



Waipapa
Taumata Rau
**University
of Auckland**



Mātauranga Hauora
Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

2027

Postgraduate Nursing Handbook



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“

Postgraduate study has enabled me to advance my nursing career to senior positions. I have experienced what it is like to be within an academic environment, surrounded by academic staff and lecturers, doctors, scientists, researchers, and peers who want me to succeed.”

»»»

Stella Williams-Terei

Te Rarawa / Te Aupōuri / Ngāpuhi

Student: Master of Nursing



Nau mai, Haere mai ki Te Kura Tapuhi o Waipapa Taumata Rau



A warm welcome to the School of Nursing

Haere mai Hakatau mai ra koutou ki Te Kura Tapuhi ki te hakanui atu o koutou matauranga mo nga mahi o nga neehi. Ko nga Kaiako e awhi e tautoko ia koutou mai te timatanga tae noa ki te whakamutunga i o koutou mahi ki Te Kura Tapuhi. Ko to matou hiahia kua eke koutou ki nga taumata mo te tangata mo a muri nei. No reira Huri noa Huri noa Tena tatou katoa.

Ngā mihi

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to the School of Nursing postgraduate whānau. We're delighted that you've chosen to continue your study with us. Our postgraduate programmes are designed to challenge and inspire you, while supporting you to deepen your knowledge, grow your leadership and critical thinking, and make meaningful contributions to nursing practice, research, education, and the health system to strengthen health and wellbeing outcomes. During your studies, we encourage you to bring your whole selves, your experiences, and aspirations, into your learning. Guided by respect, curiosity, and a commitment to equity and excellence, we look forward to walking alongside you on your postgraduate journey.



WHAEA ERANA POULSEN

*Ngapuhi Nui Tonu, Ngāi Tūhoe,
Tainui me Ngāti Porou*
Te Kura Tapuhi | School of Nursing
Mātauranga Hauora
Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences
Waipapa Taumata Rau
University of Auckland



JOSEPHINE DAVIS

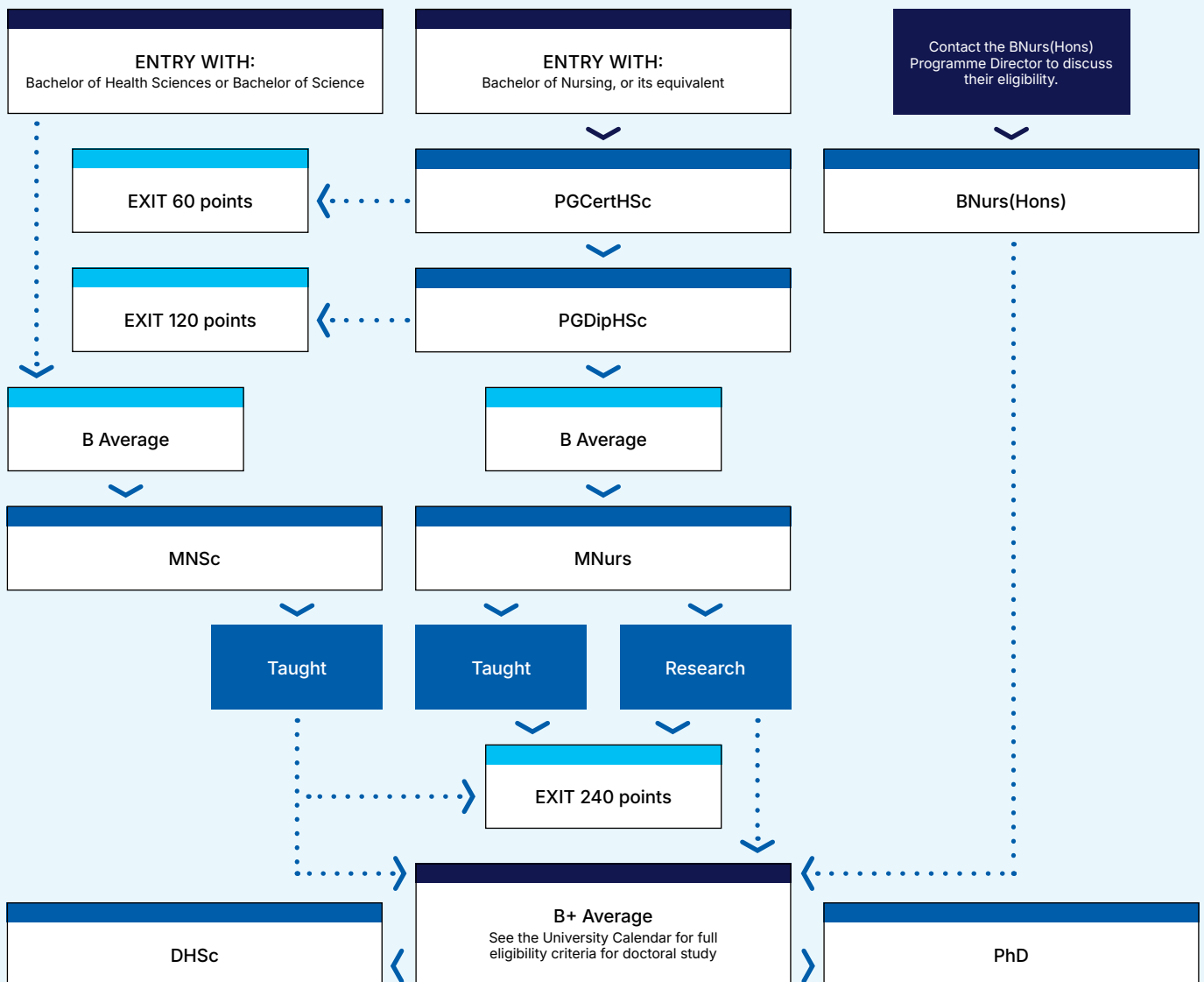
Ngā Puhi me Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
Urumatua o te Kura | Head of School
Te Kura Tapuhi | School of Nursing
Mātauranga Hauora
Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences
Waipapa Taumata Rau
University of Auckland

Disclaimer: Although every reasonable effort is made to ensure accuracy, the information in this document is provided only as a general guide for students and is subject to alteration. All students enrolling at the University of Auckland must consult its official document, the current Calendar of the University of Auckland, to ensure that they are aware of and comply with all regulations, requirements and policies.
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Front cover: Josephine Davis, Head of School of Nursing.

Our postgraduate programmes

Postgraduate study enables you to deepen your understanding, develop specialist skills and knowledge, follow your passion for research or stand out in a competitive job markets. We offer a wide range of postgraduate nursing programmes to help you reach your goals. Below is a flow chart of possible pathways for your postgraduate nursing study.



Postgraduate progression and Master of Nursing (MNurs) eligibility

Note: If you are interested in the MNurs but do not have the required GPA (B average), please contact the School of Nursing to explore your options.
postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

PGCert¹
60 points

PGDip²
120 points

MNurs
240 points

PhD/DHSc
360 points

¹On successful completion of the 60-point PGCertHSc, you may be awarded the qualification. You may also proceed to the 120-point PGDipHSc with credit (from the PGCertHSc), so long as it commences within five years of completing the PGCertHSc.

²On successful completion of the 120-point PGDipHSc, you may be awarded the qualification. You may also apply for the 240-point MNurs programme with credit (from the PGDipHSc), if you have achieved the eligibility criteria. There is no maximum time-limit between finishing the PGDipHSc and commencing the MNurs.



Entry and progression requirements

For entry into any postgraduate nursing programme, you must:

- have either completed an appropriate undergraduate degree or hold a professional nursing qualification
- hold nursing registration
- hold a current New Zealand practising certificate, and
- have recent clinical nursing experience.

Generally, initial enrolment is into Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences (PGCertHSc). On completion of the PGCertHSc, you may apply to have the certificate issued and graduate, or explore further study and enrol in the Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences (PGDipHSc). Upon completion of the PGDipHSc, you may apply to have the qualification awarded and graduate. If you meet the entry GPA (5.0/B average) for Masters study, you can apply for the MNurs.

Completion times

Most of our postgraduate students complete their studies part-time due to work and other commitments. It is wise to take note of completion and progression requirement timeframes and seek advice from the School of Nursing to ensure you can meet the University regulatory requirements. If you have a need to complete your postgraduate study in a full-time capacity, please contact the

School of Nursing before commencing your studies. Full-time study requires approval from a School of Nursing academic advisor.

Credit points

At Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland, 120 credit points equates to a full-time academic year. One full-time semester is, therefore, 60 points. Postgraduate courses in the school are usually 30 points.

Credit transfer

This information is for nurses who have undertaken postgraduate study at other tertiary providers, including NETP programmes, and wish to continue their studies at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.

Our current regulations state that:

- Credit from another institution can only be credited to a Masters or a postgraduate diploma (PGDip), not a postgraduate certificate (PGCert).
- Credit of 30 points from another institution can be transferred to a Masters or PGDip programme within three semesters of commencing the course relevant to the credit.
- Credit from a completed PGCert can be transferred into a PGDip within five years of completing the PGCert. If your PGCert is outside of this time frame, and you wish to pursue a masters degree, please contact the School of Nursing to discuss your options.

- If a student has completed either a 30 point course or a PGCert and wishes to transfer to Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland, they must contact our postgraduate academic advisers prior to applying to the University. This will ensure that they receive the best advice for their individual pathway of study.

Grade point average

The following table can be used to guide the grade point average (GPA) calculation.

9	A+	2	C
8	A	1	C-
7	A-	0	D+
6	B+	0	D
5	B	0	D-
4	B-	0	F
3	C+		

The University Calendar

The most up-to-date regulations can be found in the University Calendar auckland.ac.nz/calendar

Course selection advice

Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland offers a range of courses tailored to meet the needs of a variety of disciplines within nursing. These can include research, leadership, education, mental health, paediatrics, older adult health, primary health care, specialty clinical courses, and courses tailored to the registered nurse designated prescribing and nurse practitioner training pathways. The School of Nursing provides a student-centric approach of course advice to facilitate course selection that meets the needs of the student's career goals and the populations they serve.

