

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 (12-credit)) is 18-credit. The assessment is based on a combination of practical examinations/tests (0 – 60%) and continuous assessments (40 – 100%). The categories of the MNurs courses are summarized as follows:

1. *Core, Concentration, Specialty, and Elective Courses (6 credits embracing 120 - 180 student learning hours, including 20-35 contact hours)*
 - a) The core and concentration 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 and the core competencies of an advanced practice nurse. Students will be empowered to develop clinical and professional leadership skills, to gain an in-depth understanding of the health care system and policy and the roles of an advanced practice nurse and to enhance the research skills and application so as to prepare for writing up their dissertation or clinical research project report 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.
 - b) The specialty courses are designed to equip students with advanced level knowledge and skills required to practice competently as a specialist nurse in a chosen specialty. They aim at developing students to be specialists in various disciplines by offering different study tracks. Students are required to take at least 3 specialty 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 specialty courses. Tutorials, case study, simulation learning, discussion forum, audio-visual programme and/or role play is/are also adopted by some of them.
 - c) The elective courses are designed to provide opportunities for students to broaden their knowledge and skills in different health and health-related areas in order to keep up with new developments in health care and enhance collaboration among different nursing specialties. Students will also have opportunities to choose elective courses offered by other disciplines or by the Doctor of Nursing Programme to prepare them for leading interdisciplinary practice and research. They are taught predominantly by lectures, with a few being supplemented by a variety of learning activities including but not limited to tutorials, workshops, simulation learning, case studies, self-directed learning, discussion forum, field trips and/or group project/presentation.
2. *Capstone Experience (18 credits embracing 360 - 540 student learning hours, including 20-35 contact hours for Translational Nursing Research and dissertation respectively, and 47-132 contact hours for clinical research project)*

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

- a) 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 online exercise and written assignments (100%), with the range of word requirement from 200-1,500 words.

- b) The Dissertation provides the research route for students to enhance their professional development through scientific inquiry. Students are guided step-by-step by a supervisor 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.
- c) The Clinical Research Project provides students with an opportunity to review, synthesize and integrate the evidence-based knowledge and develop hands-on nursing skills and knowledge related to their respective tracks. Students will conduct an integrative review of evidence-based practice for advanced nursing practice in a chosen specialty. In addition, students can choose to complete clinical practicum, which may involve mentorship, clinical observation and workshops, or to complete two elective courses. The assessment is conducted through 50% written assignment + 50% practicum/elective. Students are required to present the findings and submit a written report (5,000-6,000 words) on reviewing evidence-based practice for advanced nursing practices, keep a clinical logbook under the supervision of project supervisor or fulfil the assessments set by the chosen elective courses.

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

Nature of courses	Credits	Learning hours	Contact hours	Outputs	Assessment
Core Courses	12 (2 courses)	120 - 180	20-35	Tests, assignments, presentations and projects performance (500-3,000 words) Practical examination, in-class performance	0 – 60% practical examinations/tests/written assignments 40 – 100% oral presentation/seminar discussion/projects/in-class participation
Concentration Course	6 (1 course)	120 - 180	20-35		
Specialty Courses	18 (3 courses)	120 - 180	20-35		
Elective Courses	18 (3 courses)	120 - 180	20-35		
Capstone Experience	Total: 18				
	6 (Translational Nursing Research)	120 - 180	20-35	Written assignments (200-1,500 words)	100% written assignments
	12 (Dissertation OR Clinical Research Project)	120 - 180	Dissertation: 240-360	Dissertation: : 20-35	Dissertation: Oral presentations and dissertation (10,000 words)
Clinical Research Project:			Clinical Research Project:	Clinical Research Project:	Clinical Research Project: 50% integrated review; 50% practicum/elective

		(1) Integrated review: 60-90 (2a) Clinical practicum and Clinical logbook: 180-270 (2b) each elective course: around 120 #	(1) Integrated review: 7-12 (2a) Clinical practicum and Clinical logbook: 100-120 (2b) each elective course: 20-35	(1) Integrated review (5,000-6,000 words) <u>AND</u> (2a) Clinical practicum and Clinical logbook <u>OR</u> (2b) 2 elective courses	95% written assignment; 5% oral presentation 100% continuous assessment 0 – 60% practical examinations/ tests/ written assignments 40 – 100% oral presentation/ seminar discussion/ projects/ in-class participation
Total hours		Dissertation: 1,440 – 2,160 <u>OR</u> Research Project (1 + 2a): 1,440-2,160 <u>OR</u> Clinical Research Project (1 + 2b): 1,500-2,130	Dissertation: 220 – 385 <u>OR</u> Clinical Research Project (1 + 2a): 307-482 <u>OR</u> Clinical Research Project (1 + 2b): 247-432		

Remarks:

Some learning hours of the elective courses under capstone experience are incorporated in the Integrated Review. Therefore, its learning hours is around 120 for each elective course.

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