

## NURS4930: Honours Thesis Completion

Callaghan, Ourimbah and Gosford  
Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE  
AUSTRALIA

## OVERVIEW

<b>Course Description</b>	The main component of the Honours program is an original research project conducted under the close supervision of an academic staff member. In this course the student will need to work under the guidance of their supervisor/s to finalise their project with a clear and coherent written report. This report will demonstrate a sound understanding of the research process and the ability to report the outcomes of the project in a scholarly manner
<b>Requisites</b>	This course is only available to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) [10954], Bachelor of Midwifery (Honours) [12330], Bachelor of Health Science (Honours) [11691] or Master of Philosophy (Nursing) [11653] programs.
<b>Assumed Knowledge</b>	A completed Bachelor of Nursing or equivalent degree, with evidence of high academic achievement and demonstrated potential to carry out, under supervision, a significant research project.
<b>Contact Hours</b>	<p><b>Individual Supervision</b> Face to Face Off Campus 26 hour(s) per Term Full Term To be arranged via appointment with the course coordinator and/or supervisor.</p> <p><b>Lecture</b> Online 1 hour(s) per Term starting week 1.</p> <p><b>Self-Directed Learning</b> Self-Directed 20 hour(s) per Week for 13 weeks starting week 1.</p>
<b>Unit Weighting</b>	20
<b>Workload</b>	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**      **Ourimbah, Callaghan and Gosford**

Dr Mary-Ellen Hooper  
[Mary.hooper@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Mary.hooper@newcastle.edu.au)

**Consultation:** Contact via email to arrange a suitable time. Consultation will occur in person or via Zoom

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

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**

Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.

**School Office**

**School of Nursing and Midwifery**

Richardson Wing  
University of Newcastle  
University Drive  
CALLAGHAN NSW 2308

Central Coast Clinical School  
77 Holden Street  
GOSFORD NSW 2250

**Phone:** (+61) 2 4921 6304

**Web:** <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/nursing-midwifery>

**General Enquiries**

[AskUoN@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:AskUoN@newcastle.edu.au)  
(+61) 2 4921 5000

**Program &  
Enrolment Advice**

[ProgramAdvice@newcastle.edu.au](mailto: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**      **Research Option 1** Thesis Dissertation: Consisting of introduction, background / literature review, methods, results, discussion and conclusion. The length should not exceed 15,000 words, excluding references, tables and figures.

**Research Option 2** Manuscript for Publication in a Peer Review Journal: Completion of a research manuscript, prepared for submission, complying with an identified journal's submission requirements, including word limit and formatting

**Course Learning Outcomes**      **On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**  
1. Have submitted a clear and coherent written report in the form of a thesis dissertation or journal manuscript

**Course Materials:**      Available via Canvas

## COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

### Course Assessment Requirements:

Assessment 1 –

- – Option 1 – Thesis dissertation: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course

**OR**

- Option 2 – Manuscript for publication: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course

## ASSESSMENTS

This course has 1 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Written assessment* option 1 OR option 2 *	Assessment one: Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Jun at 2300 hours (AEST)	Individual	100%	1

\* This assessment has a compulsory requirement.

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

## Assessment 1 – Option 1 – Thesis dissertation

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Thesis
<b>Purpose</b>	To prepare a written thesis for examination
<b>Description</b>	A written thesis must be presented for examination to two examiners. One examiner will be an internal examiner from within the School of Nursing and Midwifery and one will be an examiner external to the school. The student's supervisor/s can nominate potential examiners to the Course Coordinator. The thesis should be prepared for submission using the BN BM Honours Thesis Preparation and Submission Guidelines. These guidelines are provided in the course materials in Canvas.
<b>Weighting</b>	100%
<b>Compulsory Requirements</b>	Pass Requirement – Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
<b>Length</b>	Option 1 – 10,000-15,000 words (+/- 10% allowance), excluding references, tables and figures.
<b>Due Date</b>	Friday 7th Jun at 2300 hours (AEST)
<b>Submission Method</b>	Via Canvas
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Via Canvas
<b>Return Method</b>	Via Canvas
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Via Canvas- Feedback will be provided within four (4) weeks of submission
<b>Opportunity to Reattempt</b>	Students <b>WILL NOT</b> be given the opportunity to attempt this assessment.

## Assessment 1 – Option 2 – Peer reviewed journal manuscript

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Peer reviewed journal manuscript
<b>Purpose</b>	To prepare a written thesis for examination
<b>Description</b>	A written paper or manuscript must be presented for examination to two examiners. The paper should be prepared for submission to a specific journal and should meet the requirements and author guidelines of the identified journal. One examiner will be an internal examiner from within the School of Nursing and Midwifery and one will be an examiner external to the school. The student's supervisor/s can nominate potential examiners to the Course Coordinator.
<b>Weighting</b>	100%
<b>Compulsory Requirements</b>	Pass Requirement – Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
<b>Length</b>	Option 2 – Word limit as directed by the journal's submission requirements
<b>Due Date</b>	Friday 7th Jun at 2300 hours (AEST)
<b>Submission Method</b>	Via Canvas
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Via Canvas
<b>Return Method</b>	Via Canvas

**Feedback Provided** Via Canvas – Feedback will be provided within four (4) weeks of submission.

**Opportunity to Reattempt** Students **WILL NOT** be given the opportunity to attempt 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Communication Methods** Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Announcements
- Canvas Discussion Forum
- Regular course coordination drop-in Q&A sessions via zoom
- Consultation time with course coordinator as required

**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. No changes were made.

**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
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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