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

To connect with an academic adviser from any of these areas, please indicate what type of course advice you are seeking when you email us.

For returning students, please include your Student ID number.

Qualification	Full-time	Part-time
Honours degree	No full time option available	4 semesters (2 years)
Postgraduate certificate	1 semester	4 semesters (2 years)
Postgraduate diploma	2 semesters (1 year)	8 semesters (4 years)
Postgraduate diploma (entered with credit)	1 semester	4 semesters (2 years)
Masters (research – all 120 and 90 point thesis or research portfolio)	2 semesters (1 year)	4 semesters (2 years) Study must be continuous
Masters (taught 120 point)	4 semesters (2 years)	8 semesters (4 years)
Master of Nursing Science (240 point)	4 semesters (2 years)	No part-time option
Doctor of Health Sciences	No full time option first 2 years. Thesis component can be completed 2 years full time.	4–6 years
Doctor of Philosophy	3–4 years	6–8 years

Early postgraduate study

If you are new to postgraduate study, you may want to follow the pathway that most of our nursing students take – enrolling in a postgraduate certificate, followed by a postgraduate diploma. If you are eligible and wish to, you may consider progressing to a Master of Nursing.

Our PGCertHSc (Advanced Nursing, Mental Health Nursing), PGDipHSc (Advanced Nursing, Mental Health Nursing), and MNurs programmes are approved by Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa, the Nursing Council of New Zealand as appropriate educational preparation for advanced nursing practice.

Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences

(PGCertHSc, 60 points)

The PGCertHSc allows students to start their postgraduate study with us from a wide range of courses found in this book.

Specialisations:

When applying for this programme, you can choose between these two specialisations:

- Advanced Nursing
- Mental Health Nursing

Entry requirements:

Registered nurse registration with Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa, the Nursing Council of New Zealand and a current practising certificate.

Structure/content:

60 points (from page 28–29)

Progression:

You may be awarded the qualification. You may also proceed to a PGDipHSc with credit, so long as it commences within five years of completing the PGCertHSc.

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz



Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences

(PGDipHSc, 120 points)

The PGDipHSc allows students to start, or continue their postgraduate study with us from a wide range of courses found in this book.

Specialisations:

When applying for this programme, you can choose between these two specialisations:

- Advanced Nursing
- Mental Health Nursing

Entry requirements:

Registered nurse registration with Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa, the Nursing Council of New Zealand, and a current practising certificate.

Structure/content:

120 points (from page 28–29). If you have completed a PGCert have completed a PGCert at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland within the last five years, you can have the 60 points from it internally credited to the PGDip and will only have to complete a further 60 points.

Progression:

You may be awarded the qualification. You may also apply for a masters programme if you have attained a B average (GPA 5) or higher.

Note: If you are interested in the MNurs but do not have the required GPA (B average), please contact the School of Nursing to explore your options.

Left: Rachel Lampkin, Professional Teaching Fellow, teaching postgraduate students.

Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)

(BNurs(Hons), 120 points)

The Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) programme is for students who wish to pursue an academic career, and may be used to fast-track the student into doctoral study. This programme provides students with an in-depth understanding of undertaking research in the health sector.

Entry requirements:

Students are to contact the BNurs(Hons) Programme Director to discuss their eligibility.

Structure/content:

BNurs(Hons) is four semesters of continuous part-time study. Students must commence their programme in semester one.

Progression

There is potential to progress to doctoral study (the PhD or DHSc), see the University Calendar for eligibility criteria.

Semester One

NURSING 746 – Evidence-based Practice and Implementation – Level 9 (30 points)

Semester Two

NURSING 782 – Research Methods in Nursing and Health – Level 9 (30 points)

Semester Three

HLTHSCI 715 – Research in Practice – Level 8 (30 points)

Semester Four

HLTHSCI 789 – Research Project – Level 9 (30 points)

Contact

j.robinson@auckland.ac.nz

For further information on the BNurs(Hons), including eligibility, please contact the BNurs(Hons) programme director.

The MNurs will enable you to increase your knowledge in your chosen field, gain a professionally accredited qualification, and/or follow your passion for research while gaining an advanced qualification. We also offer the Master of Nursing Science, which is a pre-registration programme that enables non-registered nurses, with a relevant undergraduate degree, the opportunity to become a registered nurse.

Taught Masters (120 points) Select one of the following three options					
Taught option 1	Taught option 2	Taught option 3			
60 points of taught courses +	60 points of taught courses +	60 points of taught courses +			
NURSING 795 A/B Dissertation Level 9 (60 points)	NURSING 782 Research Methods in Nursing and Health Level 9 (30 points) ¹	+ Select at least one of the following Level 9 courses			
	HLTHSCI 789 Research Project Level 9 (30 points) Students should complete NURSING 782 prior to enrolling in this course	NURSING 782 Research Methods in Nursing and Health Level 9 (30 points)	NURSING 746 Evidence based practice and Implementation Level 9 (30 points)	NURSING 785 Clinical Reasoning in Pharmacotherapeutics Level 9 (30 points) Prescribing pathway students only	NURSING 740 Nurse Practitioner Prescribing Practicum Level 9 (30 points) NP students only
		+ NURSING 701 Research Project Level 9 (30 points) NP pathway students only			

Eight semesters, part-time study or four semesters, full-time study. 60 points of the MNurs must be at level 9 and meet the research requirement. ¹This course is a research preparation course, and is not the equivalent of the 30-point research requirement for the MNurs (i.e. is not the equivalent of HLTHSCI 789 or NURSING 701)

Research Masters (120 points) Select one of the following three options		
Research option 1	Research option 2	Research option 3
NURSING 798 A/B Research Portfolio Level 9 (120 points) ²	NURSING 799 A/B Thesis Level 9 (120 points) ²	NURSING 782 Research Methods in Nursing and Health Level 9 (30 points) + NURSING 791 A/B Research Portfolio Level 9 (90 points) ²

Four semesters, part-time continuous study or two semesters, full-time continuous study. ²Need to have completed a research methods course prior to commencing

Master of Nursing

(MNurs, 120 points)

This programme is aimed at registered nurses seeking to advance their clinical knowledge and skills.

Entry requirements:

Students must hold current registration as a nurse in Aotearoa, New Zealand and have a B average (GPA 5) or higher in one of the following qualifications:

- Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)
- PGDipHSc specialisation in Advanced Nursing (or their equivalent)

Options:

Students can decide between the following two options:

- Research (120 points)
- Taught (120 points)

Note: If you are interested in the MNurs but do not have the required GPA (B average), please contact the School of Nursing to explore your options.

Option 1: Master of Nursing (research)

Structure/content:

Research 120 points (study must be continuous).

- NURSING 799 A/B Thesis (120 points, must have completed an approved research methods course prior to entering the programme)

OR

- NURSING 798 A/B Research Portfolio (120 points, must have completed an approved research methods course prior to entering the programme)

OR

- NURSING 791 A/B Research Portfolio (90 points) + NURSING 782 Research Methods in Nursing and Health (30 points, or equivalent research course)

What does masters research involve?

For both the research portfolio and the thesis, you will be assisted by a supervisor from the School of Nursing.

What is a 90 point research portfolio?

A research portfolio represents a coherent, rigorous, research-based collection of linked scholarly work related to a specified area of specialisation or scope of practice. It will be about 30,000 words in length (including tables, figures and references). The portfolio is presented for examination at the completion of the work, in the same manner as a thesis.

A research portfolio will address a clearly articulated research question and includes a critical review of the literature. Normally the portfolio will require the collection of primary data through interviewing, survey, and documents.

The portfolio demonstrates a higher order of skill in the planning, execution and completion of a piece of original research, to internationally recognised standards. The research will make an original contribution to knowledge.

What is a 120 point masters thesis?

A 120 point thesis can be conducted over one academic year (full-time) or two years (part-time). It is recommended that students use the part-time option. Length will vary with the nature of the topic, but it is expected that most theses will be about 40,000 words (including tables, figures and references).

The learning outcome of a thesis is that the student demonstrates an ability to conduct research that makes an original contribution to knowledge.

The thesis should provide a coherent and competently organised document forming a conclusive piece of work. The thesis will include the rationale for the study, a review of the relevant literature, the research question, aim and objectives, methodology, findings and discussion. It will also include the study's implications and recommendations for theory and/or practice.

Option 2: Master of Nursing (taught)

Structure/content:

Taught 120 points (study does not have to be continuous, but needs to be completed within the timeframes stipulated on page 5).

- NURSING 795 Dissertation (60 points)

AND

- 60 points from (page 28–29)

OR

- 30 points from either:
- NURSING 701 Research Project (30 points)
- HLTHSCI 789 Research Project (30 points)

AND

30 points from either:

- NURSING 785 Clinical Reasoning in Pharmacotherapeutics (30 points)
- NURSING 746 Evidence-based Practice and Implementation (30 points)
- NURSING 740 Nurse Practitioner Prescribing Practicum (30 points)
- NURSING 782 Research Methods in Nursing and Health (30 points)

AND

- 60 points (from page 28–29)

To be eligible to graduate with your MNurs, ensure that your taught masters degree includes a minimum of 60 points of Level 9 courses. There are three primary ways to achieve this, demonstrated in the picture on page 7.

If you are not completing NURSING 795 A/B (Dissertation), it becomes mandatory to include either NURSING 701 (Research Project) OR HLTHSCI 789 (Research Project) in your MNurs (taught) qualification.

Master of Nursing Science

(MNSc, 240 points)

This full-time two-year programme gives graduates with a relevant undergraduate degree the opportunity to complete the requirements to become a registered nurse in Aotearoa, New Zealand.

