



University Foundation Studies

NATS0009

HEALTH COMMUNICATION

2022 TERM 2

SUBJECT OUTLINE

Last amended:	June 2022
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Western Sydney University The College
Nirimba Education Precinct
Eastern Road
Quakers Hill NSW 2763

Postal address:

PO BOX 224
Quakers Hill NSW 2763

Phone: 1300 897 669

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Subject name	Health Communication
Subject number	NATS0009
Coordinator	Ryan Sidoti
Term	2022.2
Handbook summary	Healthcare professionals work in an environment where a high level of communication with others is of paramount importance. Oral, written and interpersonal communication skills form the cornerstone of good professional practice. This subject is designed to help students develop self-awareness and increase their confidence and skills in communicating with others in preparation for the practicum experiences during their undergraduate studies.
Credit point value	19
Prerequisite/s	Nil
Corequisite/s	Nil
Subject incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with	N/A
Assumed knowledge	N/A
Subject level	Level Z — Non-award subject
Attendance requirements	Students are expected to attend at least 80% of classes. Educational research consistently demonstrates that this attendance level is associated with a high likelihood of achieving a passing grade.
Enrolment restrictions	N/A
Learning outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify verbal and non-verbal cues and how they relate to health 2. employ different types of questioning, speaking and listening skills and demonstrate an awareness of their benefits and limitations 3. reflect on their own communication strengths and areas for improvement and how these aspects of self-impact on communication, subjective and objective 4. examine the impact of cultural and situational context on communication when working with people from diverse backgrounds 5. provide evidence of written and verbal communication skills used in a range of contexts including data entry, charts, journals, reports and publicity (this includes the appropriate use of medical terminology) 6. demonstrate effective interpersonal skills used in teamwork and holistic practice, and 7. demonstrate the ability to work legally and ethically within healthcare.

Subject content	<p>In this subject, students will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understanding communication and its application in health and nursing: verbal, non-verbal and textual • introduction to cultural and situational sensitivity, safety and competences • working ethically, legally, collaboratively and effectively in healthcare • the importance of reflection and self-awareness and its influence on communication, learning and the relationship to professional life • the practice of health and nursing: examining contexts for professional practice and implications for communication such as effective listening and professional documentation
Mode of delivery	This subject consists of six hours of classes each week as well as online activities via vUWS.
Online learning requirements	Complete
Essential requirements	<p>Essential text</p> <p>There is no essential text for this subject.</p> <p>Further resources</p> <p>Australian Human Rights Commission. (2008). The Close the Gap Statement of Intent. Close the Gap - Part 2 Outcomes from the National Indigenous Health Equality Summit Canberra, March 20, 2008. Accessed via: http://www.hreoc.gov.au/social_justice/health/targets/closethegap/part2_1.html</p> <p>Bach, S. and Grant, A. (2011). <i>Communication and interpersonal skills for nurses</i>. (2nd ed.). Exeter: Learning Matters</p> <p>Eunson, B. (2012). <i>Communicating in the 21st Century</i> (3rd ed.). Milton, Australia: John Wiley and Sons Australia.</p> <p>Guilmartin, N. (2010). <i>Healing conversations: What to say when you don't know what to say</i>. San Francisco, CA: Jossey – Bass.</p> <p>Higgs, J., Ajjawi, R., Mc Allister, L., Trede, F., and Loftus, S. (2012). <i>Communicating in the health sciences</i> (3rd ed.). South Melbourne, Australia: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>International Council of Nurses. [ICN]. (2012). <i>The ICN code of ethics for nurses</i>. Retrieved from http://www.icn.ch/images/stories/documents/about/icncode_english.pdf</p> <p>Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. [NMBA]. (2018). Code of professional conduct for Nurses in Australia. Retrieved from http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards.aspx</p> <p>NMBA. (2016). Registered nurse standards for practice. Retrieved from http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards.aspx</p> <p>O'Toole, G. (2012). <i>Communication: Core interpersonal skills for health professionals</i>. (2nd ed.). Chatswood, Australia: Churchill Livingstone Elsevier.</p> <p>Stein-Parbury, J. (2009). <i>Patient and person: Interpersonal skills in nursing</i> (4th ed.). Sydney, Australia: Churchill Livingstone Elsevier.</p>

ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

Assessment for this subject will be based on the following components:

Task	Weighting	Learning outcomes assessed	Mandatory task
1. Reflection – written task (700 words) a. Part A Scaffold (5%) b. Part B Reflection (15%)	20%	3, 4, 5, 7	Yes
2. Presentation – role-play of professional practice scenario to demonstrate communication skills (Peer 5%; tutor 15%)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	Yes
3. Professional task – charting and progress notes In-class (75 minutes)	35%	5, 7	Yes
4. Simulation – oral and listening assessment that reflects professional practice In-class (30 minutes)	25%	1, 2, 5, 6	Yes
TOTAL	100%		

For details of assessment due dates, please refer to the learning guide for this subject.

All marks will be determined in accordance with The College [Assessment Policy](#).

All assessment tasks are mandatory unless otherwise specified. Should a student fail to attempt/submit the first formal assessment task in a subject, they will be deemed to be at risk and will need to follow an intervention plan in order not to receive a Fail Non-Submission (FNS) grade. However, failure to attempt/submit all other mandatory assessment tasks will result in an immediate FNS grade for the subject.

To be eligible to pass this subject, students must:

- Attempt all assessment tasks in this subject

If a student has **not** submitted **all** mandatory assessment tasks, they will receive a Fail Non-Submission (FNS) grade for the subject.