



*University Foundation Studies*

**NATS0009**

**HEALTH COMMUNICATION**

**2022 TERM 3**

**SUBJECT OUTLINE**

Last amended:	September 2022
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<b>Subject name</b>	Health Communication
<b>Subject number</b>	NATS0009
<b>Coordinator</b>	Ryan Sidoti
<b>Session</b>	2022.3
<b>Handbook summary</b>	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.
<b>Credit point value</b>	19
<b>Prerequisite/s</b>	Nil
<b>Corequisite/s</b>	Nil
<b>Subject incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with</b>	N/A
<b>Assumed knowledge</b>	N/A
<b>Subject level</b>	Level Z — Non-award subject
<b>Attendance requirements</b>	You 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.
<b>Enrolment restrictions</b>	
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>On successful completion of this subject, you should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify verbal and non-verbal cues and how they relate to health</li> <li>2. employ different types of questioning, speaking and listening skills and demonstrate an awareness of their benefits and limitations</li> <li>3. reflect on their own communication strengths and areas for improvement and how these aspects of self-impact on communication, subjective and objective</li> <li>4. examine the impact of cultural and situational context on communication when working with people from diverse backgrounds</li> <li>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)</li> <li>6. demonstrate effective interpersonal skills used in team work and holistic practice, and</li> <li>7. demonstrate the ability to work legally and ethically within healthcare.</li> </ol>

<b>Subject content</b>	<p>In this subject, you will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understanding communication and its application in health and nursing: verbal, non-verbal and textual</li> <li>• introduction to cultural and situational sensitivity, safety and competences</li> <li>• working ethically, legally, collaboratively and effectively in healthcare</li> <li>• the importance of reflection and self-awareness and its influence on communication, learning and the relationship to professional life</li> <li>• the practice of health and nursing: examining contexts for professional practice and implications for communication such as effective listening and professional documentation</li> </ul>
<b>Mode of delivery</b>	This subject consists of six hours of classes each week as well as online activities via vUWS.
<b>Online learning requirements</b>	You must complete all online learning.
<b>Essential requirements</b>	<p><b>Essential text</b></p> <p>There is no essential text for this subject.</p> <p><b>Further resources</b></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: <a href="http://www.hreoc.gov.au/social_justice/health/targets/closethegap/part2_1.html">http://www.hreoc.gov.au/social_justice/health/targets/closethegap/part2_1.html</a></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 <a href="http://www.icn.ch/images/stories/documents/about/icncode_english.pdf">http://www.icn.ch/images/stories/documents/about/icncode_english.pdf</a></p> <p>Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. [NMBA]. (2018). Code of professional conduct for Nurses in Australia. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards.aspx">http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards.aspx</a></p> <p>NMBA. (2016). Registered nurse standards for practice. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards.aspx">http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards.aspx</a></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	No
2. Presentation — role-play of professional practice scenario to demonstrate communication skills (Peer 5%; tutor 15%)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	No
3. Professional task — charting and progress notes In-class (75 minutes)	35%	5, 7	No
4. Simulation — oral and listening assessment that reflects professional practice In-class (30 minutes)	25%	1, 2, 5, 6	No
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 [Assessment Policy](#). You are strongly encouraged to attempt/submit all assessment tasks, even if they are not mandatory.

You must achieve a mark of 30% or above (an E grade or higher) for this subject to contribute to your GPA.