Entry requirements:

Students must have completed a relevant undergraduate degree (such as health sciences or science with some human science subjects, such as physiology and anatomy) with a B average (GPA 5) or higher.

Eligible applicants will also be required to attend a selection interview.

English language proficiency and fitness to practise requirements also apply.

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

Please contact the School of Nursing to discuss your masters plan before applying for the programme.

Semester One

NURSING 787 Fundamentals of Nursing Care (30 points) and 224 clinical hours

NURSING 742 Biological Science for Practice (30 points)

Semester Two

NURSPRAC 721 Integrative Nursing Practice (45 points) and 320 clinical hours

MAORITH 701 Foundations of Māori Health (15 points)

Semester Three

NURSING 780 Mental Health and Addiction Nursing (30 points) and 240 clinical hours

NURSING 746 Evidence-based Practice and Implementation (30 points)

Semester Four

NURSPRAC 722 Transition to Professional Nursing Practice (30 points) and 360 clinical hours

NURSING 789 Research Project (30 points)

Below: John Tuoro (Ngāpuhi, Te Arawa), Professor Terryann Clark (Ngāpuhi) and Whaea Erana Poulsen (Ngāpuhi Nui Tonu, Ngāi Tūhoe, Tainui, Ngāti Porou) on the day of Terryann's Inaugural Professorial Lecture.



There are many reasons that you might consider doing a doctoral degree. Ultimately, doing so means you will have expert-level knowledge in your chosen field and gives you the highest level of degree you can achieve. Doctoral study will allow you to undertake in-depth research and exploration in your chosen area.

A doctoral degree can broaden career opportunities, develop your critical thinking skills and sharpen your writing abilities. It can develop your confidence and ability to advocate for change, foster national and international collaboration within your area of expertise and help you learn new skills to pursue your aspirations.

Doctor of Health Sciences

(DHSc, 360 points)

Entry requirements:

The entry criteria for the DHSc are extensive. Please see the University Calendar for the full and most up-to-date regulations, which include a B+ (GPA 6) average in the student's most recent attempt at a relevant qualification, i.e. BNHons, masters in a relevant subject area.

Structure/content:

This named doctorate will provide experienced health professionals and leaders working in diverse roles within the health sector with a pathway to a research-based higher degree.

Students will address contemporary issues challenging the health sector, influencing local, national and potentially international health policy and practice.

The DHSc comprises a combination of taught courses (120 points) and a thesis (240 points) which will develop candidates' professional understanding and expertise in leadership, research implementation, evaluation and professional practice. The DHSc programme is designed for health professionals and senior leaders in healthcare in Aotearoa, New Zealand who want to continue working while they study.

Doctor of Philosophy

(PhD, 360 points)

Entry requirements:

The entry criteria for the PhD are extensive. Please see the University Calendar for the full and most up-to-date regulations, which include a B+ (GPA 6) average in the student's most recent attempt at a relevant qualification, i.e. BNHons, a masters degree in a relevant subject area.

Structure/content:

The PhD is a well-recognised postgraduate research degree. PhD students are critical, curious and creative thinkers who undertake original research over at least three years.

Candidates will undertake independent and original research, supervised by academic experts and research leaders. During your doctoral studies, you will have opportunities to expand and develop your personal, professional and academic skills. Our doctoral candidates present their work at local and international conferences and are encouraged to network and collaborate with a wide range of experts in their research field.

You will undertake independent research and submit for examination a 360 point research thesis.

Contact

SON_Doctoraladvice@auckland.ac.nz

Please contact the School of Nursing to discuss your doctoral plan before applying for the programme.

For more information:

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD):

auckland.ac.nz/phd

Doctor of Health Sciences degree (DHSc)

auckland.ac.nz/dhsc

Application Process

auckland.ac.nz/doctoral-applications

Below: Dr Michael Crossan (PhD), Jenny Sung (PhD Candidate), Dr Louise Carrucan-Wood (PhD) and Dr Marea Topp at the November 2024 Graduation Ceremony.



Course descriptions

We have a wide variety of courses available to postgraduate students studying with the Mātauranga Hauora, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences. The NURSING and NURSPRAC (Nursing Practice) courses are facilitated by the School of Nursing. Below you'll find a list of our courses and an indication of what format they're available in – which region (for face-to-face options), online, or blended. An asterisk (*) indicates the courses that need a concession. Our courses that have a focus on Mental Health and Addiction, Child and Youth Health and Palliative Care are found on pages 14, 16 and 18, respectively. You can also find the full schedule of our courses on page 28.

MAORIRTH 701 **15 points**

Foundations of Māori Health

Semester One – Auckland

Provides an overview of the many dimensions of Māori Health. It examines the historical and contemporary determinants of Māori health status, and outlines strategies for improving Māori health in the context of the Treaty of Waitangi and reducing health inequalities.

MAORIRTH 709 **15 points**

Transformational Research for Māori Health

Semester Two – Auckland

Provides a critical analysis of research and research processes with regard to their potential to colonise or liberate. Drawing on Kaupapa Māori Theory, the course examines how research can be undertaken in ways that are safe for Māori and that contribute to positive Māori development

MAORIRTH 710 **15 points**

Kaupapa Māori Theory

Semester One – Auckland

Kaupapa Māori Theory (KMT) underpins a range of approaches employed to ensure policy, research and intervention processes emphasise Māori ways of knowing and being and work to prevent the further marginalisation of Māori. Students learn about the development of KMT and its use in the context of Māori health and development, and will experience and learn from a range of initiatives and projects that have KMT at their core.

NURSING 701* **30 points**

Research Project – Level 9 (NP pathway students only)

Semester One – Auckland,

Semester Two – Auckland

A personal scholarly exploration of an area of clinical nursing practice that reflects an understanding of research purpose and process. The project includes a critical and comprehensive review of relevant literature which results in new insights and understandings and considers how the application of these might affect existing service delivery or clinical practice models.

NURSING 732 **30 points**

Leading and Managing Changes in Healthcare

Semester Two – Auckland, Whangārei

Theoretical and practice principles of leadership and management in the context of healthcare organisations. Utilises an action-based learning model, mentorship and project work.

NURSING 735 **30 points**

Clinical Education Practicum

Semester Two – Online

Application and critical analysis of educational theories and concepts in a clinical learning environment. Utilises an action-based learning model and project work.

NURSING 740* **30 points**

Nurse Practitioner Prescribing Practicum – Level 9 (Part Two)

Semester Two – Auckland

Clinical practicum facilitating mastery of the Nursing Council of New Zealand nurse practitioner (NP) competencies for autonomous clinical practice in the nurse practitioner scope of practice. Critically analyse clinical cases and develop evidence-informed and innovative solutions through expert consultation and primary literature review. Students will prepare a portfolio demonstrating expert autonomous clinical practice for complex medical and nursing problems.

Prerequisite: NURSING 743 and approval of the Course Director

NURSING 741 **30 points**

Education for Clinical Practice

Semester One – Auckland (blended)

Professional learning is essential to enable healthcare professionals to function competently in the complex world of clinical practice. Health care professionals are required to become actively involved in teaching colleagues involved in healthcare and patients. Effective clinical teaching and learning is enabled by laying a foundation in educational theory and practice.

NURSING 742 **30 points**

Biological Science for Practice

Semester One – Online

Semester Two – Online

Focuses on common pathologies acknowledging the New Zealand Health Strategy, giving particular attention to areas where health promotion, preventative care, chronic disease management and cost impact for New Zealand.

**Concession required*

N.B. A prerequisite is a course or requirement that needs to be completed in order to be eligible for a course.



NURSING 743* 30 points

Nurse Practitioner Advanced Practicum (Part One)

Semester One – Auckland

Synthesises advanced clinical decision-making within the nurse practitioner competency framework and prepares for autonomous clinical practice.

Prerequisite: NURSING 785 and approval of the Course Director

NURSING 744 30 points

Critical Care Specialty Nursing Practicum

Semester Two – Auckland

Gives critical care nurses the opportunity to extend their clinical skills and practice knowledge and to advance clinical decision-making by utilising a range of guided learning experiences. The focus is on continued development of clinical expertise, using a practice development approach emphasising person-centred, evidence-based practice, and critical thinking practice to improve health outcomes.

NURSING 745 30 points

Principles of Medication Management

Semester One – Online

Semester Two – Online

Focuses on the principles and practice of medication management to improve and extend the knowledge and skills of registered nurses in clinical specialty roles and prepare them for delegated prescribing roles in partnership with clients and collaborating with medical colleagues and the health care team. It is not the intention of this course to prepare nurses for authorised prescribing (nurse practitioner).

NURSING 746 30 points

Evidence-based Practice and Implementation – Level 9

Semester One – Auckland

Semester Two – Auckland

Considers the types of evidence that inform nursing practice and implementation, and examines barriers and enablers to the application of evidence to practice. Provides students with the tools to locate and appraise evidence and requires the student to engage in research activities resulting in a substantial research essay.

NURSING 773 30 points

(Adult Health stream)

Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning

Semester One – Auckland, New Plymouth, Tauranga, Whangārei,

Semester Two – Auckland, Whakatāne, Whangārei

Nurses make a variety of clinical decisions in their daily practice. Advanced nursing practice requires skilled health examination, consideration of differential diagnoses and evidence based diagnostic reasoning. This complex cognitive process is developed in relation to skills and knowledge required for sound clinical reasoning

Note: Child and Young Person Health stream is described on page 16

NURSING 775 30 points

Leadership and Management for Quality Health care

Semester One – Auckland, Tauranga, Whangārei

Builds management and leadership knowledge, competence and business acumen through project-based learning. Focuses on critical thinking, quality service delivery and improvements and maximises organisational performance and change management.

NURSING 782 30 points

Research Methods in Nursing and Health – Level 9

Semester One – Auckland

Semester Two – Auckland

Explores the philosophical underpinnings of research methodologies and assists students to understand the major distinctions between quantitative and qualitative approaches. Students will critique research studies and apply research findings to practice. They will gain a practical appreciation of research ethics. By the end of the course, students will be able to apply their learning to the development of a basic research proposal.

