

NURS6055: Mental Health Acute Care

Online

Trimester 1 - 2024



OVERVIEW

Course Description This course provides students with an opportunity to advance their knowledge and skills in mental health nursing. The course includes comprehensive assessment, identifying risk factors, safety planning, formulation, diagnostic impressions and collaborative care planning in the acute mental health setting. Students will be encouraged to explore a collaborative, recovery based and trauma informed approach to practice that recognises contributing factors including the role of the consumer, cultural sensitivities, and co-morbid physical health problems on mental health and wellbeing.

Academic Progress Requirements Nil

Assumed Knowledge Foundations of nursing knowledge, nursing theory, legal and ethical issues, fundamentals of research, human bioscience, psychology, sociology related to practice. Principles of investigative approaches in nursing, concepts and theories relevant to practice, contemporary nursing issues. Academic reading and writing skills, ability to access and evaluate information from a variety of sources, skills in critical analysis, critical judgment, synthesis and evaluation. Ability to conceptualise practice. Demonstrated Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council competencies.

Contact Hours

Online
Online Activity
Online
2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1

Self-Directed Learning
Self-Directed
8 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1

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	Online Mr Antony Mullen Antony.Mullen@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: Available for individual 5-minute online consultations booked via Canvas
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 Phone (+61) 2 4921 6304 Web http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/nursing-midwifery
General Enquiries	AskUoN@newcastle.edu.au (+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	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Engagement with the person in the acute mental health setting2. Assessment, formulation, diagnosis and care planning in the acute mental health setting3. Models of care, settings and context for acute mental health interventions4. Ethical dilemmas and issues related to cultural safety and vulnerable populations (such as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples) relevant to acute mental health care settings
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review current understandings of the role of stress, genetic vulnerability and environmental factors on acute mental health presentations2. Demonstrate advanced comprehensive mental health assessment skills in the acute care setting3. Develop clinical formulations that include mental health and physical health issues and diagnostic impressions to guide approaches to collaborative care planning4. Demonstrate skills in developing comprehensive and collaborative care plans with consumer and carer involvement5. Recognise and demonstrate the importance of engagement and practice that is trauma informed and recovery orientated6. Display an ability to assess for and identify a range of risk factors and recognise the role of safety planning in managing risk within acute mental health settings7. Recognise the significant impact of co-morbid physical health problems on the mental health and well-being of consumers8. Understand the role of psychopharmacology in the acute setting9. Examine ethical dilemmas, issues related to cultural safety and vulnerable populations (such as Indigenous Australians) relevant to the delivery of care in acute care settings
Course Materials	Resources available on Canvas Course Readings

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

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

Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 1 - Quiz 1: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 2 - Written Assignment 1: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 3 - Written Assignment 2: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 4 - Quiz 2: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Assessment Due
1	29 Jan	Module 1: Engaging with consumers in acute mental health • The importance of engagement	
2	5 Feb	• The consumer lived experience	
3	12 Feb	• Consumer focused mental health nursing practice	
4	19 Feb	Module 2: Assessment and planning in acute mental health • Comprehensive mental health assessment	
5	26 Feb	• Formulation and collaborative care planning	Assessment 1: Quiz 1 - Closes Friday 1st March at 23.00hrs AEDT
6	4 Mar	• Physical Health	Assessment 2: Written Assignment 1 – Due Friday 8th March 23.00hrs AEDT
7	11 Mar	Module 3: Practice approaches in acute mental health 1 • Trauma informed care and practice	
8	18 Mar	• Applying recovery oriented practice	
9	25 Mar	• Psychopharmacology	
10	1 Apr	Module 4: Practice approaches in acute mental health 2 • Practice models within acute mental health	Assessment 3: Written Assignment 2 – Due Friday 5th April 23.00hrs AEDT
11	8 Apr	• Diverse populations	
12	15 Apr	• Course Revision	Assessment 4: Quiz 2 - Closes Friday 19th April by 23.00hrs AEST

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 4 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Quiz 1*	Friday 1st March 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)	Individual	15%	1, 2, 5
2	Written Assignment 1*	Friday 8th March 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)	Individual	30%	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8
3	Written Assignment 2*	Friday 5th April 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)	Individual	40%	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9
4	Quiz 2*	Friday 19th April 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)	Individual	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

* 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.

POSTGRADUATE COURSES ASSESSMENT AND REFERENCING ADVICE

ASSESSMENTS

If you need to apply for an extension for an assessment, you should follow the process described in your Course Outline under the heading "Adverse Circumstances". Please note you will be required to submit documents to support your application.

Please do not email your tutor or course coordinator to request an extension because they cannot approve applications for extensions unless they have been submitted using the Adverse Circumstances process.

Formatting your assessments

General advice - Use standard (default) margins, double line spacing and 12 point font in your assessments. If you have additional instructions about using headings or an essay format or other formats (such as blogs) - please follow instructions provided for individual assessments.

Word count

The length of the assessment is an indication of the number of words needed to address the assessment task. This is a guide, however some students have difficulty keeping their writing within the specified word count. If your assessment exceeds the word count by 10%, the assessment will be marked. **Markers may stop marking if your assessment exceeds the word count by more than 10%.** Please note the following information from the UON Course Management and Assessment Procedure Manual (Item 250 and 251):

"Word limits include headings, sub-headings, in-text citations, quotes and referencing but does NOT include the list of references, appendices and footnotes. The Course Co-ordinator will allow a tolerance of at least 10% of the word limit" (<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=183>).

REFERENCING

Your assessments must be appropriately referenced. Assessments that are not correctly referenced may have lower marks awarded.

