



THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

Program Code: 4165

**PROGRAM REGULATIONS:**  
**Graduate Certificate in Mental Health**  
**Nursing**  
**GradCertMHNurs**

Responsible Owner: National Head of the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences & Physiotherapy  
Responsible Office: Faculty of Medicine, Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences  
Contact Officer: PCAC Executive Officer  
Effective Date: 1 January 2021

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## 2 AMENDMENTS

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Amendments to these regulations will be made in accordance with the General Regulations.

Version	Date Amended	Amendment Details	Approved by
1	May 2020	Created	Dean
2	January 2021	Program description added	PCAC EO

### 3 PURPOSE

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These Program Regulations set out the approved requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing.

### 4 OVERVIEW

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#### 4.1 Campus Availability

The Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing has been approved for delivery on the Sydney Campus.

#### 4.2 Student Availability

The Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing is available for enrolment to domestic students and International students, except those on a student visa.

#### 4.3 Australian Qualifications Framework

The Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing is accredited by the University as a Level 8 AQF qualification.

#### 4.4 Duration

The Volume of Learning for the Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing is 0.5 years of equivalent full-time study.

This program is available part-time or full-time.

#### 4.5 Maximum Duration

The maximum period of time within which a student is permitted to complete the Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing is 3 years (including any periods of approved leave of absence) from the date on which they were first enrolled into the program by the University.

#### 4.6 Study Mode

The Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing is only offered online.

#### 4.7 Professional Accreditation

There are no professional accreditation requirements applicable to this Program. This program does not lead to registration.

### 5 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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#### 5.1 University Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission to The University of Notre Dame Australia, all applicants must meet the [University's minimum requirements for admission](#). The requirements for admission are detailed in the University's Policy: Admissions.

#### 5.2 Entry Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing applicants must have:

- Current registration as a Registered Nurse (Div 1) with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia(NMBA) and
- A Bachelor of Nursing or equivalent qualification or
- International offshore shore students without registration with the NMBA must have an equivalent qualification and be equivalent to a Registered Nurse (Div 1).

## 6 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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### 6.1 Program Description

The Graduate Certificate of Mental Health Nursing Program is designed for Registered Nurses who want to develop their knowledge and capability in mental health nursing. This Program is suitable for Registered Nurses working both within mental health nursing and other areas of practice. Students will explore the historical and contemporary contexts of care and examine the models of care in mental health. From this foundation, students will develop their capacity to assess and provide evidenced based mental health care. Furthermore, the Program focuses on the importance of comprehensive health assessment examining both psychosocial and pharmacological interventions and developing within students the capability to examine the role of the therapeutic relationship in mental health care.

### 6.2 Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing graduates will be able to:

1. Critically discuss historical and contemporary contexts of mental health nursing and societal attitudes to mental health and illness.
2. Critically discuss the impact of international, national and state health policy on mental health practice.
3. Explain the role of the mental health nurse in establishing effective therapeutic relationships and enhancing treatment outcomes.
4. Comprehensively and collaboratively assess people with mental health concerns, interpreting this data in relation to recovery trajectories, co-morbidities and associated risks.
5. Evaluate and discuss the implementation of a range of mental health nursing therapies.
6. Comprehensively source and critically evaluate evidence-based literature to support all aspects of mental health nursing.

### 6.3 Required Courses

To be eligible for the award of Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing students must complete 100 Units of Credit. See Appendix A: Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing.

### 6.4 Course substitutions

There are no approved course substitutions permitted in this Award.

## 7 DEFINITIONS

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For the purpose of these Regulations, the following definitions are available in the General Regulations.

- Leave of Absence
- Major
- Units of Credit
- Pre-requisite Course
- Minor
- Elective
- Co-requisite Course
- Specialisation
- General Elective

## APPENDIX A: Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing

### Full time

Semester One		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit
NURS4006	Evidence-based Practice and Research	25
NURS6008	Contextualising Mental Health Nursing	25
NURS4000	Advanced Health Assessment	25
NURS6009	Mental Health Nursing Therapies	25
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM UNITS OF CREDIT</b>		<b>100</b>

### Part time

Semester One			Semester Two		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit	Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit
NURS4006	Evidence-based Practice and Research	25	NURS4000	NURS4000 Advanced Health Assessment	25
NURS6008	Contextualizing Mental Health Nursing	25	NURS6009	Mental Health Nursing Therapies	25
<b>Total Units of Credit for Y2 S1</b>		<b>50</b>	<b>Total Units of Credit for Y2 S2</b>		<b>50</b>
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM UNITS OF CREDIT</b>					<b>100</b>