NURSING 783 30 points

Special Topic: Pae Ora

Semester Two – TBC

Pae Ora encourages the wider health sector to work collaboratively, to provide high-quality and effective health and disability services at all levels. This course has been designed for those who wish to develop and consolidate a sophisticated understanding of the principles of Pae Ora (Mauri Ora – healthy individuals; Whānau Ora – healthy families; Wai Ora – healthy environments) in their practice area.

NURSING 784* 30 points

Advanced Emergency Nursing Practicum

Semester Two – Auckland

Specialty emergency nurses provide advanced nursing care and need expertise in assessment, diagnostic processes and therapeutic decision-making. Advanced assessment skills along with injury and condition-specific management models are taught with a focus on clinical decision-making for clients in emergency and accident and medical clinic settings. Designed to refine advanced emergency nursing skills for nurses working in specialty emergency nursing roles.

Pre-requisite: NURSING 773 or equivalent and practising in an advanced nursing role

NURSING 785* 30 points

Clinical Reasoning in

Pharmacotherapeutics – Level 9

Semester One – Auckland

Semester Two – Auckland (blended delivery Semester Two only)

Builds on prior knowledge to establish an advanced understanding of pharmacotherapeutics and the application of the principles of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics to prescribing practice in advanced practice roles; and develops nursing skills in clinical reasoning for safe and effective prescribing.

Prerequisite: NURSING 742, NURSING 773 (or NURSING 770/NURSPRAC 720)

Please note: all our courses are run subject to sufficient course enrolments. Before booking flights or accommodation, please contact the School to ensure the course is still running.

**Concession required*

N.B. A prerequisite is a course or requirement that needs to be completed in order to be eligible for a course.

NURSING 791 A/B **90 points****Research Portfolio – Level 9**

Supervised research that represents the personal scholarly work of a student based on a coherent area of inquiry. Culminates in a conclusive piece of work related to a specific area of specialisation or scope of practice.

NURSING 795 A/B **60 points****Dissertation – Level 9****Semester One – (A) followed by Semester Two – (B)**

The 60-point dissertation (15,000 to 20,000 words) is part-time over two semesters and can take the form of a literature review, secondary data analysis or small project. Students work with a supervisor to complete the dissertation and attend three study days per semester. The goal is to successfully submit an externally assessed.

NURSING 798 A/B **120 points****Research Portfolio – Level 9****Semester One – (A) followed by Semester Two – (B)**

Supervised research that represents the personal scholarly work of a student based on a coherent area of inquiry. Culminates in a conclusive piece of work related to a specific area of specialisation or scope of practice.

NURSING 799 A/B **120 points****Thesis – Level 9****NURSPRAC 701*** **30 points****Cardiac Specialty Nursing**
(next offered 2028)**Semester One – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of cardiac patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of cardiac nursing.

NURSPRAC 702* **30 points****Critical Care Specialty Nursing****Semester One – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of critical care patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of critical care nursing.

NURSPRAC 704* **30 points****Cancer Specialty Nursing**
(next offered 2028)**Semester Two – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of patients with cancer. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of cancer nursing.

NURSPRAC 707* **30 points****Registered Nurse First Surgical Assist****Semester Two – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of surgical patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of registered nurse first surgical assist.

NURSPRAC 708* **30 points****Emergency Specialty Nursing****Semester One – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of patients in the emergency setting. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of emergency nursing.

NURSPRAC 711* **30 points****Pain Nursing Specialty Nursing****Semester Two – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of patients experiencing pain. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of nursing patients with pain.

NURSPRAC 712* **30 points****Diabetes Specialty Nursing****(next offered 2028)****Semester Two – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of diabetic patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of nursing patients with diabetes.

NURSPRAC 716* **30 points****Ophthalmology Specialty Nursing****Semester Two – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of ophthalmology patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of ophthalmology nursing.

NURSPRAC 717* **30 points****Practicum for RN Designated Prescribers****Semester One – Auckland****Semester Two – Auckland**

Prepares registered nurses to apply for prescribing rights as designated prescribers. Provides nurses with the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills in the application of pharmacotherapeutic concepts to prescribing as a designated prescriber. This includes direct supervision of prescribing activities in the clinical area and the ability to work closely and effectively in a multidisciplinary team environment.

Prerequisite: NURSING 742, 773 (or NURSING770/NURSPRAC 720), NURSING 785

NURSPRAC 727* **30 points****Perioperative Nursing Specialty****Semester One – Auckland**

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of patients across the perioperative continuum. Students will integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of caring for people requiring surgical intervention.

NURSPRAC 728* **30 points****Frailty in Aged Care Nursing****(next offered 2028)****Semester Two – Auckland**

Frailty is an age-related, progressive geriatric syndrome related to pathological changes in underlying physiological and psycho-social function and the leading cause of mortality and morbidity in older people. Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of older people affected by frailty.

**Concession Required*



HLTHSCI 700 **30 points**

Working with People with Long-term Conditions

Semester One – Auckland

Semester Two – Auckland, Whangārei

Long-term conditions present one of the most challenging global epidemics of the twenty-first century. This course is designed to support the development of a responsive person-centred healthcare workforce to meet the needs of people living with long-term conditions and to work with them to improve their self-efficacy and health outcomes.

HLTHSCI 705* **30 points**

Mental Health and Addiction for Health Professionals

Semester One – Auckland

Uses a person-focused theoretical framework to explore mental health and addiction problems presenting in non-specialist mental health settings. Conceptualises mental health and addiction problems as frequently co-occurring. Engagement, assessment, collaborative solution focused interventions, referral and care coordination will be explored.

HLTHSCI 710 **30 points**

Acute Stroke Care

Semester One – Online

Students will develop advanced interdisciplinary knowledge about pre-hospital care, diagnosis and hyperacute stroke care, secondary stroke prevention, stroke pathophysiology and management of risk factors. Students will evaluate and critique stroke epidemiology and equity of access to stroke services. Skills in assessment of neurological impairment, rehabilitation needs, and discharge planning will be developed with reference to clinical guidelines and local contexts.

HLTHSCI 715* **30 points**

Special Topic: Research in Practice

Semester One – Auckland (BNurs(Hons) only)

Provides students with an in-depth understanding of undertaking research in the health sector. Building on learnings from prerequisite courses, students are supported to operationalise their research through completion of an ethics application as well as collecting and analysing data.

HLTHSCI 789* **30 points**

Research Project – Level 9

Semester One and Semester Two

This aim of this course is to develop a coherent area of inquiry (10,000 words) that reflects the research purpose and process, and is applied to a specialty area of clinical practice. It consists of work involving the gaining of knowledge and understanding and typically involves enquiry of an experimental or critical nature driven by hypotheses, or intellectual enquiry. The student will work with designated academic staff who will act as supervisor for the project.

POPLPRAC 758 **30 points**

Biology of Ageing

Semester One – Online

The systematic analysis of the physiological changes in ageing and the relationship of these changes to current beliefs and theories around the ageing process. Current issues around biogerontology are discussed.

POPLPRAC 767 **30 points**

Dementia Care

Semester Two – Auckland

A clinically focused course that explores dementia within three specific areas - the brain, the diseases and the person. It explores theoretical concepts and models of dementia care, and focuses on the partnership of individuals, carers and health professionals in the delivery of dementia care.

**Concession required*

N.B. A prerequisite is a course or requirement that needs to be completed in order to be eligible for a course.

Mental Health and Addiction

You may wish to specialise in your programme in Mental Health Nursing (i.e. PGCertHSc, specialisation Mental Health Nursing). If you don't currently work in mental health and addiction, but would like to explore this pathway, you can consider HLTHSCI 705: Mental Health and Addiction for Health Professionals.

NURSING 774* **30 points**

Nursing People in Acute Mental Health Crisis

Semester Two – Auckland (blended)

The concept of recovery forms the basis of exploring nursing care of people in states of acute crisis. The course focuses on models of acute care, collaborative care, risk assessment and management, and maintaining a safe, non-coercive environment. Students will be expected to engage in critical reflection and analysis of practice issues and case studies.

NURSPRAC 718 **30 points (NESP)**

Contemporary Mental Health and Addictions Nursing Practice

Semester Two – Multiple streams:

Auckland, Otago, Waikato

Explores contemporary mental health and addictions nursing practice from both socio-political and practice-skills perspectives. Focuses on developing awareness of the unique mental health and addictions context of Aotearoa, New Zealand and the cultural and values-based practices and policies which have emerged. Builds on foundational therapeutic and interpersonal skills and develops knowledge and skills in contemporary, evidence-based mental health and addictions nursing interventions.

NURSPRAC 719 **30 points (NESP)**

Clinical Practice in Mental Health and Addictions

Semester One – Multiple streams:

Auckland, Otago, Waikato

A clinically based course focusing on history taking, assessment, formulation and nursing care planning. There is an emphasis on mental health, physical health and addictions assessment and the development of nursing formulation skills.

NURSPRAC 726* **30 points**

Mental Health Nursing Practicum (next offered 2028)

Semester One – Online

Extends mental health nurses' knowledge and skills in clinical practice, scholarly activity, and leadership to improve health outcomes. Through guided learning experiences and support from clinical and academic mentors, students set and achieve individual learning goals. Focus is on the development of person-centred, reflective practice demonstrating understanding of the socio-political and cultural contexts of health and well-being.

HLTHSCI 703* **30 points**

Psychological Interventions in Health Care

Semester Two – Auckland

Focuses on increasing health professionals' skills in the use of psychological interventions for people who have acute or long-term mental health or physical health problems. Explores evidence-based psychological models, such as Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy and Motivational Interviewing. Illness beliefs that impact on the person's ability to engage effectively with treatment plans, and self-management of their health problem/s, will also be critiqued.

