

*Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health  
Course Outline*

**NURS/MIDW 521  
Trimester 2 - 2007**

**Health Policy and Ethics**

**Course Co-ordinator:  
Katherine Nelson**

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health at Victoria University of Wellington, uses all reasonable skill and care in an effort to ensure the information and course content information contained in this outline is accurate at the time of going to print.

Students should be aware, however, that in the event that course timetables and venues need to be changed, all attempts will be made to notify the students.

Produced by Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health,  
81 Fairlie Tce, Kelburn, Wellington 6001.

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# **STAFF TEACHING IN THIS COURSE**

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## **COURSE CO-ORDINATOR**

Katherine Nelson, Senior Lecturer

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## **TEACHING TEAM**

Jan Duke, Professor

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Sue Lennox, Teaching Associate

Email: sue.lennox@xtra.co.nz

## **VISITING SCHOLAR**

Dr Joan Liaschenko, Professor

## **STUDENT ADMINISTRATOR**

Abbey McDonald

Ph: 04 463-6144

Email: abbey.mcdonald@vuw.ac.nz

# **CONTACT DETAILS**

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## **POSTAL ADDRESS**

Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health  
Victoria University of Wellington  
P O Box 600  
Wellington

## **PHYSICAL ADDRESS**

The Fieldhouse Centre  
Victoria University of Wellington  
81 & 83 Fairlie Terrace  
Kelburn  
Wellington

Phone: (04) 463-5363 or  
0800 108-005 Freephone Graduate School Administration

Fax: (04) 463-5442

Email: [nmh@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:nmh@vuw.ac.nz)

Web site: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/nmh>

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm

## **GRADUATE SCHOOL DATES**

The Graduate School office will be open on Wednesday 3 January 2007 and close on Thursday 21 December 2007. Between 25 June and 13 July limited academic support will be available.

In keeping with the practice of other years, academic staff will not be available on Fridays, except for the times they are involved in Schools.

# **COURSE AIMS**

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The aims of the course are to:

- explore the ethical dimensions of health care practice
- critically evaluate different approaches to ethical practice and cultural safety
- examine their relationship to health policy, politics and practice
- explore the interface between ethical practice and health policy
- examine ways of influencing health policy
- create an awareness of New Zealand's position in international health policy developments

# **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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Participants will interact in teaching/learning sessions in order to:

1. critically evaluate the development, implementation and evaluation of health care policy
2. examine the national and international political arenas in which health care policies and decisions are determined
3. develop an understanding of the relationship between practice and health policy
4. influence health policy
5. explore the relationship between different approaches to ethics including cultural safety and their relevance to professional practice and health policy
6. develop an understanding of the role of ethics in practice

# **COURSE CONTENT**

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The course content runs over one trimester and is organised around three features:

- Two Schools held at Victoria University of Wellington, Graduate School
- Readings of policy and ethics
- Two assignments

All of the above are aimed at the achievement of the course objectives. The course content in summary is:

- health practice and ethics
- cultural safety as an ethical concept
- the relevance of the above to professional practice
- the development, implementation and evaluation of health policy
- policy analysis
- the national and international political arenas and their influence on health policy
- health care practitioner participation in the politics of health care
- the influence that health care practitioners can bring to bear on health policy

## **REQUIRED READING**

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Hodgson, P. (2006). *Implementing the New Zealand Health Strategy*. Ministry of Health, Wellington.

This publication can be obtained from the Ministry of Health, publications section or is available on line at:

[http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/pagesmh/5651/\\$File/implementing-nz-health-strategy-2006.pdf](http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/pagesmh/5651/$File/implementing-nz-health-strategy-2006.pdf)

