Intensive Care Nursing

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CLINICAL NURSING
COURSE CODE: 1GD019:1GD519
1 year full-time; 2 years part time
External mode
Fees: Commonwealth Grant Supported
Admission is processed by SATAC GradStart www.satac.edu.au

ABOUT THE STREAM
The Intensive Care Nursing (ICU) stream within the Graduate Diploma in Nursing provides graduates with comprehensive specialist nursing knowledge to better meet the needs of patients that have life threatening or potentially life threatening conditions. Critical care nurses working in the ICU usually care for one patient and their family. Graduates will be well prepared to move on to further study and into research.

COURSE OUTLINE
The course focuses on cultural awareness in the health practice context, and builds on existing knowledge and understanding of nursing practice, assessment and evidence-based practice. In the increasingly complex and challenging world of health practice, this course provides the opportunity for professionals to extend clinical development and intellectual engagement, and build capacity in critical analysis and reflection, in nursing practice and education.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must have current registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency to practise as a Registered Nurse and be employed in an Intensive Care Unit at a minimum of 0.6FTE. Students not in the NT employed model are required to arrange their own clinical practice in consultation with the course coordinator.
### UNIT OUTLINES

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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HEA402</strong></td>
<td>INFORMING PRACTICE WITH EVIDENCE</td>
<td>Contemporary professionals work in environments requiring practice grounded in quality evidence. This unit focuses on developing skills and knowledge to reflect on critically and integrate evidence into practice. You will explore types of evidence, evaluate the standard of evidence and demonstrate its application to inform professional interventions, treatments, and decision-making processes. You will review research literature, professional guidelines and standards and critique how this information applies to your own practice.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HEA401</strong></td>
<td>CULTURE IN PRACTICE</td>
<td>This unit assists you to increase your awareness of, and ability to critique, the construct of culture within yourself, your profession and the communities in which you work. You will be encouraged to explore your own culturally embedded values, beliefs, and practices. You will be expected to develop an understanding of how culture impacts the way we work and how we can work more appropriately and effectively across cultures.</td>
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<td><strong>HEA408</strong></td>
<td>HEALTH ASSESSMENT IN A BIO/PSYCHO/SOCIAL CONTEXT</td>
<td>This unit develops your understanding of, and ability to use, advanced clinical nursing knowledge and skills relevant to bio/psycho/social assessment for nursing practice. The unit highlights clients’ perspectives including the impact of culture and history on perceptions and assessment of health and illness. It will assist you to develop culturally appropriate communication and interpersonal strategies, as well as the clinical skills required to undertake a comprehensive assessment of people with acute conditions.</td>
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<td><strong>SNP402</strong></td>
<td>PHARMACOLOGY FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS</td>
<td>This unit assists you to acquire a more thorough understanding of the fundamental scientific principles of pharmacology that underpin a wide range of disease states and to apply pharmacological knowledge in your own specialty area of practice. You will review basic principles of pharmacology and pharmacotherapy to increase your understanding of the effects of drugs on human physiological and pathophysiological processes. This knowledge will be applied to drugs currently being used for the treatment of clinical illness to deepen your understanding of the processes involved with a specific focus on your client population.</td>
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<td><strong>HEA420</strong></td>
<td>CLINICAL SPECIALISATION 1</td>
<td>This unit develops your understanding of the theory, process and practice of advanced nursing in a designated practice context, to enable you to effectively prevent and manage common health problems experienced by individuals and families in a range of locations within your field. Content that relates to a broad range of clinical nursing practice will be addressed, including: physiological, pathophysiological and psychosocial underpinnings of advanced nursing practice across a broad range of body systems and health problems; planning appropriate strategies/interventions for client care; and developing related technical skills.</td>
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<td><strong>HEA440</strong></td>
<td>CLINICAL SPECIALISATION 2</td>
<td>This unit presents a foundation of theoretical and practice concepts required for Registered Nurses to provide effective, consumer-focused nursing care within a variety of clinical contexts in a range of practice settings. The unit provides a framework from which you can develop an understanding of the impact of selected health problems on individuals, families and communities. This will include practice concepts; physiological, pathophysiological and psychosocial underpinnings of advanced speciality or generalist practice; planning of appropriate strategies/interventions for client care; and development of selected technical skills.</td>
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<td><strong>HEA450</strong></td>
<td>CLINICAL SPECIALISATION 3</td>
<td>This unit extends both your clinical development and your intellectual engagement within specific clinical specialty practice areas. Health care has become more complex and clinical specialists need to demonstrate advanced competencies and critical thinking. This is achieved through expanding knowledge, critical thinking, reflection on practice and the refinement of clinical practice skills in the clinical specialty setting.</td>
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<td><strong>SNP300</strong></td>
<td>ELECTIVE</td>
<td>A 10 credit point unit from level 400-500 offered by the University. You are encouraged to select electives that will enhance your practice, for example research or public health. Some short courses offered by external providers e.g. National Critical Care Trauma Research Centre (NCCTRC) may be incorporated into an elective in negotiation with your course coordinator.</td>
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### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

For further information about the course contact the School of Health Academic Liaison Unit

T. 08 8946 7357  
E. alu@cdu.edu.au  

For enrolment procedures, closing dates and other administrative issues please contact Student Services and ask for a member of the Higher Education Enrolment Team

T. 1800 061 963  
E. enrolmenthelp@cdu.edu.au  
W. [www.cdu.edu.au](http://www.cdu.edu.au)