attributes required for you to be an effective lifelong learner within your professional nursing role with patients and clients of all ages with diverse health and nursing needs.*
5. *Recognise your personal and professional responsibility for continuing professional development as part of lifelong learning within nursing.*

NS0430 Fundamentals of Nursing Care

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5
Credits: 10
Delivery Mode: Face to Face
Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

This module will enable you to gain a knowledge and understanding of contemporary healthcare issues and to develop an appreciation the role of the nurse as a provider and facilitator of care with patients and clients of all ages with diverse health and nursing needs. You will explore the fundamental philosophy, concepts and values that underpin nursing practice and explore the challenges faced by nursing in contemporary healthcare delivery. Some of the teaching strategies that you will be involved in will include experiential learning, simulation, peer group activity and practice skill development. You will be assessed informally during a peer group project that will provide feedback on your knowledge and understanding. This will aid in the completion of the formal assessment which is a 2000 word essay. Both forms of assessment will allow you to articulate your individual emerging perspective on the nature of nursing practice and its relationship to the healthcare context.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

- 1. Identify the unique contribution of nursing to the provision of health care and the wellbeing of individuals in contemporary society and across the lifespan with diverse health and nursing needs.*
- 2. Describe the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to contribute to person/patient focused, holistic nursing care with patients and clients of all ages with diverse health and nursing needs including: surgical and medical problems, pregnancy and childbirth and people with mental health needs or learning disabilities.*
- 3. Recognise the valuable contribution that you can make to nursing and the delivery of safe, evidence-based practice*

- 4. Understand the moral and ethical challenges to the nursing profession in the pursuit of safe, effective person/patient focused care delivery in diverse care delivery contexts*

NS0431 Public Health in Contemporary Nursing

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5

Credits: 10

Delivery Mode: Face to Face

Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

Promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities and facilitating health enhancing activities is a pre-requisite of the nursing role and this module aims to provide you with the knowledge and skills to undertake this role successfully. In this module you will be introduced to key concepts in contemporary public health. In line with research rich learning, you will explore the contemporary evidence base that underpins the discipline of public health and use this to understand and apply this to your nursing role. You will develop key transferrable skills including the ability to appraise evidence as well as communication and presentation skills. You will be able to explore epidemiological and demographic data in regard to a geographic/service user population relevant to your role as a nurse. The relationship between wider determinants of health, wellbeing and health inequalities will be explored incorporating skills required to understand and complete a small scale health needs assessment. You will consider a range of health promotion approaches and models. Your learning will be supported via classroom based teaching, seminars and practical sessions, as well as electronic resources and self- directed learning supported by the e-Learning Portal. Strategies to support behaviour change will be appraised in order for you to develop your skills to utilise these strategies in your professional practice, enhancing your employability. You will have the opportunity to apply and practice your emerging skills both with the classroom setting and during your practice placement and you will be assessed via an essay about your public health nursing role with a patient and/or population group relevant to your practice.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Understand and explore fundamental concepts and principles in relation to contemporary public health theory and practice.*
2. *Access, appraise and communicate contemporary evidence in order to develop subject specific knowledge and appropriate strategies for public health nursing practice with individuals, families and communities of all ages with diverse health and nursing needs including: those that require care within hospital and community settings; paediatrics and maternity care.*
3. *Consider and develop strategies and fundamental nursing skills to promote public health*
4. *Demonstrate your ability to make sound evidence based judgements, challenging your own opinions and those of others to engage with the public health nursing role.*
5. *Work independently and collaboratively, identifying your own and the developmental needs of others to successfully undertake the public health role of the nurse.*

NS0432 Care, Compassion and Communication in Nursing Practice

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5
Credits: 10
Delivery Mode: Face to Face
Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

The module will enhance your professional approach and clinical skills required in order to provide compassionate, individualised, person centred holistic care to adult and children of all ages, those who are pregnant and families with diverse health and nursing needs. You will be confident in practice, knowing that your learning within the module lectures, seminars and practical sessions is based on theory and research evidence. The learning and teaching approaches utilise Technology Enhanced Learning which will help develop your information literacy skills which are crucial in contemporary healthcare. You will engage in self and peer reflection via experiential practical skills workshops and simulated care activities, leading to your viva assessment. These strategies will increase your self-awareness and facilitate your development as a caring and compassionate student nurse and future registrant who demonstrates effective communication with patients, relatives and colleagues. The transferable skills that you will practise during the module and the ongoing building and honing of these skills during the programme will equip you for the requirements of professional practice and future employment