HLTHSCI 705* **30 points**

Mental Health and Addiction for Health Professionals

Semester One – Auckland

Uses a person-focused theoretical framework to explore mental health and addiction problems presenting in non-specialist mental health settings. Conceptualises mental health and addiction problems as frequently co-occurring. Engagement, assessment, collaborative solution-focused interventions, referral and care coordination will be explored.

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

Ask to connect with the mental health and addiction academic adviser.

**Concession required*

N.B. A prerequisite is a course or requirement that needs to be completed in order to be eligible for a course.



“

I feel so proud to be a nurse, doing my part in challenging the stigma and misconceptions around people experiencing mental health issues – and helping people with their recovery.

“I can attest to the difference nurses make when it comes to medical assessments and the experiences of people who use our services. Nurses possess a balance of competence in both medical knowledge and values that provide people with hope and comfort in times of vulnerability.

“I decided to specialise in Adult Mental Health because I believe mental wellbeing is crucial if we want to live purposeful and meaningful lives.

“The mental health sector has progressed in multiple ways in terms of safety, cultural competency, and holistic recovery for people. I feel privileged to do my part in maintaining this progression for the wellbeing of people in Aotearoa.”



Mikkol Gabriel Macabali

Graduate: Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs),
Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences
– specialising in Mental Health Nursing
(PGCertHSc)

[auckland.ac.nz/nursing - pg](https://auckland.ac.nz/nursing-pg)

Child and Youth Health

If you're interested in Child and Youth Health, further your knowledge in this specialist area by studying courses with a focus on Child and Youth Health.

NURSING 773 **30 points**

(Child and Young Person Health stream)
Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning

Semester One – Auckland

Nurses make a variety of diagnoses in their daily practice. Advanced nursing practice requires skilled health assessment, estimation of probabilities and evidence-based diagnostic reasoning. This complex cognitive process is developed in relation to skills and knowledge required for sound clinical reasoning.

NURSPRAC 703 A/B* **30 points**

Paediatric Cardiac Specialty Nursing
(next offered 2028)

Semester One (A) – Auckland

Semester Two (B) – Auckland

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of paediatric cardiac patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of paediatric cardiac nursing.

Note: NURSPRAC 703 A/B is intended for nurses working in the paediatric cardiac environment while undertaking study.

NURSPRAC 713* **30 points**

Paediatric Intensive Care Nursing

Semester One – Auckland

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of paediatric intensive care patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice.

Note: NURSPRAC 713 is intended for nurses working in the paediatric intensive care environment while undertaking study.

NURSPRAC 723* **30 points**

Paediatric Cardiac Intensive Care

Semester Two – Auckland

Extends specialised nursing skills for the nurse in paediatric cardiac and intensive care settings. Through guided learning experiences and support from clinical and academic mentors, students set and achieve individual learning goals. Focus is on practice development and clinical leadership, demonstrating understanding of quality healthcare and the socio-political and cultural contexts of health and well-being.

Prerequisite: NURSPRAC 713

Note: NURSPRAC 723 is intended for nurses working in the paediatric intensive care environment while undertaking study.

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

Ask to connect with an academic adviser.

Youth Health courses

The following Youth Health courses are available within the wider Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences. Please note to incorporate any of the following Youth Health courses, in your Nursing programme (up to 30 points); you must seek preapproval from the School of Nursing.

For preapproval you must contact both the Department of Paediatrics: Child and Youth Health and the School of Nursing .

The Youth Health courses are all 15 points. PAEDS 712 is the foundation course for clinicians working with young people. This can be taken alone or together in the same semester as any other Youth Health course.

PAEDS 708 **15 points**

Population Youth Health

Semester One – Auckland (blended)

Youth injury prevention, resiliency factors and reproductive issues, and advocacy for young people. How do you make a difference in youth health? This course introduces key concepts in population youth health and utilises an evidence-based approach and New Zealand practice examples to consider how youth health can be improved in communities and populations.

PAEDS 712 **15 points**

Youth Health Clinical Skills

Semester One – Auckland (blended)

Develops and extends knowledge and skills in clinical interviewing, comprehensive assessments and effective interventions with young people.

PAEDS 719 **15 points**

Health, Education and Youth Development

Semester Two – Auckland (blended)

Examines the overlap of health and education in the context of youth development by exploring the impact of past and current developments and strategies in both sectors on the well-being of young people. It reviews the 'business' of schools, the health and physical education curriculum, school-based health and support services, whole school approaches to health, and the health and education needs of students not engaged with the school system.

**Concession required*

N.B. A prerequisite is a course or requirement that needs to be completed in order to be eligible for a course.



PAEDS 721 15 points

Clinical Care of Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer

Semester Two – Online

To develop and advance skills, knowledge and expertise in the clinical care of adolescents and young adults with cancer.

Prerequisite: PAEDS 712

Getting sound advice at the beginning and throughout your academic journey can be helpful when deciding what pathway to take. The Child and Youth Health network is a group of academics from throughout the University who can be contacted to support you in your academic progression, including mentorship and research supervision.

Contact

louise.albertella@auckland.ac.nz

For queries related to the Youth Health courses (PAEDS).



“

I chose to study at Waipapa Taumata Rau | The University of Auckland because of the programme it offered, the support provided and the convenient location. The support and services were instrumental in helping me to complete my Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences, specialising in Advanced Nursing.

“The teaching staff and tutors were exceptional – they provided me with the individual support I needed and supported my learning with relevant clinical cases, online resources and insights on their own experience in the field. My diploma also allowed me to be part of the wider community of nurses and experience their collegial support whilst undertaking the same study path.

“I was fortunate enough to follow a study path that prepared me for my current role. I am working as a Mātanga Tapuhi, Nurse Practitioner in Child and Youth Health at the Starship Blood and Cancer Centre. The skills and knowledge that I covered as part of my studies is essential and invaluable to my current role, as was the support I received from my tutors and teachers. It enabled me to apply what I learned in the classroom into my nursing practice.

“It’s an absolute privilege to provide nursing care for tamariki, young people and their whānau.”



Erin Kavanagh

Graduate: Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences in Advanced Nursing (PGDipHSc), Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing (External provider)

Career: Nurse Practitioner

auckland.ac.nz/nursing-pg

Palliative Care

These courses are designed for clinicians working in palliative care, as well as those in general practice, primary health care, hospital or community settings, and psychosocial services who wish to strengthen their skills and deepen their understanding in this area. Learn how to develop the attitudes and knowledge needed to care for patients and whānau living with a serious, life-changing or end of-life illness. Palliative Care focuses on patient care for those facing life-challenging illness and embraces the essential elements and principles of patient-centred, holistic care.

NURSPRAC 710 **30 points**

Palliative Care Specialty Nursing (next offered 2028)

Semester One – Auckland

Draws on evidence from biomedical and social science research to equip nurses for the care and treatment of palliative care patients. Students will be expected to integrate evidence from a range of sources and apply this to the practice of palliative care nursing.

POPLPRAC 772 **30 points**

Symptom Management in Palliative Care

Semester One – Auckland

An overview of key symptoms commonly encountered in patients with progressive diseases in palliative care and end of life. Addresses assessment and management of these common symptoms using evidenced-based learning.

POPLPRAC 773 **30 points**

Challenges in Symptom Management in Palliative Care

Semester Two – Auckland

An overview of key symptoms commonly encountered in malignant and non-malignant patients in palliative care and at end-of-life. Addresses assessment and management of these common symptoms using evidenced-based learning.

Prerequisite: POPLPRAC 772, 722

POPLPRAC 774 **30 points**

Psychosocial Issues in Palliative Care

Semester One – Auckland

Provides an in-depth examination of the psychological and social dimensions of palliative care for patients with cancer or other progressive, life-limiting illnesses. It covers existential and spiritual responses to suffering, models of coping, and the role of communication in palliative settings. Students will explore family systems theory, psychosocial assessment methods, self care, resilience/professional boundary, grief, and bereavement. The course emphasises holistic, culturally responsive care, including the application of Te Whare Tapa Whā and interprofessional collaboration.

POPLHLTH 777 **30 points**

Ethics, Culture and Societal Approaches to Death

Semester Two – Auckland

Explores the ethical, societal, and cultural dimensions of death, with a strong emphasis on palliative care. The course examines how different cultures approach death and dying, and the implications for care delivery. Key topics include ethical decision-making in end-of-life care, patient privacy, living wills, and related legal considerations. It also addresses the structure and function of multidisciplinary palliative care teams, Te Ara Whakapiri, communication, future care planning, and provider self-care. Responsibilities following death and the broader societal context of dying are also considered.

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

Ask to connect with an academic adviser.

**Concession required*

N.B. A prerequisite is a course or requirement that needs to be completed in order to be eligible for a course.





“

I decided to study close to home at the Tai Tokerau Campus to be near my connections and support people. Staying in Whangārei has provided an excellent opportunity for my career to flourish and to learn more about the healthcare needs of my close-knit community.

“The unwavering support from my family has been invaluable during my studies, especially with young children to look after. It has meant a lot that I have been able to continue to be with my community during this important stage of study; I couldn't recommend it more.

“My study has helped with my current role at the hospice and recognising the critical need for more time and attention for individuals at the end of their lives. I see the end of life as a gateway to fully embrace life, and being able to use my knowledge of the local perspectives to empathise and connect with the community's feelings and thoughts has been vital.”



Morgan McCaskill
Ngāti Maru
Graduate: Master of Nursing

auckland.ac.nz/nursing-pg

Educational pathway for Registered Nurse Designated Prescriber

A registered nurse (RN) designated prescriber nurse that Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa, the Nursing Council of New Zealand, has granted prescriptive authority (Medicines Regulation 2016). These nurses are authorised to prescribe treatment for a range of common and long-term conditions (e.g., diabetes, respiratory conditions or cardiovascular health concerns) within a structured multidisciplinary team (MDT). These four courses can be completed within a PGDipHSc or an equivalent.