Assessments that contain information from other sources that have not been referenced and where it appears that the student is presenting another person's work or ideas as their own, will be referred to the SACO officer. This constitutes

a potential breach of the Student Academic Integrity Policy (<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>).

What should be referenced?

All sources of published information including textbooks, journal articles, course readings, websites, guidelines, policies government documents that have been used to prepare an assessment MUST be included in the assessment as an in-text citation AND on the reference list.

Any documents provided to you to use in the preparation of an assessment must be referenced. Direct quotes MUST be referenced. However, please note direct quotes should be used sparingly and should not normally constitute more than 10% of an assessment.

Information that you have paraphrased in your assessment must also be referenced. Correct citation of sources and referencing is expected in scholarly writing at Masters level. Assessments that are not correctly referenced may be penalised (lower marks awarded).

Correct referencing style

You are required to use APA 7th Referencing Style in all of your assessments (unless otherwise stated). Check this link for details about using APA 7th Style: <https://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/apa-7th>.

Making referencing easier

Referencing your assessments is easier if you use a Reference Management Program such as "Endnote". There is information in Canvas that will assist you to access and use the Endnote referencing program.

Select: "Library Essentials" at the top right of your screen, then select "Referencing" from the list of options on the left side the screen, and then scroll down to select "Endnote". Or click on this link:

<https://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/endnote>.

Academic Integrity

All new students must complete the [Academic Integrity Module](#) (AIM), which can be accessed via the Dashboard in Canvas.

Assessment 1 - Quiz 1

Assessment Type	Quiz
Purpose	The purpose of the online quiz is to determine student's understanding of Module 1 of the course material with a focus on course learning outcomes 1,2,5
Description	Students will have 30 minutes to complete the 15 multiple-choice questions. The quiz is open from 09:00 Saturday 24th February and closes Friday 1st March at 23.00 Australian Eastern Daylight Time. You will only be allowed one attempt during this timeframe
Weighting	15%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	15 questions, 30 minutes
Due Date	Friday 1st March 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)
Submission Method	Online. Canvas
Assessment Criteria	N/A
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	No Feedback
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 2 - Written Assignment 1

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
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Purpose	In this assignment, you are required to demonstrate your skills in conducting a comprehensive mental health assessment of a consumer that is receiving services from an acute mental health setting/facility or who is presenting with issues of an acute nature.
Description	<p>Suitable settings/facilities include inpatient, community, emergency departments or other acute settings. Please note, all information is to be de-identified and you must use a pseudonym for the person. If you are unable to identify a client within any of the above settings/facilities, undertake this assignment with a consumer you are working with that has identified mental health concerns.</p> <p>This assessment requires you to provide the following:</p> <p>Part 1: A succinct yet comprehensive mental health assessment utilising a biopsychosocial approach. This assessment must include a comprehensive history, and assessment of physical health, psychosocial health, vulnerabilities and strengths.</p> <p>There must be evidence of a collaborative approach that is consumer focused, and recovery orientated and describes engagement and the therapeutic relationship. It must clearly articulate the consumers' goals, wants and views of their current situation and future plans.</p> <p>Part 2: Provide a formulation of the problems (arising from the mental health assessment) including: a summary of symptoms of mental illness, the consumer's perspective and context. <i>NOTE: This formulation will be required to be submitted as part of Written Assignment 2 (Assessment 3).</i></p> <p>While this is a clinically based assignment, your assignment must be supported with contemporary high quality references (avoid a reliance on health policy documents as your sole source) and demonstrate your capacity for sound clinical reasoning.</p> <p><i>NOTE: This assignment will be the basis for your collaborative care plan that will be developed for Written Assignment 2 (Assessment 3).</i></p>
Weighting	30%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	1500 words
Due Date	Friday 8th March 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)
Submission Method	Online. Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Appendix 1
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 3 weeks from submission date
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment

Assessment 3 - Written Assignment 2

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	<p>This written assignment builds upon the work presented in Written Assignment 1 (Assessment 2).</p> <p>It provides the opportunity for you to demonstrate your ability to integrate academic understanding gained from this course into effective and evidence-based approaches for a person accessing an acute mental health service</p>
Description	<p>When preparing this assignment, please insert the formulation of problems developed for Written Assignment 1 at the commencement of the paper (this is not included in the word count).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop a collaborative care plan that is consumer focused and demonstrates a recovery-oriented and trauma informed approach (the plan must be developed in collaboration with the consumer). You must provide evidence from current high quality literature to support your approach

and the strategies and interventions outlined in the collaborative care plan.

The care plan must include details on:

- The setting or service that the person is accessing
 - The consumers perspectives including goals
 - The role of significant others (e.g. family and friends)
 - Clear outline of the evidenced based interventions (biopsychosocial) and strategies
 - Any specific nursing considerations
2. Provide a critical review of both your own experience and the perspective of the consumers experience of care as well as a summary of the outcomes. As a guide, allocate approximately 650 words to the critical review section with supportive high-quality contemporary literature

Weighting	40%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	1800 words
Due Date	Friday 5th April 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)
Submission Method	Online. Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Appendix 2
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 3 weeks from submission date.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment

Assessment 4 - Quiz 2

Assessment Type	Quiz
Purpose	To assess students understanding of course content
Description	Students will have 1 hour to complete the 30 multiple-choice questions. The quiz is open from 09:00 Saturday the 13th April and closes Friday 19th April at 23.00 Australian Eastern Standard Time. You will only be allowed one attempt during this time frame
Weighting	15%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	30 questions, 1 hour
Due Date	Friday 19th April 2024 by 23.00hrs Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)
Submission Method	Online. Canvas
Assessment Criteria	N/A
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	No Feedback
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).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.

Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.

Face to Face: Communication will be provided via Zoom face-to-face meetings or via appointments when negotiated.

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.

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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