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Demonstrate understanding of the importance of the underpinning principles of care, compassion, and communication in the provision of person-centred holistic care for adults and children of all ages, those who are pregnant and families who have varying needs.*
2. *Discuss the concepts of care, compassion, and communication with emphasis on the use of appropriate language and behaviour to demonstrate professional conduct.*
3. *Demonstrate appropriate professional values, expected attitudes and behaviours towards other people.*
4. *Employ reflective and analytical skills in relation to your own practice, demonstrated via a simulated nurse/patient interaction.*
5. *Explore your own attitudes and values utilising the process of reflective practice and development of self-awareness within your professional role as a nurse who is fit for practice in a wide range of nursing contexts*

NS0433 Practice Learning 1

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5
Credits: 10
Delivery Mode: Face to Face
Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

On this module you will learn a range of evidence based professional skills required for registration and employment as a nurse. Specifically, you will be exploring key themes around becoming a safe, effective and efficient healthcare professional and utilising evidence based information to inform your safe practice nursing children and adults. Themes in this module will include: communication and collaboration with other professionals and agencies; the concept of health; and assessment of health or care needs to ensure patient safety including patients with diverse health and nursing needs including acute medical or surgical care and patients being cared for within the community and/or accessing maternity services. Research rich learning relevant to professional practice will be enabled through face to face and technology enhanced learning, undertaken in both the classroom and in the practice learning setting, where you will be supported by a mentor who is a qualified experienced registered nurse. A range of formative assessment strategies will be used in practice to support your learning towards the summative assessment where you will be expected to demonstrate to your mentor and your personal tutor that you have achieved the learning outcomes of the module. This will include collating a record of your achievements and learning within your personal reflective portfolio which is the starting point to prepare you for future employment and lifelong learning.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Display professional behaviour through the development of your nursing identity and maintain expected professional standards.*
2. *Demonstrate that you are engaging in lifelong learning and beginning the preparation for life as a registered, reflective practitioner*
3. *Be able to discuss a range of evidence/research that underpins nursing practice with people from a range of ages and diverse health needs including adults, children and maternity care needs and those patients cared for within hospital and community settings.*
4. *Apply evidence to perform a range of practical skills in a safe and effective way in a range of clinical settings.*
5. *Identify the impact of nursing assessment and intervention on the health, wellbeing and safety of patients and families of all ages including those in acute, community and maternity care settings*
6. *Demonstrate compassionate, person centred, ethical patient care.*

NS0530 Applied Health and Life Sciences

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5

Credits: 10

Delivery Mode: Face to Face

Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

This is an exciting module to study as it enhances and furthers your knowledge in respect of the systems of the body. Through previous study and/or tutor guided independent learning in module NS0429 you will have studied normal anatomy and physiology. In this module you will be exploring the diseases and conditions affecting individuals when systems of the body are no longer working to their full potential. The research based lectures, seminars and directed study material all aim to give you insight into applying what you know about anatomy and physiology to the main health problems that require nursing intervention. You will be well supported throughout this module with technology enabled directed study material, face-to-face lectures and seminars where peer group support is encouraged. The formative activity prepares you for the exam. You will also be supported by the module team where you are offered an online group tutorial prior to the exam. The module material will be based on the most up to date research giving a rationale for studying specific diseases in preparing you for employment as a registered nurse.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the most common conditions and diseases affecting the Maltese population including older people, patients with mental health needs or a learning disability and those requiring acute, critical or emergency care*
2. *Appraise a range of diseases affecting the global population following a systems approach*
3. *Be able to access and use a range of online material and resources to enhance your classroom based and independent learning*
4. *Apply knowledge to a nursing context demonstrating understanding of a range of diseases and their nursing management*
5. *Evaluate ethical and global influences on health and well-being of patients with a variety of conditions, taking a holistic, professional, non-judgemental nursing perspective*

NS0531 Developing and Applying Knowledge and Skills for Nursing Care

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5
Credits: 10
Delivery Mode: Face to Face
Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

This module will provide you with the foundations on which to build your knowledge and skills in the safe nursing care of patients of all ages requiring, acute, critical or emergency intervention including: children; adults and older people; those utilising maternity services, people with mental health needs and people with needs associated with their learning disabilities. The module is designed to enable you to apply acquired research rich knowledge and skills to effectively to assess, plan, implement and evaluate the holistic, person-centred care of patients in critical and emergency settings due to its strong practice focus.