Required courses

The nurse will need to complete the following four courses to complete the educational requirements for registration with Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa, the Nursing Council of New Zealand:

ASSESSMENT COURSE: EITHER NURSING 770, 773 OR NURSPRAC 720 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 742 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 785 (30 POINTS)	NURSPRAC 717 (30 POINTS)
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PGCert 60 points

30 POINTS	30 POINTS
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PGDip 60 points

30 POINTS	30 POINTS
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Note:

- Both an assessment course and NURSING 742 are prerequisites for NURSING 785.
- NURSING 785 is a prerequisite for NURSPRAC 717.
- The assessment course (either NURSING 773, NURSPRAC 720 or NURSING 770) and NURSING 785 must have been completed within 10 years of commencing NURSPRAC 717.
- Students wishing to undertake NURSPRAC 717 must submit application documentation to the NURSPRAC 717 Course Administrator prior to acceptance into this course - contact postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz and ask to be connected with the NURSPRAC 717 Course Administrator.
- NURSING 770 Clinical Practice Development is an eligible course if completed after 2018.

Academic preparation for RN Designated Prescribing

These courses provide educational support for experienced nurses to further develop advanced clinical skills in patient assessment and diagnostic reasoning in relation to the clinical management and prescribing for patients with common acute and long-term conditions. Advanced knowledge in pathophysiology and pharmacotherapeutics supports the nurse's clinical decision-making skills.

The prescribing practicum includes a minimum of 150 hours of mentored clinical practice under the supervision of a prescribing mentor (senior medical practitioner or senior nurse practitioner). The practicum will be conducted in the area of practice and within the workplace and team, that the nurse will be working in as an RN designated prescriber. The practicum will include opportunities to consolidate the nurse's patient consultation and assessment, diagnostic reasoning, clinical decision-making and treatment planning skills.



Disclaimer: Although every reasonable effort is made to ensure accuracy, the RN Designated Prescribing and Nurse Practitioner educational pathways are currently under review and subject to change based on regulatory approval. The most up to date version of this handbook can be found online.



Entry requirements for the prescribing practicum

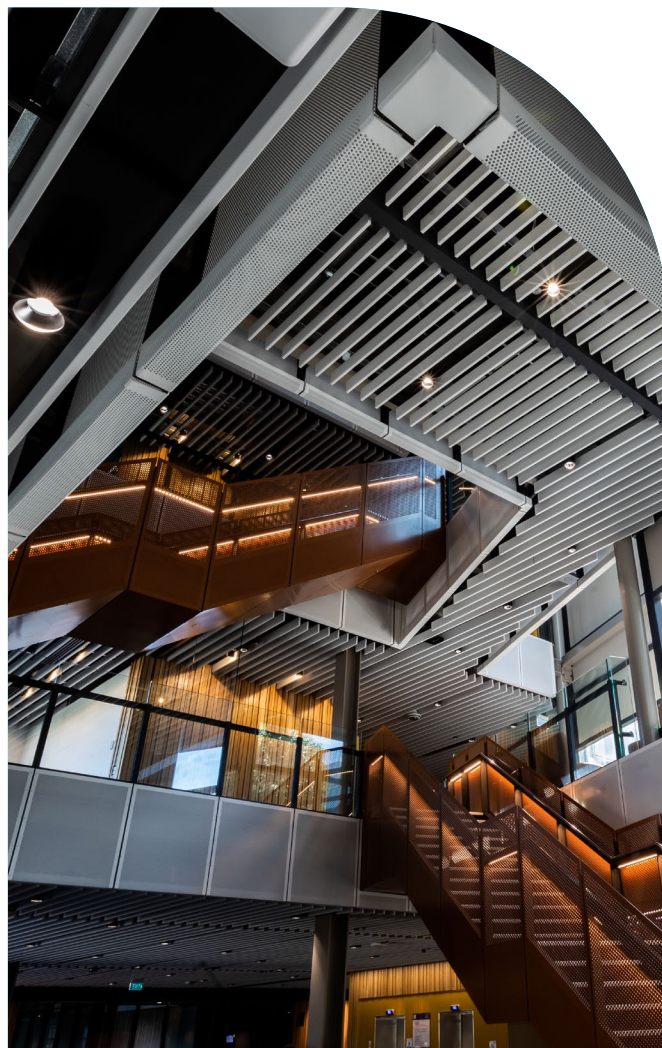
The registered nurse must:

- Hold a current practising certificate with Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa, the Nursing Council of New Zealand, and have three years of fulltime practice in the area they intend to prescribe on completion of the programme (with at least one year of the total practice in Aotearoa, New Zealand).
- Have identified and have access to an area of clinical practice in which to develop their prescribing skills, and have up-to-date clinical knowledge relevant to their intended area of prescribing practice.
- Have identified an authorised prescribing mentor (a senior Nurse Practitioner or Medical Practitioner) who will supervise the practicum hours (minimum 150 hours) and support the nurse's development in clinical practice.
- Have identified an authorised prescribing mentor (a senior medical practitioner or senior nurse practitioner) who will supervise the practicum hours (minimum 150 hours) and support the nurse's development in clinical practice.
- Have completed and successfully passed one of the required assessment courses, along with NURSING 742 and NURSING 785. NURSING 773 (or equivalent) and NURSING 785 must be current i.e. have been completed within 10 years of commencing the prescribing practicum course.

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

Ask to connect with the RN Designated Prescribing pathway academic adviser.



Our programmes have been developed to enhance nursing practice and focus on the improvement of patient outcomes and the health of all New Zealanders

Find out more

auckland.ac.nz/fmhs/son

Educational pathway for Nurse Practitioner

Nurse practitioners are highly skilled autonomous health practitioners with masters-level educational preparation and advanced clinical skills. Nurse practitioners are registered as such with Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa, the Nursing Council of New Zealand and have the legal authority to practise in the Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice.

Preparation for Nurse Practitioner

- Successfully completed prerequisite courses.
- Masters level qualification.
- Nurses must be practising clinically at an advanced level as they complete the Nurse Practitioner pathway.
- It is important to have the support of your employer to develop towards the nurse practitioner role as you complete your postgraduate studies.
- Have been approved for funding by the Nurse Practitioner Training Support Scheme (NPTSS) and completed the NP practicum courses (NURSING 743 and 740).

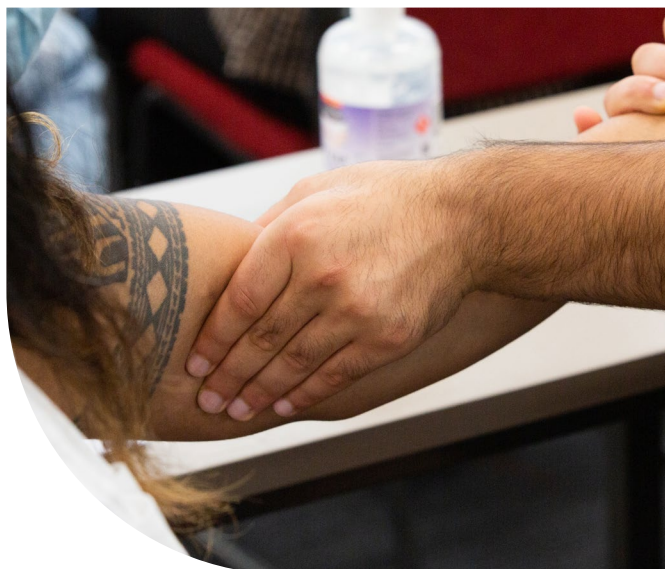
Building your postgraduate pathway towards becoming a nurse practitioner

The following outlines the courses and potential pathway options for those aspiring to become a nurse practitioner.

Early postgraduate study

Strong clinical expertise is necessary for nurse practitioner practice. Nurses must be able to demonstrate advanced health assessment and clinical exam skills with clinical reasoning and knowledge of pathophysiology and pharmacology before proceeding to the final masters stage of the pathway.

Students must successfully complete the PGCertHSc and PGDipHSc, meeting the GPA criteria to proceed to MNurs. If a student has completed previous postgraduate study or completed a programme such as the MNSc prior to their nursing registration, they should connect with the School of Nursing to discuss their options.



Required courses

The following courses are prerequisites for the Nurse Practitioner practicum year and should be included in the PGCertHSc and PGDipHSc.

ASSESSMENT COURSE: EITHER NURSING 770, 773 OR NURSPRAC 720 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 742 (30 POINTS)	YOUR CHOICE (30 POINTS)	NURSING 785 OR NURSING 746* (30 POINTS)
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PGCert 60 points

30 POINTS	30 POINTS
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PGDip 60 points

30 POINTS	30 POINTS
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- The assessment course (either NURSING 773, NURSPRAC 720 or NURSING 770) and NURSING 785 must have been completed within 10 years of commencing NURSING 743.
- NURSING 770 – is an eligible course if completed after 2018.
- Both an assessment course and NURSING 742 are prerequisites for NURSING 785.
- If you are not undertaking the NURSING 795 A/B dissertation course in your masters (many aspiring nurse practitioners do not) then you must leave one of NURSING 746, 785 until you are in the Masters programme.
- *NURSING 746 is highly recommended for aspiring nurse practitioners.
- If you have previously completed the RN prescribing requirements in your PGDip - you may continue on to the MNurs as long as you have met the GPA requirements.

Masters level study

The Master of Nursing (MNurs) is a 120-point programme (see page 8, MNurs (taught)); courses that can be included in your 120-point masters are listed below. These courses do need to be completed, however the order that you complete them in will depend on your overall readiness, how much time you have left to complete your masters and whether you have been accepted into the Nurse Practitioner Practicum Year via the Nurse Practitioner Training Support Scheme.

