

Nursing Studies

Director of Field of Studies and Admissions Tutor
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UCCA Code 0730 Nurs St

Nurses are the backbone of the caring professions and, as such, they occupy a role of great importance and responsibility. While the traditional human qualities remain an absolute requirement, increasingly complex technology, a better informed and more sophisticated society and a desire on the part of the profession to re-examine its roles, all demand nurses educated to the highest standards.

The degree in Nursing Studies aims to turn out graduates fully equipped to continue to learn so that they can tackle the wide variety of challenges with which their profession will confront them. This four-year degree course is recognised by the General Nursing Council and successful students will qualify for the SRN as well as an honours B Sc degree in Nursing Studies.

The main emphasis of the degree course will be on how to learn, encouraging students to do their own learning and fostering an attitude of reflection and inquiry. In addition, at the completion of their course, graduate nurses should be as competent in the skills of nursing as their SRN peers. The scheme is a partnership between Chelsea College and St George's District School of Nursing and Charing Cross Hospital School of Nursing; as a result of this students will gain substantial practical experience during the four years.

Courses

The core of the degree is founded on three pillars: basic medical sciences, behavioural sciences and nursing studies. The last plays an increasingly important role as the student progresses through the course.

The outline is illustrated in the table below. A substantial amount of practical experience is included, and in order to achieve an Honours degree as well as the SRN in four years, the usual academic year has been extended. The course will begin with a four-week period of nursing in a hospital.

Year	Biological Studies	Value	Nursing Studies	Value	Social and Psychological Studies	Value
1	Body function and its measurement (1)	½	The Patient's Progress	½	Introduction to Sociology of Health Care	½
	Body function and its measurement (2)	1	Patients' Key Experiences	½	Elements of Social Policy and Administration (1)	½
PLUS 8 week full-time Care of the Expectant Mother and Newborn						
2	The Human Life Cycle	1	Care of the Young	½	Developmental and Social Psychology	½
			Care of the Elderly	1		
PLUS 3 week full-time Care of Adult Medical and Surgical Patient						
3	Dysfunction	½	Management and Practice of Patient Care	1	Elements of Social Policy and Administration (2)	½
			Research Methods	½	Sociology of Health Care	½
PLUS 8 week full-time Care of the Mentally Ill						
4	Optional units		Issues in Nursing	½	Optional units	
			Nursing Care Dissertation	1½		
PLUS 12 weeks full-time practice						

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In addition to the core course, students will be able to choose to do other courses in subjects outside their immediate professional interests, in either science or non-science subjects.

Prospects

Graduate nurses will have open to them all the opportunities that are offered in the practice of nursing at home and overseas, in institutions or in the community. There are expanding opportunities for research and teaching in the health service, universities and polytechnics.

Entrance requirements

Candidates must satisfy the general requirements of the university; normally they will be expected to hold three passes at Advanced level, one of which should normally be a science.

Candidates should have a broad background as shown by their 'O' or 'A'-level passes in English and a diversity of subjects, preferably including three of the following: Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and a biological subject. We should also welcome applications from those with ONC or HNC or other qualifications as mentioned on page 7, particularly if they have had experience in hospitals, other laboratories or industry.

Candidates in any doubt about their qualifications or with any other specific queries should write to Professor Jack Hayward in the Department of Nursing Studies. Booklets giving general information on the course are available from the Department or from the College Registry.

Selection procedure

Suitable candidates applying for the degree in Nursing Studies will usually be invited to visit the College to take part in informal interviews and to see the College and have an opportunity to talk to some of the Nursing Studies students.