## SELECTED READINGS for POLICY

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- Bennett, B.(Ed). (c2006). *Health, rights and globalisation*. Aldershot: Ashgate.
- Bodenheimer, T., & Grumbach, K. (2005). *Understanding health policy: A clinical approach*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Cheyne, C., O'Brien, M., & Belgrave, M. (2004). *Social policy in Aotearoa/New Zealand: A critical introduction*. (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed). Auckland: Oxford University Press.
- Cultural Safety Research Group. (2006). *Opening our eyes - shifting our thinking the process of teaching and learning about reflection in cultural safety education and practice: An evaluation study*. Wellington: Whitireia Community Polytechnic and the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health, Victoria University of Wellington.
- Dew, K., & Davis, P. (Eds.). (2004). *Health and society in Aotearoa New Zealand*. (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed). Auckland: Oxford University Press.
- Durie, M. (2001). *Mauri ora: The dynamics of Maori health*. Auckland: Oxford University Press.
- Gauld, R. (Ed.) (2006). *Comparative health policy in the Asia-Pacific*. Berkshire, England: Open University Press.
- Godin, P. (Ed). (2006). *Risk and nursing practice*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Jacobs, R., Smith, P.C., & Street, A. (2006). *Measuring efficiency in health care: Analytic techniques and health policy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kawharu, I. H. (Ed.). (2003). *Conflict and compromise: Essays on the Māori since colonisation*. Auckland: Reed.
- Killoran, A., Swann, C., & Kelly, M.P. (Eds). (2006). *Public health evidence: Tackling health inequalities*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Nursing Council of New Zealand. (2005). *Guidelines for cultural safety, the Treaty of Waitangi, and Maori health in nursing education and practice*. Wellington: Author.
- Rata, E., & Openshaw, R. (2006). *Public policy and ethnicity: The politics of ethnic boundary making*. Houndmills, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Robinson, J., Avis, M., Latimer, J. & Traynor, M. (2000). *Interdisciplinary perspectives on health policy and practice*. London: Churchill Livingstone.
- Sharp, A., & McHugh, P.G. (2001). (Ed). *Histories, power and loss: Uses of the past : A New Zealand commentary*. Wellington: Bridget Williams Books.
- Siegrist, J., & Marmot, M. (Ed). (2006). *Social inequalities in health: New evidence and policy implications*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

# **SELECTED READINGS FOR ETHICS**

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Reading list to be supplied in late July.

## **WORKLOAD**

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30 point courses in the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health have an average workload of twelve hours per week, however as this course is being run over trimester two the workload will be approximately 24 hours per week.

## **MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

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In order to successfully complete this course you are required to attend all Schools unless under special circumstances prior arrangements have been made with the course co-ordinator.

Students must submit and pass all assignments to satisfactorily complete the course.

## **GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES**

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Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at [www.victoria.ac.nz](http://www.victoria.ac.nz).



# **STUDENT AND STAFF CONDUCT**

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The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps are to be taken if there is a complaint. For information about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor or refer to the statute on the VUW policy website at:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct)

The Policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct)

# **ACADEMIC GRIEVANCES**

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If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned; class representatives may be able to help you in this. If you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean; VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website at:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances)

# **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning,
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course,
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html)

## **STUDENTS WITH IMPAIRMENTS (SEE APPENDIX 3 OF THE ASSESSMENT HANDBOOK)**

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the course coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively, you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building:

telephone: 463-6070

email: [disability@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:disability@vuw.ac.nz)

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the School Office or DSS.

# STUDENT SUPPORT

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Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. In the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences the support contacts are **Dr Allison Kirkman, Murphy Building, room 407** and **Dr Stuart Brock, Murphy Building, room 312**. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Māori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

## Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme

This programme offers:

- Academic mentoring for all Māori & Pacific students at all levels of undergraduate study for the faculties of Commerce & Administration and Humanities & Social Sciences. Contact [Manaaki-Pihipihinga-Programme@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Manaaki-Pihipihinga-Programme@vuw.ac.nz) or phone 463 6015 to register for Humanities & Social Science mentoring and 463 8977 to register for mentoring for Commerce and Administration courses
- Postgraduate support network for the above faculties, which links students into all of the post grad activities and workshops on campus and networking opportunities
- Pacific Support Coordinator who can assist Pacific students with transitional issues, disseminate useful information and provide any assistance needed to help students achieve. Contact; [Pacific-Support-Coord@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Pacific-Support-Coord@vuw.ac.nz) or phone 463 5842.

Manaaki Pihipihinga is located at: 14 Kelburn Parade, back court yard, Room 109 D (for Humanities mentoring & some first year Commerce mentoring) or Room 210 level 2 west wing railway station Pipitea (commerce mentoring space). Māori Studies mentoring is done at the Marae.

# STUDENT SERVICES

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In addition, the Student Services Group (email: [student-services@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-services@vuw.ac.nz)) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/)

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 463-6983 or 463-6984, email at [education@vuwsa.org.nz](mailto:education@vuwsa.org.nz)) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.

# SCHOOL CATERING

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The Graduate School will provide a **light snack for lunch** while students are attending Schools, and hot beverages (tea, coffee, milo & soups) for morning and afternoon break. While we try to cater for the majority of students please feel free to bring your own supplies if your needs are not being met.

During the lunch breaks you may wish to investigate a variety of student cafes within walking distance on campus and several cafes at Kelburn shops approximately 10 mins walk from the School.