Taught by experts in the subject, engagement with this module will increase your knowledge of the evidence base for practice and your ability to analyse nursing interventions and make clinical judgements effectively. This will enhance your skills for employment as a nurse in diverse practice settings. You will be supported in your learning during the module through feedback on technology enabled and face to face formative assessment activities in order to prepare you for your summative assessment which asks you to examine the care of a patient in a an acute, critical or emergency situation.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

- 1. Apply knowledge of the pathophysiology underpinning illness and disease trajectories requiring emergency intervention in order to anticipate the needs of the patient including: children; adults and older people; people with mental health needs and people with needs associated with their learning disabilities.*

2. *Analyse and apply current evidence based frameworks that underpin contemporary emergency and critical care nursing.*
3. *Apply clinical judgement and problem solving skills when appraising options and providing care for the acutely or critically ill patient in order to recognise and respond to their changing needs.*
4. *Recognise the impact of acute and critical illness episodes on the patient and their family.*
5. *Demonstrate understanding of ethical and legal frameworks underpinning your nursing care.*

NS0532 Evidence Based Nursing

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5

Credits: 10

Delivery Mode: Face to Face

Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

This module offers you an opportunity to get actively engaged with research; to understand its breadth, its scope and application as evidence underpinning the delivery of high quality, safe, effective nursing care with people of all ages including: children; older people; pregnant and post-natal women; people with mental health needs and people with needs associated with their learning disabilities. You will learn from academic staff, some of whom are active researchers and each other about how knowledge can be both produced and critically evaluated to continuously improve the care experience of patients and families. You will learn in small group seminars and workshops about different types of research and its uses. You will also be expected to engage with technology enabled, tutor guided, independent learning in preparation for the workshops to help you maximise your learning journey through the module. Formative activities and independent learning undertaken can be documented in a workbook that will support your summative module assessment. The workbook contains four sections, relating to: different approaches to evidence generation and research in nursing; frameworks for appraising published research; and ethical considerations in research.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

- 1. Analyse and appraise the key features of methodological design in both qualitative and quantitative approaches to research in the evidence-base for health care*
- 2. Apply recognised frameworks for the critical appraisal of published research for evidence-based practice and use research terminology appropriately*
- 3. Evaluate evidence via the evidence-based practice cycle and be able to relate and justify this to the practice of healthcare and nursing practice with people of all ages and in a variety of healthcare settings*
- 4. Critically reflect on the importance of safeguarding vulnerable groups through ethically conducted research*

NS0533 Values and Principles for Nursing People across their Lifespan

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5

Credits: 10

Delivery Mode: Face to Face

Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

The knowledge you will gain on this module will support you to engage in holistic, person centred, relationship centred and individualised approaches to caring for people during different stages in their life span. You will learn about how the healthcare needs of an individual change as they age and how your skills and knowledge can help overcome the complexities of care delivery and support both physical and mental wellbeing. You will develop skills to aid you deliver evidence based nursing care across a range of healthcare setting using contemporary research results. Together with face to face teaching activity from academics who have expertise and passion for caring for a range of individuals across the life span, supplementary technology enabled resources will support your learning. The module aims to provide you with a comprehensive insight into a range of contemporary issues related to caring people of all ages and equip you with foundational skills to practice effectively and care for any person during their life with compassion. These skills and knowledge are essential to your future employment as a nurse.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

- 1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the global context of ageing, the biological impact of the ageing process, the pathophysiology of relevant disease processes and the associated evidence based nursing care management of people across their life span.*
- 2. Appraise the holistic, unique, and complex physical, mental, social and emotional needs of a person at different stages in their life span.*
- 3. Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary evidence based, person centred and relationship focused approaches to individualise nursing care*

4. *Analyse and apply evidence based approaches to caring for a person, within and across a range of health care contexts*
5. *Critically reflect on the significance of the values, attitudes and holistic approaches that nurses require, in order to deliver evidence based, individualised care for individuals at different stages of their life span.*

