FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

2013

Course outline for HLTH594/596 Full Year 2013594/596: Thesis (90 pts) Master of Nursing Science; Master of

Trimester 1 + 2 + 3/Full Year

Course Coordinator: Kay de Vries

Trimester 1
Trimester dates: 4 March 2013 – 3 July 2013
Easter break: 28 March 2013 – 3 April 2013
Mid-Trimester break: 22– 28 April 2013

Trimester 2
Trimester dates: 15 July 2013 – 17 November 2013
Mid-trimester break: 26 August 2013 – 8 September 2013

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 course timetables and venues need to be changed, all attempts will be made to notify the students.

Section 1: Operational Information

COURSE COORDINATOR & CONTACT DETAILS
Kay de Vries
Ph: 04 463 6650
Email: kay.devries@vuw.ac.nz

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT ADMINISTRATOR
Annemarie Thorby
Ph: 04 463-6647
Email: annemarie.thorby@vuw.ac.nz

POSTAL ADDRESS
Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health
Victoria University of Wellington
P O Box 7625
Newtown
Wellington 6242

PHYSICAL ADDRESS
Level 7, Clinical Services Block (CSB)
Wellington Regional Hospital
Riddiford St, Newtown
Wellington 6021

OFFICE HOURS
The Graduate School office will be open Monday 7 January 2013 and close on Friday 20 December 2013 from 9.00am – 4.00pm weekdays.

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. Please contact the course coordinator directly either by telephone or email should you wish to make an appointment or discuss course related issues.

Section 2: Academic Requirements

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

A research project is undertaken. Emphasis is placed on the practice of research and theory development in relation to nursing practice and/or health outcomes. The thesis report demonstrates generation and synthesis of knowledge and makes a contribution to nursing knowledge.

TEACHING/LEARNING SUMMARY

The course will be delivered by a combination of seminars, presentations, group activities, formal lectures and on-line discussions

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS) Guidelines for Masters Students contains details of the regulations, general expectations and practical advice for research students. This course outline should be read in conjunction with the Guidelines which can be found on the FHSS website at: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/study/postgraduate/specialist

Please read these Guidelines carefully and if necessary, discuss aspects with your supervisor for clarification.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All course information and information on changes that occur during the course will be conveyed to students via Blackboard or student VUW email.

COURSE CONTENT

Students will learn about:
- Research design
- Ethical procedures
- Theoretical frameworks
- Data collection and analysis
- Presentation of findings and thesis preparation

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Students will become critical thinkers who are able to:
- Undertake research, with support, in a particular area of practice, theory, or other area of scholarship;
- Demonstrate an understanding of a particular research area, its theories, methods and current findings, and be able to build upon this body of knowledge;
- Be able, under supervision, to design, conduct and write up results from a research study, examined to national benchmark;
- Be responsive to the principles and articles of the Treaty of Waitangi as it relates to research and engage in research in a culturally safe way;
- Disseminate research knowledge through publishing and presenting in national and international forums.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. make a scientific/scholarly contribution to nursing, midwifery or health by developing, implementing and evaluating a small academic/research project,
2. develop their ability to apply a nominated paradigm, perspective or methodology to a specific research topic, problem or hypothesis,
3. conceive, describe and substantiate a way of undertaking scholarly/ research inquiry into a chosen topic, issue, problem or hypothesis,
4. develop under supervision their skills as neophyte researchers,
5. become familiar with the requirements for the preparation and presentation of a research report in the form of a thesis,
6. develop insights into and an appreciation of the research processes, and the practicalities of a range of research practices and realities,
7. participate in and contribute to a nominated research community, and
8. develop skills in peer support during the research process.
9. plan with a designated supervisor a co-authored paper for publication based on the research.

NURSING COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND NURSE PRACTITIONER COMPETENCIES THIS COURSE MEETS (NCNZ 2008)

Competency 1.3 Demonstrates nursing leadership that positively influences the health outcomes of client/population group and the profession of nursing

Indicator: Shows leadership in professional activities such as research, scholarship and policy development.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The format and length of a 90 point thesis will be appropriate to the discipline and must not exceed 30,000 words, including bibliography, footnotes or endnotes and essential appendices, unless specific permission has been granted by the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Research.