# COURSE TIMETABLE

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WEEK STARTING Monday	DATES	EVENT	ACTION
9 July			Read Hodgson, P. (2006). Required reading, and prepare reflections on health issues
16 July	<b>16 &amp; 17 July</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> School</b>	Bring reflections on reading and a list of key health issues in New Zealand and internationally
23 July			Reading related to policy and health
30 July			Reading related to policy and health
6 August			Submission assignment work
13 August			Submission assignment work
20 August			Submission assignment work
27 August			Submission assignment work
3 September			First assignment due
10 September			Reading related to ethics and policy
17 September			Reading related to ethics and health
24 September			Reading related to ethics and health
1 October			Prepare reflections from ethics readings for School
8 October	<b>8 &amp; 9 October</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> School</b>	Bring reflections on ethics
15 October			Ethics assignment work
22 October	22 October	Labour Weekend	Ethics assignment work
29 October			Second assignment due
5 November			
12 November			

## PREPARATION FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> SCHOOL

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Be sure to start your reading programme before you come to the 1<sup>st</sup> School. It will make the two days considerably more meaningful.

1. Read Hodgson, P. (2006). Implementing the New Zealand Health Strategy. Ministry of Health, Wellington. This publication can be obtained from the Ministry of Health, publications section or on line at [http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/pagesmh/5651/\\$File/implementing-nz-health-strategy-2006.pdf](http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/pagesmh/5651/$File/implementing-nz-health-strategy-2006.pdf)
2. Reflect on what you consider are the key issues in health for New Zealand and internationally and do some generally reading around these issues. Texts in the recommended reading list may help.

# SCHOOL TIMETABLE

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## 1<sup>ST</sup> SCHOOL

Dates: Monday 16 July and Tuesday 17 July

Times: Monday 9.30 am to 5.00 pm  
Tuesday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Venue: 83 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn, Wellington

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## FOCUS ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HEALTH POLICY AND ISSUES

The emphasis in this School will be on your participation in

- the politics of health care
- influencing health policy
- the Treaty of Waitangi and the New Zealand health system
- preparation for Assignment 1

## DRAFT TIMETABLE

### Monday 16 July

0930 - 1000	Welcome and round
1000 - 1045	Policy what is it?
1045 - 1115	Morning tea
1115 - 1215	Policy Perspectives 1
1215 - 1315	Lunch
1315 - 1415	Policy Perspectives 2
1415 - 1515	Policy Perspectives 3
1515 - 1545	Afternoon tea
1545 - 1700	Discussion groups - health policy issues

### Tuesday 17 July

0900 - 1000	The policy making process
1000 - 1100	Influencing policy: A voice for change
1115 - 1130	Morning tea
1130 - 1200	Submissions: Assignment 1
1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1600	New Zealand's policy processes
1600 - 1630	Summary, closure and planning and farewells

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SCHOOL

Dates: Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 October

Times: Monday 9.30 am to 5.00pm  
Tuesday 9.00 am to 4.30pm

Venue: 83 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn, Wellington

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### FOCUS ON ETHICS

The emphasis in this School will be lead by Professor Joan Liaschenko, an international nursing ethics expert. Further details on the timetable will be provided the 1<sup>st</sup> School. Joan will run this as a Master Class. Joan is from the School of Nursing, Center for Bioethics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States of America. Check on Joan's University website to find out more.

<http://www.nursing.umn.edu/FacultyandStaff/LiaschenkoJoan/home.html>

**TIMETABLE** details will be provided nearer the school, but for those who require to make any related appointments the approximate times for morning tea and lunch is provided.

#### Monday 8 October

0930 - 1030	Welcome, round and overview
1030 - 1100	Morning tea
1030 - 1200	
1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1400	
1400 - 1500	
1500 - 1530	Afternoon tea
1530 - 1630	
1630 - 1700	

#### Tuesday 9 October

0900 - 0930	Assignment 2: Katherine Nelson
0930 - 1030	
1030 - 1100	Tea
1100 - 1230	
1230 - 1330	Lunch
1330 - 1500	
1500 - 1515	Tea
1515 - 1615	
1615 - 1630	Close and farewells

# ASSIGNMENTS

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**Assignment information including grade descriptions, the procedures for submitting assignments and referencing information is available on the Graduate School's Website.**

Assignment cover sheets and acknowledgement postcards are attached at the back of this outline. Please ensure you complete an assignment cover sheet and attach it to the front of each assignment you submit. All assignments are to be sent to **Abbey McDonald, Student Administrator**, who will record the details and pass it to the appropriate marker. **Please do not address assignments to members of the academic staff, as they are not necessarily the markers of the assignment.** If you want to have receipt of your assignment acknowledged, complete a acknowledgement postcard and attach it to the front of your assignment.

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health has set a number of assessment tasks and due dates to best meet the outcomes of the course. In keeping with the Graduate School's stated philosophy that no assessment work shall serve the Graduate School alone, it is possible to negotiate alternative assessments and schedule. This should be undertaken in consultation with the course co-ordinator.