NS0534 Practice Learning 2

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 5

Credits: 20

Delivery Mode: Face to Face

Total Learning Hours: 500

Unit Description

On this year long module you will continue to learn a range of evidence based professional skills required for registration and employment as a nurse working with people of all ages including: older people; people with mental health needs; people with needs associated with their learning disabilities and patients requiring acute or critical care. You will update your mandatory skills and explore and evaluate evidence that informs your safe and effective practice. Research rich learning will enable you to explore risk assessment and management and understand the skills needed for effective collaborative working. During the module you will examine and evaluate a range of tools used to support nursing practice. Classroom and online based activity will support your learning in the practice setting, where you will be supported by a mentor who is a qualified experienced registered nurse. A range of formative assessment strategies will be used in practice to support your learning and provide feedback on your performance. You will also be encouraged to effectively reflect on feedback and develop your own personal learning plan. In your time on clinical placement you will be able to practice a range of evidence based nursing competencies essential to your future career. The module will culminate with a tripartite assessment where you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your increasing knowledge base and illustrate how you have met the module learning outcomes

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Appraise research and evidence underpinning professional skills required to provide safe, effective, and efficient practice to adults and children, including understanding the concept of risk in healthcare delivery*
2. *Evaluate contemporary theories and evidence based tools which impact on nursing practice*
3. *Demonstrate safe practice skills including an evidence based appreciation of risk assessment and management including considerations relating to older people, people with mental health needs and patients requiring acute and/or critical care*
4. *Demonstrate collaborative working skills with patients of all ages, families and other professionals evaluating how collaboration improves patient safety*
5. *Demonstrate compassionate, person centred, ethical patient care appreciating the complexity of practice*
6. *Display professional behaviour and maintain expected professional standards*
7. *Identify your own strengths and areas for development, illustrating you are preparing for life as a registered, reflective practitioner*

NS0627 Foundations of Teaching and Assessing in Nursing Practice

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 6
Credits: 10
Delivery Mode: Face to Face
Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

During this module you will develop your knowledge, skills and expertise in teaching and assessing individuals and groups of both patients and other learners, including healthcare workers, in a classroom environment and a nursing practice environment. This will include critical evaluation of key theoretical concepts underpinning learning, teaching and assessment. Building on and deepening prior learning you will further develop a more critical understanding of how patient education in hospital and in primary care can influence ill health prevention and the health and wellbeing of children and adults including: people with mental health needs and learning disabilities; and pregnant women. This will include a critical analysis of the barriers and enablers to your nursing role in helping patients learn and change their behaviour. You will engage with highly experienced teachers in lectures and seminars delivered online and face to face. This will include opportunities to practice your teaching skills and gain feedback on your development as a teacher which is an important aspect of the nursing role. You will be assessed by undertaking 3 episodes of teaching/ learning facilitation with other healthcare workers and patients to demonstrate your skills in this role. You will also submit a reflective critique of your performance as a teacher and identify your future learning needs.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Articulate a sound theoretical evidence base for your learning, teaching and assessment activities with a range of learners including healthcare workers and patients of all ages, with varying needs*
2. *Demonstrate a critical understanding of the factors that can influence the outcome of patient education activities in hospital and primary care settings and strategies to address these*
3. *Plan, deliver and evaluate high quality teaching and learning activities with other members of the interprofessional healthcare team reflecting critically on your own continuing professional learning needs*
4. *Critically appraise health needs, plan, deliver and evaluate education activities with healthcare workers, individual patients and patient groups to promote health and well being and ill health prevention.*
5. *Act in a professional, emotionally intelligent, ethical manner in a range of learning, teaching and assessment contexts.*

NS0628 Leading and Improving Nursing Practice

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 6

Credits: 10

Delivery Mode: Face to Face

Total Learning Hours: 250

Unit Description

This module will prepare you to develop your skills and knowledge in relation to leading and improving nursing practice in a range of settings. We provide opportunities for you to critically reflect and debate contemporary theories and explore service improvement models which support sustainable service improvement in nursing practice with people of all ages including: children; older people; pregnant and post-natal women; people with mental health needs and people with needs associated with their learning disabilities. You will critically explore the contributory role of collaboration and partnership working, with a variety of people of all ages including service users and carers, and other professionals and agencies. You will also be provided with opportunities to critically reflect on your own personal and professional responsibility for your continued development as a manager of safe and effective care delivery and as a future leader of service improvement in nursing practice. You will also learn about team leadership in an interprofessional working context and the challenges of leading teams in a realistic care environment to ensure patient and staff safety.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Critically analyse and select a service improvement strategy appropriate for application to a service improvement project relevant to nursing practice.*
2. *Critically appraise how partnership working and collaboration with service users of all ages, carers, other professionals and agencies, contributes to sustainable service improvement in nursing practice*
3. *Critically analyse risk assessment processes and the collaborative management of patient safety in professional practice.*