90 point courses in the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health have an average workload of 900 hours. Timelines for submissions vary and students should discuss this with their supervisors as individual projects will follow a slightly different timelines.

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawlsrefunds

RECOMMENDED READINGS/TEXTS

For this course you will find it helpful to read a range of textbooks and theses. Previous students in this course report that they found it helpful to explore various texts which either demonstrate or are about writing skills. These texts range from very formal approaches to academic writing through to more creative prose and novels. Texts which concern the processes of research may contribute substantive and practical advice. We encourage you to explore the thesis collection of this and other universities, to gain a sense of appreciation of some of the more general ways of approaching a thesis, as well as some sense of the creative diversity which this kind of scholarship offers students of a discipline.

Additionally, we recommend that you purchase or have access to a copy of the 'Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association' (APA) 6th Edition for guidance regarding referencing styles.

Burns, N., & Grove, S. K. (c.2007). *Understanding nursing research: Building an evidence-based practice* (4th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders Elsevier.

Bryman, A. (2004). *Social research methods* (2nd ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bryman, A. (2006). *Mixed methods*. London: Sage.

Cluett, E. R., & Bluff, R. (Eds.). (2000). *Principles and practice of research in midwifery*. New York: Bailliere Tindall.

Creswell, J. W. (2009). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*. (3rd ed.). London: Sage.

Cutcliffe, J. R., & Ward, M. F. (c.2007). *Critiquing nursing research* (2nd ed.). London: Quay Books.

Denzin, N. & Lincoln, V. (Eds.) (2005). *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Denscombe, M. (2010). *The good research guide: For small-scale social research projects* (4th ed.).Maidenhead, England: Open University.

Field, A. (2009) *Discovering statistics using SPSS* (3rd ed). London: Sage.

Hart, C. (2001). *Doing a literature search: A comprehensive guide for the social sciences*. London: Sage.

Hazard Munro, B. (2005). *Statistical methods for healthcare research*. Sydney: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Macnee, C., & McCabe, S. (2008). *Understanding nursing research: Reading and using research in evidence-based practice*. (2nd ed.). Sydney: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Parahoo, K. (2006). *Nursing research: Principals, process and issues* (2nd ed.) Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Patton, M. (2002). *Qualitative research and evaluation methods* (3rd ed.) London: Sage.

Peat, J., Mellis, C., Williams, K. & Xuan, W. (2001). *Health science research: A handbook of quantitative methods.* Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin.

Silverman, D. (2006). *Interpreting qualitative data: Methods for analysing talk, text and interaction* (3rd ed.). London: Sage.

Streubert Speziale, H., & Rinaldi Carpenter, D. (2007). *Qualitative health research in nursing: Advancing the humanistic imperative* (4th ed.). Sydney: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Wetherell, M., Taylor, S., & Yates, S. J. (2001). *Discourse theory and practice: A reader.* London: Sage

RESEARCH GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Research is expensive and regardless of research design you should generate a budget for your HLTH 594 or HLTH 596 project. Your supervisor will help you work through the central aspects of this in relation to your actual project.

Many sources of research support or research funding are available to Master's students, and you should explore options available to you. Many of our students negotiate or receive small study grants, awards or scholarships from their employers towards their research (e.g. course fees, course and research travel and other research costs). Other groups such as professional bodies and clinical groups often advertise grants, scholarships, and awards for which you may be able to apply. Please discuss correct processes with your supervisor before making any application.

The FHSS Research Committee also accepts applications for small research grants from Master's research students. These competitive and merit-based grants are limited to $1000 for research related costs. See your supervisor for details.

The Research Fellow and Postgraduate Student Policy for research grants can be found on the FHSS website at: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/about/committees-boards/faculty-research-committee

More information can be found on the VUW Scholarships website at:
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/scholarships

Any support you receive should be acknowledged in your thesis.