## **Graduate School guidelines for submission and return of student assignments:**

1. All assignments are to be submitted to the Graduate School by 5.00pm on the nominated due date.
  - 1.1 An extension to the due date may only be given in exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances would typically be sickness (as evidenced by a medical certificate) or bereavement.
  - 1.2 Application for an extension must be made to Course Co-ordinators at least 24 hours before the due date.
  - 1.3 Course Co-ordinators may grant an extension of up to 2 weeks.
  - 1.4 Any extension requested for longer than 2 weeks must be agreed to and signed off by the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or in her absence the Head of School.
2. Dean's extensions
  - 2.1 are available in exceptional circumstances for only the final piece of assessment in any course,
  - 2.2 must be applied for in writing at least 48 hours prior to due date,
  - 2.3 may be approved for up to 4 weeks by the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or Head of School with the appropriate documentation provided,
  - 2.4 may be extended beyond 4 weeks with written approval by, and an interview with, the Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator or Head of School.



3. Student coursework assignments submitted by the due date will be returned with feedback within four weeks of the due date. Students who do not submit within this timeframe may be subject to delays in their assignment being returned and may not receive comprehensive feedback.
4. Assignments which remain outstanding for up to two weeks without due cause beyond the due date will be marked, but cannot attract a grade higher than a 'C' (pass) grade.
5. Assignments that remain outstanding beyond two weeks from the due date without due cause will attract an 'E' (fail) grade. These assignments will not be marked and will not be able to be resubmitted for grading.
6. In exceptional circumstances withdrawal from assessment is a mechanism that may be recommended by the Course Co-ordinator to the Head of School when all avenues for extension have been exhausted and the Course Co-ordinator is satisfied that the student will be able to complete the required work in the negotiated timeframe. This timeframe will normally be to the end of the following trimester and will not extend beyond three trimesters.

**Final assignments will not be accepted by email.**

Students must submit and pass all pieces of assessment to satisfactorily complete the course.

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## **ASSIGNMENT NUMBER ONE**

Assignment Name: Submission or Service proposal

Due Date: Wednesday 7 September

**This assignment is worth 50% of your final grade**

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### **FORMAT**

There is no fixed format for a submission or service proposal. Nevertheless, thought should be given to a format that makes it easy for the busy person to read. Key components are:

- A title page bearing the author's name and contact address, the title and topic of the submission/proposal and the person or agency to whom the submission is addressed and date of submission/proposal
- An executive summary which is a succinct, brief, summing up of the main points in order of priority
- A statement about who the submission/proposal is from and how it was formulated
- Body of submission/proposal that
  - i) identifies what is wrong with the proposed or current policy or services,
  - ii) proposes (using evidence and argument) what should be changed and why,
  - iii) argues and justifies why the proposed change is feasible.
  - iv) Note each of the three components to the body of the submission/proposal should be supported by evidence.
- A conclusion
- Formal APA referencing not required but any sources need to be acknowledged in some way. A list of further reading and appendices are very useful.

Word length - up to 3500 words

### **TOPIC - SUBMISSION**

Select a policy or part of a policy that has influenced your professional practice over the last twelve months and which you would like to change. The policy can be internal or external to your organisation and may be one that is presently out for consultation.

Identify the agency responsible (if internal to your workplace, the manager responsible) for the development of the policy. Write a submission to the agency or manager using the format outlined above. Please send a copy of the policy with your assignment. It will be returned with your work.

### **TOPIC - PROPOSAL**

Develop a proposal to address the need for a new service or service change. The new or proposed service can be internal or external to your organisation and may be one that is presently out for consultation.

Identify the agency responsible (if internal to your workplace, the manager responsible) for the decisions related to the proposal. Write a case to the agency or manager using the format outlined above arguing for the new or changed service.

This assignment relates to Course Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4.

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## **ASSIGNMENT NUMBER TWO**

Assignment Name: Reflection on and analysis of a topic from an ethical perspective

Due Date: Wednesday 31 October

**This assignment is worth 50% of your final grade**

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### **FORMAT ESSAY**

- It should be written as an essay addressing the topic set
- A title page is required
- Must use APA referencing style.

### **TOPIC**

Using an ethical lens or lenses, select a topic, for example evidenced-based practice, patient rights, termination of high risk pregnancies, convenience caesareans, nurse-client relationships, role of family, health care rationing, that impacts on your practice and write an essay exploring the topic ethically.

The essay needs:

- An introduction making it clear about your topic and how you are going to present your work
- An outline of the topic and how it impacts on practice
- A body in which the topic is analysed using an ethical lens. This should include the use of health ethics literature
- A conclusion in which the essay is reviewed and your position at the end of the essay made apparent.

Word length - up to 3500 words

This assignment relates to Course Objectives 5 and 6.

### **Individual Contract**

Students by negotiation can also request to complete an alternative assignment for either of the assignments

As an alternative to the above option, you may prefer to generate a specific contract and undertake the associated work. If you wish to take up this option please negotiate details of the contract with the course co-ordinator. The work will be assessed in relation to the agreed contract.