4. *Use relevant theory, tools and processes to critically reflect on potential areas for evidence based service improvement in practice, implement your ideas and evaluate the outcome.*
5. *Critically appraise the personal and professional attributes and skills that you require to lead and implement service improvement and manage interprofessional teams in nursing practice*

NS0630 Practice Learning 3

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 6
Credits: 20
Delivery Mode: Face to Face
Total Learning Hours: 500

Unit Description

This module will help you to develop and consolidate skills, attitudes and behaviours that you have developed over the first two years of the programme. The module will also offer you the opportunity to enhance your critical understanding of professional care and apply relevant theories in a critically informed way. This will ensure further development of the leadership skills and knowledge you will require for clinical decision making in complex healthcare environments. You will evaluate and critically appraise models and tools for clinical decision making, exploring the challenges of making decisions in interprofessional teams working with both children and adults. You will also explore theories and research about patient involvement and develop a critical appreciation of the importance of involving patients of all ages and their families in decision making relating to their own care. This includes learning about common ethical and professional dilemmas, strategies for making decisions, accountability, responsibility and legal considerations when making decisions relating to patients of all ages, including those with needs relating to mental health, learning disability and maternity care. You will also learn aspects of working life, including decision making, risk, leadership, management, self-awareness, and preparation for working life. In preparation for employment you will learn the safe delivery of intravenous therapy in a simulated environment using the simulation facilities at MCAST.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

1. *Critically discuss the evidence underpinning your role as a nurse with patients of all ages in making ethical, legal, professional clinical decisions, recognising your associated accountability and responsibility for patient and public safety*
2. *Demonstrate initiative, application and sound argument in decision making and problem-solving processes within the remit of nursing practice which includes adult and child patients and families.*
3. *Demonstrate the ability to think critically and independently as a registrant making effective use of evidence from a range of sources to inform and lead clinical decision making*
4. *Achieve the required nursing competencies and relevant experience that will allow you to apply for First Level Nurse status with the Council for Nurses and Midwives, Malta*
5. *Demonstrate compassionate, person centred, ethical patient care of children and adults, with a critical appreciation of the complexity of interprofessional decision-making in practice*
6. *Display professional behaviour and maintain expected professional standards through critical reflection on personal and professional development, articulating your readiness to practice as a graduate nurse in relation to professional and regulatory bodies and employer expectations.*

NS0629 Nursing Dissertation

Unit level (MQF/EQF): 6
Credits: 20
Delivery Mode: Face to Face
Total Learning Hours: 500

Unit Description

The purpose of this module is for you to critically explore ways in which research evidence can be used to develop nursing practice. Using your knowledge and understanding you will be able to critically consider how current initiatives, by for example government, impact upon contemporary nursing practice with people of all ages including: children; older people; pregnant and post-natal women; people with mental health needs and people with needs associated with their learning disabilities. You will learn how to undertake a dissertation analysing the best available evidence and applying to your nursing topic of interest. The dissertation, as a “capstone” project will consolidate your academic and professional learning giving you an opportunity to showcase your ability to use graduate level nursing academic ability. You will engage in stimulating dissertation progression workshops with your peers as an opportunity to share your ideas and get feedback towards your summative assessment. You will be supported by your peers and through supervision, to produce a 6000 word academic dissertation on a topic of your choice underpinning an area of general nursing practice. This will showcase your learning on this module, as a key overall outcome of your graduate programme.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to

- 1. Demonstrate a well-developed critical appreciation of how research and other published evidence informs graduate nursing practice.*
- 2. Articulate, through high quality academic writing, your in-depth knowledge relating to an area of nursing practice including the need for continuous improvement of professional nursing practice*
- 3. Systematically, search for, retrieve, critically appraise, evaluate and synthesise a range of research and other evidence, drawing conclusions about its relevance for current and future professional nursing practice*

4. *Demonstrate awareness of the importance of critical reflection in*
5. *nursing is a mechanism for professional lifelong learning*
6. *Articulate recognition of the need for cultural diversity within an holistic, person centred*