

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Bachelor of Nursing

Credit Unit Statement

The Nursing Programme consists of five different types of courses which are taught using distinctive learning modes. The majority of courses are 6-credit courses, but we also have some 9-credit and 21-credit courses. We use 150 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) as the norm for a 6-credit course, but the contact hours and output requirements for different groups of courses vary according to the learning modes employed. For 9-credit and 21-credit courses, 225 hours and 525 hours of student learning activity are required respectively.

Students are assessed for each course and the assessment may be conducted in any one or a combination of written tests or examinations, continuous assessment of performance, field work, or project reports. The assessment modes adopted by different categories of courses are specified as below.

The five categories of Nursing courses may be summarised as follows:

1. *Survey courses* (6 and 9 credits)

These courses focus on content, including nursing theories, and are taught predominantly by lectures (40 hours for a 6-credit course and 60 hours for a 9-credit course) and may be accompanied by tutorials (8 hours for a 6-credit course and 12 hours for 9-credit course). Assessment depends mainly on continuous assessment (40-60%) (assignments and tests) and examinations (40-60%). Output requirements include tests, assignments, presentations and examinations. Range of word requirement is normally 1,000 to 1,500 words (6-credit course) and 1,500 – 2,000 words (9-credit course).

2. *Laboratory courses* (6 and 9 credits)

These courses provide the opportunity for students to observe and practise clinical skills essential for clinical settings with the application of the nursing theories learnt from the class. These courses are taught in lectures and laboratory sessions (24-40 lecture hours and 8-22 laboratory hours for a 6-credit course and 36-60 lecture hours and 12-33 laboratory hours for a 9-credit course). The assessment modes are continuous assessment (40-60%) (tests and clinical skills assessments) and examinations (40-60%). Output requirements include tests, assignments, clinical skills assessments and examinations. Range of word requirement is normally 1,000 to 1,500 words.

3. *Workshop, Group Learning and Project-based courses* (6 credits)

These courses can enhance students' critical thinking and facilitate collaboration among group members. Students are able to reinforce the nursing theories through group discussion and project presentation on a particular topic of the related course. These courses are taught in a combination of lectures and tutorials (34-48 lecture hours and 8-10 tutorial hours for a 6-credit course). Diversified learning modes are also adopted, including self-directed learning (4-8 hours), group learning activity (10-12 hours) as well as library workshop (2 hours). Assessment comes in many forms mainly on continuous assessment (40-

60%) (tutorial performance, group project, group presentation, test, reflective journal/action plan) and examinations (40-60%). Output requirements include test, assignments, reflective journals, action plan, critical review, presentations and examinations. Range of word requirement is normally 1,000 to 1,500 words.

4. *Clinical Practicum* (6, 9 and 21 credits)

These practica aim at providing clinical experiences for students to apply knowledge of nursing process, communication, problem-solving and decision making in different medical and surgical settings. Contact hours are minimal since the courses are predominantly practical in nature, while working period takes up 150 hours for a 6-credit course, 225 hours for a 9-credit course and 525 hours for a 21-credit course on average. Assessment is generally conducted through continuous clinical assessment by supervisors according to the objectives or the assessment criteria as listed in the Nursing Practicum Assessment Journal (NPAJ). Students are expected to achieve and fulfill the essential and specific learning objectives in each practicum and their level of clinical competence are recorded properly in the Journal. These objectives are related to knowledge, attitudes and skills applicable to the setting of nursing practice. Comments on students' performance will also be recorded in this Journal. To comply with the Clinical Assessment Scheme mandated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong, students are required to pass the three clinical assessments by the end of the fourth year of study. These three assessments are Aseptic Technique (AT); Administration of drugs by mouth (AOM) and Total Patient Care (TPC). Assessment is mainly on practicum performance (100%). Output requirements include continuous assessment of practicum performance.

5. *Experiential Learning courses* (6 credits)

These courses aim at offering students the opportunity to acquire life enrichment experiences within or beyond the scope of nursing. During the course of study, students would participate in experiential learning activities overseas, in the Mainland or other regions. Diversified modes of engagements may be adopted including student exchange, academic visits, study trips, practical experience, service work, research internship, participation in international events or interdisciplinary learning, e.g., inter/intra-faculty electives offered by HKU. Assessment depends wholly on continuous assessment (100%). Output requirements include reflective journals, experience sharing by oral or poster presentations, etc. Range of word requirement is normally 750 – 1,000 words.