TEXT BOOK PURCHASE

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Copies may also be obtained online from http://www.fishpond.co.nz/ or http://www.amazon.com/

SCHOOL TIMETABLES

While the school are run Monday to Wednesday for this course, students are encouraged to join the HLTH690 sessions which follows on until Friday of the same week.

1st SCHOOL

Dates:	Monday 8 – Wednesday 10 April, 2013
Times:	9.00am - 5.00pm
Venue:	CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Block, Wellington Regional Hospital Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington.

Student Research Writing Week

Dates:	Tuesday 4 – Friday 7 June, 2013
Times:	9.00am - 5.00pm
Venue:	CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Block, Wellington Regional Hospital Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington.

2nd SCHOOL

Dates:	Monday 12 – Wednesday 14 August, 2013
Times:	9.00am - 5.00pm
Venue:	CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Block, Wellington Regional Hospital Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington.

Preparation prior to School

Students will be asked to present information to the wider group about their research. This will usually involve a class presentation, details of which (length, topic) will be communicated to each individual student by their supervisor or the course coordinator prior to the school. Actual presentation times will be determined during the School. A draft class timetable for each School will be sent by email prior to the School.

During the School

Participate in a research community process – The student presentations will be a starting point for dialogue amongst peers and academic staff. Students as a group will be expected to provide critical companionship to their peers during class presentations and to use this time as a way of growing their general knowledge about research and thesis work.

Engage thoughtfully with the other formal teaching and learning processes. In addition to student presentations, each School will address a variety of research and thesis topics. Presentations from academic staff, former students and other guests will be provided.

Supervision and other University interactions

During School some time will be allocated for formal supervision (particularly for out of town students), visits to the Library (University thesis collection and other materials), and other research related activities (e.g. working in the computing lab, sorting grant applications, visiting the PGSA, and using Student Learning Support).

BLACKBOARD INFORMATION

Students enrolling for this course will need access to the VUW flexible learning system (Blackboard) via the Internet.

Blackboard is an online environment that supports teaching and learning at Victoria by making course information, materials and learning activities available online via the internet. Blackboard provides web-based access to course content, assessment, communication and collaboration tools. Instructions for using this will be provided as part of timetable during the 1st School. Students will need to be able to access the Internet on a regular basis.

The following software, which is necessary for using material on Blackboard, is freely available to download from the internet if you don't already have it:

- Netscape Communicator v 4.78 or higher (v. 7.1 recommended) OR
- Microsoft Internet Explorer v. 5.2.x or higher
- MS Windows 2000 or XP/ MacOS 9 or Mac OS X.2 or higher

Other software: Adobe Acrobat Reader - free download from
http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/

Microsoft Office or Microsoft Viewers. The viewers can be downloaded free of charge from:
http://www.microsoft .com/office/000/viewers.asp

Computer skills required:
- Internet browsing skills
- Basic word processing skills

How to log onto Blackboard
- Open a web browser and go to myVictoria.ac.nz
- Enter your account username which you can find in your *Confirmation of Study* sheet
- It is usually made up of 6 letters of your last name and 4 letters of your first name
- Enter your password. If you have never used Victoria computer facilities you initial password is your student ID number
- Click on the Blackboard icon
- Alternatively, if you want to access Blackboard without going through the myVictoria portal, just log on at http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz

Off Campus access
Blackboard is available from any location where you can access the Internet. This may be your home, work or an Internet café.

Problems with access? Contact ITS service desk **04 463 5050**

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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 coordinator.

Students must complete their thesis according to the criteria of the VUW thesis policy and pass by external examination. Lectures, tutorials, electronic and other distance learning resources, practical and fieldwork may all be an integral part of the learning experience and participation in such activities is regarded as necessary.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Approval is required in writing from the course coordinator if you wish to use work you have submitted from a previous course or have written for your organisation.

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism

USE OF TURNITIN

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine http://www.turnitin.com. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic.