

The University of Hong Kong
School of Nursing
Master of Nursing
Credit Unit Statement

The one-year (full-time) and two-year (part-time) Master of Nursing (“MNurs”) curriculum consists of three different types of courses. Taking reference to a 6-credit course normally embraces 120 - 180 hours of student learning activities (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity), all courses are 6-credit, and the capstone experience (Translational Nursing Research Course (6-credit) & one Dissertation or Clinical Research Project (for Paediatric Nursing Track and Perfusion Science Track only) (9-credit)) is 15-credit. The assessment is based on a combination of practical examinations/tests (0 – 60%) and continuous assessments (40 – 100%). The three categories of the MNurs courses are summarized as follows:

1. *Compulsory Core and Track Core Courses (6 credits embracing 120 - 180 student learning hours, including 20-35 contact hours)*

The core courses are designed to deepen students’ knowledge and skills to an advanced level, in subject areas identified as essential for the expanded and extended roles but for which nurses lack in-depth knowledge and/or competencies, by building on students’ existing knowledge and skills. Students, who are required to take all core courses, are taught to develop and practice meta-cognitive self-correction, to strengthen the ability to assess and evaluate health promotion programme with evidence and to enhance the research skills and application so as to prepare for writing up their dissertation within one year (full-time) or in the final year (part-time). These courses are taught predominantly by lectures, seminars and/or tutorials, supplemented by group project/presentation, self-directed learning and/or discussion forum.

The track core courses are designed to equip students with specific skills and knowledge. They aim at developing students to be specialists in various disciplines by offering different study tracks. Students are required to take 3 track core courses of their respective tracks. The courses are tailor-made for students who are currently working or aspire to work under the before-mentioned specialties/tracks. Lectures will be the major teaching strategy of the track core courses. Tutorials, case study, discussion forum, audio-visual programme and/or role play is/are also adopted by some of them.

The assessment is conducted through a combination of practical examinations/tests/assignments (0 – 60%) and oral presentation/seminar/discussion/projects/in-class participation (40 – 100%). Outputs may include tests, assignments, presentations, projects performance, with the range of word requirement from 500-3,000 words, practical examination and in-class performance.

2. *Elective Courses (6 credits embracing 120 - 180 student learning hours, including 20-35 contact hours)*

The elective courses provide opportunities for students to gain more exposure on the up-to-date knowledge of different health and health-related topics such as gerontology and tobacco dependency, along with other necessary skills, including but not limited to management and advanced health assessment skills, legal, ethical and statistical knowledge. Through these courses, students can keep abreast of the new developments brought about by the Health Care Reform. They are taught predominantly by lectures, with a few being supplemented by a variety of learning activities including but not limited to tutorials, workshops, self-directed learning, discussion forum, field trips and/or group project/presentation.

The assessment is conducted through a combination of practical examinations/tests/assignments (0 – 60%) and oral presentation/seminar/discussion/projects/in-class participation (40 – 100%). Outputs may include tests, assignments, presentations, projects performance, with the range of word requirement from 500-3,000 words, practical examination and in-class performance.

3. *Capstone Experience (15 credits embracing 300 - 450 student learning hours, including 20-35 contact hours for Translational Nursing Research and 20-35 contact hours for dissertation / 100-120 contact hours for clinical research project)*

The capstone experience consists of a Translational Nursing Research Course and a Dissertation or Clinical Research Project.

The Translational Nursing Research Course equips students with basic knowledge and skills in conducting translational research. It helps the students to further build up a solid foundation for completing their final dissertation. It is taught predominantly by lectures, supplemented by in-class discussion and self-directed learning. The assessment is conducted through written assignments (100%), with the range of word requirement from 200-1,500 words.

The Dissertation provides the research route for students to enhance their professional development through scientific inquiry. Students are guided step-by-step with tutorials in formulating a dissertation. They will be able to identify practice and systems problems of significance to nursing; formulate research questions; synthesize and critique research related to the research questions; design the implementation and outcomes evaluation of the findings associated with the synthesis by applying the principles of Translational Nursing Research; propose the research process to generate knowledge that will solve problems of nursing practice; and report and defend proposal orally and in writing to the scientific, professional and lay communities. It is taught predominantly by tutorials, supplemented by oral presentations and self-directed learning. The assessment is conducted through oral presentations (5%) and dissertation (95%), with the maximum word requirement to be 10,000 words.

The Clinical Research Project (for Perfusion Science Track and Paediatric Nursing Track only) is conducted in the form of clinical practicum, e.g. mentorship, clinical observation, workshops, to equip students with hands-on nursing skills and knowledge related to advanced clinical practice in perfusion science or paediatric nursing. The assessment is conducted through continuous assessment (100%). Students are required to keep a clinical logbook under the supervision of project supervisor, submit written assignments and a project report on reviewing evidence-based practice for advanced nursing practices, with the range of word requirement from 500-5,000 words.

The following table summarizes the details of the three categories of courses under the MNurs curriculum:

Nature of courses	Credits	Learning hours	Contact hours	Outputs	Assessment
Compulsory Core and Track Core Courses	6	120 - 180	20-35	Tests, assignments, presentations and projects performance (500-3,000 words)	0 – 60% practical examinations/tests assignments
Elective Courses	6	120 - 180	20-35	Practical examination, in-class performance	40 – 100% oral presentation/seminar discussion/projects/in-class participation
Capstone Experience	15	120 - 180	Translational Nursing Research: 20-35	Translational Nursing Research: Written assignments (200-1,500 words)	Translational Nursing Research: 100% written assignments
		180 - 270	Dissertation: 20-35 OR Clinical Research Project: 100-120	Dissertation: Oral presentations and dissertation (10,000 words) OR Clinical Research Project: Clinical logbook, written assignments and project report (500-5,000 words) Clinical practicum	Dissertation: 5% oral presentations; 95% dissertation OR Clinical Research Project: 100% continuous assessment
Total contact hours		Translational Nursing Research + Dissertation: 220 – 385 OR Translational Nursing Research + Clinical Research Project: 300 - 470			
Total learning hours		1380 – 2070			

February 2018 amended
 January 2019 re-amended
 August 2019 re-amended