NURSING 746 OR 785 – LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 701 LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 743 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 740 LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)
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Note:

- 60 points of the Master of NURSING must be of level 9 courses to meet regulatory requirements.
- All MNurs must complete a research component (either NURSING 701, HLTHSCI 789 or NURSING 795 A/B). For those about to commence the NP practicum year, NURSING 701 is the preferred option.
- NURSING 701 must be the final course of the MNurs, unless the student is undertaking option 1.

Option 1

If you have been accepted onto the NP practicum year, the MNurs could look like this:

Masters 120 points

NURSING 746 OR 785 – LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 701 LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 743 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 740 LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)
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or

Option 2

If you are not yet ready and eligible to enter the NP practicum year, you could complete your MNurs like this:

30 POINTS	30 POINTS	30 POINTS	NURSING 701 LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)
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MNurs awarded and accepted into the NP practicum year

Further postgraduate qualification

NURSING 743 (30 POINTS)	NURSING 740 LEVEL 9 (30 POINTS)
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All students are required to contact the Nurse Practitioner pathway coordinator prior to enrolment into the MNurs for course advice.



Nurse Practitioner Practicum Year

The final part of training to become a Nurse Practitioner is the practicum year. This is an application-based programme, and details are available on the Nurse Practitioner Training Support Scheme website. Academically, the practicum year consists of two courses, NURSING 743 and NURSING 740.

Nurse Practitioner Practicum Year

NURSING 743
(30 POINTS)

NURSING 740
LEVEL 9
(30 POINTS)

NURSING 743 and NURSING 740 are designed to refine advanced clinical decision-making skills for nurses preparing for the Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice. Nurse practitioners provide primary and specialty care and need expertise in clinical decision-making. Nurse practitioners utilise advanced assessment skills along with disease management models to develop evidence-based clinical decisions needed for prescribing pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic treatment plans.

It may be possible to include one or both courses within your taught masters. However, if you complete your masters programme before you are admitted to the practicum year, it is possible to complete these final courses as part of another qualification, such as a second PGCert (criteria applies), for example. If this situation is relevant to you, please contact the School of Nursing.

Eligibility for the Nurse Practitioner practicum year

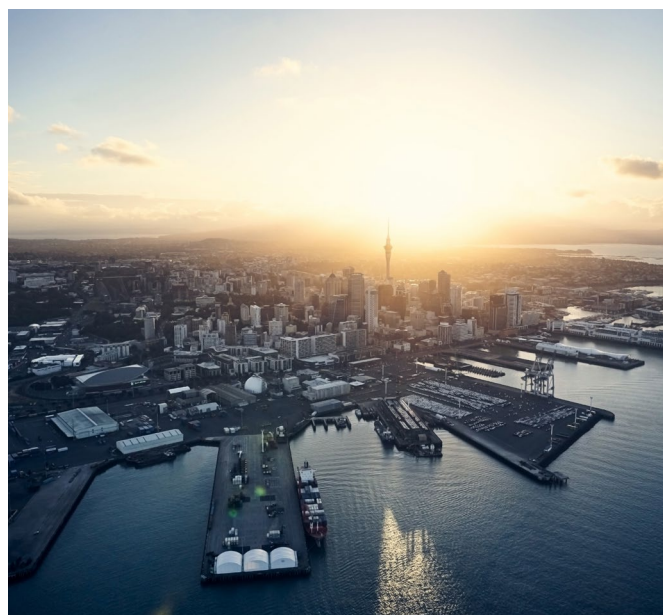
- Have completed a minimum of three years of full-time practice within the last five years, with at least one of the three years in full-time practice (minimum 0.8 FTE or higher) in Aotearoa, New Zealand. This experience must be in the area of practice that the nurse practitioner will be practising once registered.
- A solid foundation of clinical skills and knowledge is required to be able to practice at an advanced level.
- Have identified a clinical supervisor (senior Nurse Practitioner or Medical Practitioner) who is willing to mentor the attainment of the advanced skills and competencies required for Nurse Practitioner practice.
- Written agreement from your employer must be provided with the application to confirm a minimum of 500 hours of additional clinical release time, clinical supervisor availability, and release to attend university study days.
- The (NURSING 773 [or equivalent] and NURSING 785 prerequisite courses must have been completed within the last ten years before entering the practicum year.
- Be funded by NPTSS

Contact

postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz

Ask to connect with the Nurse Practitioner pathway academic adviser.

Below: Dhyanne Hohepa, Raukawa ki Wharepūhanga. Ngāpuhi. Ngāti Tuwharetoa. Graduate: Master of Nursing. Co-Director, Te Korowai o Ngā Ringa Āwhina. Nurse Practitioner, Emergency Department, Te Kaahui Ora Māori Health Services, Middlemore Hospital. Honorary Professional Teaching Fellow, Nurse Practitioner, Waipapa Taumata Rau.



Disclaimer: Although every reasonable effort is made to ensure accuracy, the RN Designated Prescribing and Nurse Practitioner educational pathways are currently under review and subject to change based on regulatory approval. The most up to date version of this handbook can be found online.



Sarah graduated with a Master of Nursing in May 2026 after completing a 90-point Research Portfolio titled "Investigating Registered Nurses Providing Orientation in Aotearoa New Zealand Intensive Care Units: A Cross-Sectional Study."

Sarah was co-supervised by Dr Louise Carrucan-Wood and Assoc. Professor Rachael Parke. Sarah is a Nurse Educator at the Intensive Care Unit at Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora Waikato.



Sarah Rogers

Graduate: Master of Nursing



How to apply

This guide will help you to complete the online 'Application for Admission' to Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. To begin your application, please visit: auckland.ac.nz/apply
You must provide your official academic transcripts for all prior study to complete your application. You will also need to know your nursing registration number for the application.

If you have not studied with us before, click 'Register for a new account'. Once you enter the required information and click on 'Register', the system will send you an email which will show as **onelogon@auckland.ac.nz**. Please check your inbox (or junk mail) and validate your email address by selecting the 'Complete your Registration' button.

If you have registered with the University of Auckland before, please use your Student ID or email address and password to log in. If you do not remember your login details please phone **0800 61 62 63** for help to reset it or email **onelogon@auckland.ac.nz**

Once your registration is complete, please sign in and begin your new application. If you have any questions or issues when completing the online application please email **postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz**

1

Apply (online)

2

Submit documentation (some candidates may be required to submit further documentation)

3

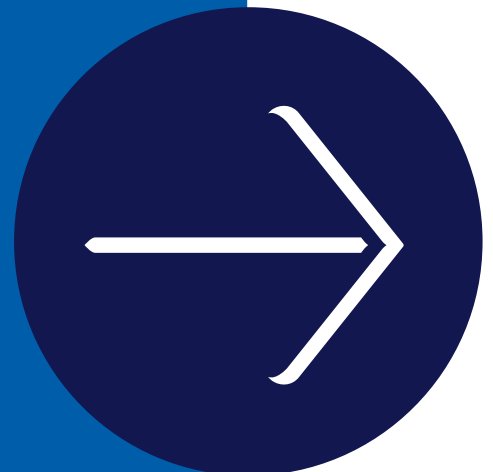
Receive offer of place in programme

4

Accept offer of place in programme (and decline any unwanted offers)

5

Enrol in courses





Step 1 Apply online

To begin your application, please go to:

applytostudy.auckland.ac.nz

When you open your 'Application for Admission' for the first time we will ask you to provide your personal information and details of your academic history and qualifications.

Important information

To avoid delays, please ensure no fields are left blank before submitting your application, including your Nursing Council registration number.

Programme type e.g. Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, Masters.

Programme name e.g. Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences, Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences.

Programme major/specialisation e.g. Advanced Nursing, Mental Health Nursing, Health Sciences.

Ensure that you identify which semester you intend to start your first course in.

'Campus Location' – please always type 'Grafton' when applying for a School of Nursing course, regardless of where you are based in the country.

When answering the question about whether you have been awarded a scholarship to pay for your course fees, please note that Health New Zealand District funding is not classified as a 'Scholarship'.

Supporting information regarding 'Tertiary Study'. If you are a new student to the University of Auckland, you will not be able to proceed with your application without uploading this document. If you have not yet received your official transcript, please upload a screenshot of your latest transcript from your university or Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) dashboard. You will still need to provide an official transcript as soon as possible.

Once you have agreed to the declaration near the end of your application and clicked 'Submit', you will receive an acknowledgement email from us within two working days.

What happens next?

Check your email

Once you have submitted your application, you will receive an email with your ID number. Please monitor your email address for information and further requirements.

The acknowledgement email will be sent to the email address you registered your application with. It will include a list of specific certified documents (and, in some cases, other requirements) necessary to complete your application.

You can use your Student ID and the password you set up while applying, to sign into your Application for Admission, check your application status and see the documentation you need to provide at: **applytostudy.auckland.ac.nz**

Step 2 Submitting identification and residency documents

Once you have submitted your application, you must log back in to see if you also need to provide an ID or residency document. If it asks you to provide one, you must get this certified and then upload it to your application. Please do not send in a physical copy.

More information on this, including what documents we accept and how to get them correctly certified, can be found at:

auckland.ac.nz/supporting-documents

If, when logging in to your application, you do not see anything indicating that you need to provide an ID/residency document, it means that we have managed to verify your identity through other means (e.g. RealMe, NSI number) and do not have to upload anything for this.

Note: A certified document is a copy of the original endorsed with the statement "Original sighted. Certified true copy" by either a Justice of the Peace (JP), Solicitor, Notary Public (full details of the certifier must be included), or an authorised staff member of Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Student Information Centre.

If you are unable to source and submit any of your academic transcripts that have been requested for assessment, it is important that you notify us as soon as possible, outlining what you are unable to submit and why, by emailing **admission@auckland.ac.nz**.

