

School of Nursing and Midwifery

NURS3002: Essentials of Palliative Care

Callaghan and Gosford
Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description	The course will enable students to develop principles of person centred, evidence-based nursing care for people with a life limiting illness across the lifespan and apply the principle of palliative care. The case studies are informed by the National Health Priority Areas. There will be a strong focus on promoting dignity and quality of life for the palliative care person and their family. By the end of the course the student will be able to apply evidenced based practice across a variety of settings using a clinical reasoning approach.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil.
Requisites	Students must be active in the Bachelor of Nursing [40298] to enrol in this course.
Contact Hours	Lecture Online. 12 hour(s) per term starting Week 1. Self-Directed Learning Self-Directed. 6 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1. Tutorial Face to Face On Campus. 24 hour(s) per term starting Week 1. Face to Face On Campus: 6 Tutorials x 2 hour(s) per TERM. Online: 6 Tutorials x 2 hour(s) per TERM.
Unit Weighting	10.
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10-unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator **Callaghan and Gosford**
Dr Tosin Popoola
Tosin.Popoola@newcastle.edu.au
(02) 4055 0973

Consultation: Contact via email to arrange a suitable time. Consultation will occur via Zoom.

NOTE: Responses to emails can be expected within three (3) working days unless the tutor or Course Coordinator is off campus.

Scheduled drop-in sessions will be available via Canvas.

General Course Questions should be posted to Canvas, where the answer may be of benefit to other students. Students are required to check their UON (University of Newcastle) email account regularly and to use their student-mail accounts for all email correspondence with the University.

Teaching Staff Teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.

School Office **School of Nursing and Midwifery**
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(+61) 2 4921 5000

Program & Enrolment Advice programadvice@newcastle.edu.au

Student Support For academic and personal support services for students, visit
<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/support>

SYLLABUS

Course Content

Module 1: Principles of palliative care.
Module 2: Communicating with people with life limiting illnesses.
Module 3: Palliative assessment & intervention.
Module 4: Optimising function in palliative care.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate advanced understanding of developmental, lifespan, social, spiritual and cultural factors that impact on the quality of life for people with a life limiting illness.
2. Critically reflect on their own personal values and beliefs about dying and death and the lived experience of the dying person, their families and communities.
3. Demonstrate advanced pathophysiology knowledge to manage common symptoms in the palliative care environment.
4. Apply the Roper Logan Tierney Model of Nursing and the Clinical Reasoning Cycle across the lifespan to create a plan of care for individuals experiencing a life limiting illness.
5. Critically evaluate the efficacy of pharmacological and nonpharmacological (complementary therapies) in the palliative care context.
6. Identify the legal and ethical principles related to caring for people with a life limiting illness.

Course Materials

Required Texts

This course utilises the learning resources of the [Palliative Care Curriculum for Undergraduates \(PCC4U\)](#).

The PCC4U project is a national palliative care project funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. The PCC4U project is a freely accessible open-access learning resource tailored to support the integration of principles and practice of palliative care into university health care training.

Recommended Text

Nil

Course Readings

Course readings will be provided via Canvas.

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

To pass this course students **must attain an overall grade of 50% or higher**. Progressive marks on Canvas do not necessarily indicate final grades.

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 2 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Project – Explore concept of grief/loss	Monday 25 th March 23:00 hours (AEDT)	Individual	50%	1, 2, 6
2	Essay – Focused Topic	Monday 20 th May 23:00 hours (AEDT)	Individual	50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Late Submissions The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Note: No more than 10% of any assessment item may consist of material directly quoted from another source.

Assistance with academic literacies is available at the following hyperlinks:

1. APA 7th Referencing: <http://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/referencing>
2. Academic Learning Support: <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/learning/study-skills>

Assessment 1 - Explore concept of grief/loss

Assessment Type	Project
Purpose	The purpose of this assessment is to assist students understand the range of challenges faced by people affected by life-limiting illness using creative art. Creative art such as images, poetry, and music facilitate self-awareness and introspection among healthcare providers, which is important for self-care, empathy, and patient-centred decision-making in palliative care.
Description	<p>The challenges faced by people with a life-limiting illness can be substantial and overwhelming. For this assessment, students will explore common challenges that arise for people diagnosed with life-limiting illnesses by completing three tasks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a focused literature review,• identifying a piece of creative art (images, poetry, or music),• completing a reflection. <p>This assessment will assist students to connect to the content taught in modules 1 and 2. Further details this task is provided in Canvas under Assignments tab.</p>
Weighting	50%
Word Count	900 words (+/- 10% allowance)
Due Date	Monday 25 th March 2024 23:00 hours (AEDT)
Submission Method	Via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas.

Return Method	Online via Canvas 15 University working days after submission.
Feedback Provided	Online via Canvas
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 2 - Focused Topic

Assessment Type	Essay
Purpose	The purpose of this assessment is to help students understand the basic principles of palliative care and its application to real-life care of people with life-limiting illnesses.
Description	Providing care for people affected by life-limiting illness requires open communication with patients and family about the meaning of the illness, associated symptoms, goals of care and clinical management. For this assessment, we are asking students to consider the provided case study available in Canvas and demonstrate their understanding of common symptoms associated with life-limiting illness and the pathophysiology, assessment, management, meaning of the illness and legal issues in palliative care. This assessment will assist students to connect to the content taught in modules 1, 2, 3 and 4. Further details this task is provided in Canvas under Assignments tab.
Weighting	50%
Word Count	1500 words (+/- 10% allowance)
Due Date	Monday 20 th May 23:00 hours (AEDT)
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas.
Return Method	Online via Canvas 15 University working days after submission.
Feedback Provided	Online via Canvas
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Withdrawal from Course

You can withdraw from a course without financial penalty on or before the census date **Friday 22nd March 2024**. If you withdraw after this date, it is considered you have been enrolled in the course and will be liable for HECS-HELP payment or degree fee. For further information see University Key dates.

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include the Canvas Discussion Board or via email to the course coordinator or individual tutorial teacher.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement. This is the first offering of this course and your involvement in course evaluation will be greatly appreciated.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>

Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or

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2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item, and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
 3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
 4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>.

Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/no-room-for/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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