Step 3 Assessment of your application and offer of place

This may take three to four weeks during peak admission periods. You can check the status of your Application for Admission at any time by signing in using your Student ID and password at **applytostudy.auckland.ac.nz**

You will be notified of the outcome of your application by email and will be able to view this by signing into your Application for Admission.

Step 4 Accept your offer of place online

Sign back into your Application for Admission and select 'Accept'.

Congratulations! You are now a student at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. All communication from now on will be sent to your university email.

Step 5 Enrol in your course

You can now apply to enrol in your chosen course/s using the Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Student Services Online portal.

Contact

admission@auckland.ac.nz

For admission and enrolment support, please email us.

Course schedules 2027

Course	Name	Points	Semester		Delivery	Location
MAORIRTH 701	Foundations of Māori Health	15	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
MAORIRTH 709	Transformational Research for Māori Health	15		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
MAORIRTH 710	Kaupapa Māori Theory	15	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 701	Research Project - Level 9 (NP pathway students only)	30	1	2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 732	Leading and Managing Changes in Healthcare	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland, Whangārei
NURSING 735	Clinical Education Practicum	30		2	Online	Online
NURSING 740	Nurse Practitioner Prescribing Practicum – Level 9 (Part Two)	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 741	Education for Clinical Practice	30	1		Blended	Auckland
NURSING 742	Biological Science for Practice	30	1	2	Online	Online
NURSING 743	Nurse Practitioner Advanced Practicum (Part One)	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 744	Critical Care Specialty Nursing Practicum	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 745	Principles of Medication Management	30	1	2	Online	Either online or Auckland
NURSING 746	Evidence-based Practice and Implementation - Level 9	30	1	2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 773	Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning (Adult Health stream)	30	1	2	Face-to-face	Semester 1: Auckland, BOP, Northland, Taranaki Semester 2: Auckland, Lakes, Northland, Taranaki
NURSING 773	Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning (Child and Young Person Health stream)	30	1		Face-to-face	Semester 1: Auckland
NURSING 774	Nursing People in Acute Mental Health Crisis	30		2	Blended	Auckland
NURSING 775	Leadership and Management for Quality Health Care	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland, Tauranga, Whangārei
NURSING 782	Research Methods in Nursing and Health - Level 9	30	1	2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 783	Special Topic: Pae Ora TBC	30		TBC	Face-to-face	TBC
NURSING 784	Advanced Emergency Nursing Practicum	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 785	Clinical Reasoning in Pharmacotherapeutics – Level 9	30	1	2	Semester 1 face-to-face, Semester 2 blended	Auckland
NURSING 791 A/B	Research Portfolio – Level 9	90	*	*		
NURSING 795 A/B	Dissertation – Level 9	60	1(A)	2 (B)	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSING 798 A/B	Research Portfolio - Level 9	120	*	*		
NURSING 799 A/B	Thesis - Level 9	120	*	*		
NURSPRAC 701	Cardiac Specialty Nursing (next offered 2028)	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 702	Critical Care Specialty Nursing	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 703 A/B	Paediatric Cardiac Specialty Nursing (next offered 2028)	30	1(A)	2(B)	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 704	Cancer Specialty Nursing (next offered 2028)	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 707	Registered Nurse First Surgical Assist	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 708	Emergency Specialty Nursing	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 710	Palliative Care Specialty Nursing (next offered 2028)	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 711	Pain Nursing Specialty Nursing	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 712	Diabetes Specialty Nursing (next offered 2028)	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 713	Paediatric Intensive Care Nursing	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 716	Ophthalmology Specialty Nursing	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 717	Practicum for RN Designated Prescribers	30	1	2	Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 718	Contemporary Mental Health and Addictions Nursing Practice (NESP)	30		2	Face-to-face	Multiple streams: Auckland, Otago, Waikato
NURSPRAC 719	Clinical Practice in Mental Health and Addictions (NESP)	30	1		Face-to-face	Multiple streams: Auckland, Otago, Waikato
NURSPRAC 723	Paediatric Cardiac Intensive Care	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland

NURSPRAC 726	Mental Health Nursing Practicum (next offered 2028)	30	1		Online	Online
NURSPRAC 727	Perioperative Nursing Specialty	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
NURSPRAC 728	Frailty in Aged Care Nursing (next offered 2028)	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
HLTHSCI 700	Working with People with Long-term Conditions	30	1	2	Face-to-face	Semester 1: Auckland Semester 2: Auckland, Whangārei
HLTHSCI 703	Psychological Interventions in Health Care	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
HLTHSCI 705	Mental Health and Addiction for Health Professionals	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
HLTHSCI 710	Acute Stroke Care	30	1		Online	Online
HLTHSCI 715	Special Topic: Research in Practice (BNurs(Hons) only)	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
HLTHSCI 789	Research Project - Level 9	30	1	2	N/A	N/A
POPLPRAC 772	Symptom Management in Palliative Care	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
POPLPRAC 773	Challenges in Symptom Management in Palliative Care	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
POPLPRAC 774	Psychosocial Issues in Palliative Care	30	1		Face-to-face	Auckland
POPLPRAC 758	Biology of Ageing	30	1		Online	Online
POPLPRAC 767	Dementia Care	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland
POPLHLTH 777	Ethics, Culture and Societal Approaches to Death	30		2	Face-to-face	Auckland

Face-to-face = Course delivered on-site; Online = Course delivered in an online capacity; Blended = Course delivered in a mix of face-to-face and online forums; Dual = Students' enter EITHER an online OR face-to-face stream of the course. NURSING 791 is 90 points over three semesters, NURSING 798 and 799 are 120 points over four semesters. These courses can be commenced in either semester.

Helpful information

We want to do all we can to help you succeed as a postgraduate student in our School of Nursing. To help you achieve this success, a wide range of services are available to you throughout your study journey with us.

Awards, scholarships and grants

There are a wide range of awards, scholarships and research grants available to our postgraduate and doctoral students.

Victoria League Postgraduate Nursing Award

An award to support Nursing students with the course fees to complete postgraduate study, up to completing a masters degree.

auckland.ac.nz/victoria-league-pg-nursing-award

Dr William Bruce Goodfellow Award for Primary Care Nursing

An award to assist Aotearoa, New Zealand citizens and permanent residents with the compulsory course fees to undertake a PGDip in Health Sciences and/or a MNurs in the School of Nursing.

auckland.ac.nz/dr-william-goodfellow-award

Victoria League Nursing Doctoral Fees Award

An award to cover the compulsory course fees for up to 36 months FTE for domestic DHSc students and domestic and international PhD students in Nursing.

auckland.ac.nz/victoria-league-doctoral-nursing-award

Kilpatrick Research Excellence Prize

A \$2,000 prize to recognise the masters level nursing student who achieved the highest marks for a thesis or research portfolio.

auckland.ac.nz/kilpatrick-research-excellence-prize

For information on scholarship opportunities visit

auckland.ac.nz/scholarships or

email: scholarships@auckland.ac.nz

For more information on research funding:

auckland.ac.nz/pg-research-scholarship

Ann Craig Memorial Prize

A \$2,500 award to recognise the student who achieved the highest mark in the Cancer and Palliative Care Nursing Practice course.

Dr Alistair MacFarlane Memorial Prize

A \$2,500 award to recognise the student who achieved the highest mark in NURSING 742 Biological Science for Practice course.

External funding opportunities

For information on external scholarships and funding opportunities visit :

- Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand.
- Te Pou
- New Zealand Nurses Organisation

Useful web addresses

Postgraduate nursing orientations

auckland.ac.nz/fmhs/pg-nursing-orientation

Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme (MAPAS)

auckland.ac.nz/fmhs/mapas

To apply for MAPAS, go to:

auckland.ac.nz/mapas-pg-support-form

Te Fale Pouāwhina

auckland.ac.nz/tfp

To connect with Te Fale Pouāwhina, email: tfp@auckland.ac.nz

English Language Enrichment (ELE)

library.auckland.ac.nz/ele

Ratonga Hauātanga Tauira | Student Disability Services (SDS)

auckland.ac.nz/disability

Student Support Team

auckland.ac.nz/fmhs/student-support

To connect with a Student Support Advisor,

email: fmhssupport@auckland.ac.nz

Student Hubs

auckland.ac.nz/student-hubs

Te Tumu Herenga | Libraries and Learning Services

auckland.ac.nz/library

Te Tumu Herenga | Libraries and Learning Services Workshops

auckland.ac.nz/workshops

Student Health and Counselling Service

auckland.ac.nz/studenthealth

International students

auckland.ac.nz/international

FMHS Rainbow Student Network

auckland.ac.nz/fmhs/rainbow-student-network

Student IT support

auckland.ac.nz/student-it-hub

Nursing Hub

canvas.auckland.ac.nz/courses/70593

The University of Auckland Calendar

auckland.ac.nz/calendar

The University of Auckland Curriculum Catalogue

study.auckland.ac.nz



“

Providing care to patients and their whānau during their most challenging times and being part of their recovery journey is one of the most incredible feelings I've ever experienced.

“I chose the University of Auckland for my postgraduate studies because of the convenience of studying close to home and my whānau. Many of my work colleagues had completed papers at the University that were of interest to me, so being able to reflect with one another on their experiences was highly valuable.”



Stacey Marino

Ngāti Tūwharetoa

Graduate: Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences in Advanced Nursing

For personal assistance, please visit us at your local Student Hub, where students and whānau are welcome to talk with our expert advisers.

Enquiries: auckland.ac.nz/askus
Or phone: 0800 61 62 63
International: +64 9 373 7513

City Campus

General Library, Building 109
5 Alfred Street, Auckland

Grafton Campus

Philson Library, Building 503
Level 1, 85 Park Rd, Grafton
(Entry via the Atrium)

South Auckland Campus

Te Papa Ako o Tai Tonga
6 Osterley Way, Manukau

Whangārei Campus

Te Papa Ako o Tai Tokerau
L Block
13 Alexander Street, Whangārei

auckland.ac.nz/fmhs/son

