

Meeting of the Departmental Board, 21 January 1981Report of the Working Party on Nursing Studies

The W.P. has held three meetings and made considerable progress towards the development of the degree in Nursing Studies. It sees itself as continuing to monitor the progress of the degree and to act as an advisory committee, charged particularly with accomplishing the integration of the different disciplines that go to make it up. For some purposes, it will need to be reinforced and from time to time to work in smaller groups. The work will be spread out over the next three years at least and this will permit some work in depth. Immediately however there are decisions that must be taken in time to submit proposals to the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies at its meeting on 20th February. We must have for that meeting (1) a provisional scheme for the degree as a whole and (2) details, including official syllabuses, for the first year's programme. The papers attached are designed to provide information to enable decisions to be taken on these issues. There are no papers relating to Physiology and Anatomy and I will speak to these matters at the meeting. No work has yet been done on the 3rd and 4th year social science courses and the proposal for research methods is necessarily provisional in the context of the revision of research methods courses being discussed for the course-unit degree. The working party has considered much more detailed papers in relation to the Nursing Studies courses and Marion Ferguson will speak to the content of these at the meeting. Finally, may I add that I think very good progress has been made and that this has been possible by our concentrating on academic issues and leaving the organisational problems on one side. I think that needs to be our attitude throughout the development of this degree.

The Papers consist of:

- (1) A diagrammatic scheme of the degree; the figures in circles refer to the value in course-units of the course.
- (2) A note on Clinical Practice together with a scheme setting out the calculation of hours.
- (3) A paper on Nursing Studies Units including a syllabus for the 1st year course.
- (4) A paper setting out the two Sociology courses' syllabuses.
- (5) A paper setting out provisional syllabuses for the Research Methods courses.

NURSING STUDIES	BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES	SOCIAL SCIENCES			
		Sociology	Social Policy	Research Methods	Other:
Nursing Care (Foundation Course) (2)	Physiology (1) Anatomy (1/2)	Sociology I (1/2)			
Nursing of the Adult (Surgical and Medical) (1/2) Psychiatric Nursing (1/2)	Microbiology (1/2) Pharmacology (1/2)	Sociology II (1/2)		Research Methods I (1)	
Obstetric Nursing (1/2) Paediatric Nursing (1/2) Geriatric Nursing (1/2)			Social Policy I (1)	Applied Research Methods (1/4)	Psychology (1/2)
Nursing Option (1/2) Nursing Administration (1/2) Nursing History (1/2) Extended Essay (1)		Sociology of Health Care (1) <u>Common</u>	Social Policy II (1/2)		
Total 7 C.U.s	Total 2 1/2 C.U.s	Total 2 C.U.s	Total 1 1/2 C.U.s	Total 1 1/4 C.U.s	Total 1/2 C.U.

Overall Total 14 3/4 C.U.s

Total Social Sciences 5 1/4 C.U.s

CLINICAL PRACTICE

Will be based on the equivalent of two days a week during term but will be calculated in terms of hours. This practice will not extend into the Christmas or Easter vacations. In addition, there will be a period of full-time practice beginning after the examinations (two weeks are set aside for examinations and a further week for "rest and recuperation") and extending into the summer term. This period will be six weeks long in all except in the final year where it will be eight weeks. The practice will be organised and controlled by the Director of Nursing Studies who may order additional practice for students who require it. The practice will be an integral part of the Nursing Studies units (except for the final period in the fourth year which will be a consolidation period) and will ~~be~~ count towards the assessment in those units.

CLINICAL PRACTICE

YEAR	TERM	HOURS	LOCATION
I	1st	160	Mainly in institutional settings apart from the hospital (Doctors' surgeries, health centres, school nursing, occupational nursing, women's health centres, district nursing etc.)
	2nd	160	
	3rd (pre-exam)	80	
	Post-exam and Vacation	240	Continuous experience in the hospital to develop a basic understanding of nursing skills.
II	1st	160	
	2nd	160	
	3rd (Pre Exam)	80	
	Post Exam and Vacation	240	
III	1st	160	
	2nd	160	
	3rd (Pre Exam)	80	
	Post Exam and Vacation	240	
IV	1st	160	
	2nd	160	
	3rd (Pre Exam)	80	
	Post Exam and Vacation	320	Consolidation period in the hospital
		2640	

The Nursing Studies units are of course central to the degree. While comprising discreet and individually conceptualised courses, they will in the course of the four years of the degree gradually come together and form a coherent whole.

Knowledge and understanding from the Social Sciences and from the Biological Sciences will constantly feed into the Nursing Studies courses. Nursing Studies seminars are designed to facilitate integration of this knowledge and understanding and it must be their principal concern to amalgamate and absorb it so as to apply it to the needs and development of nursing care. The fact that such needs and development comprise dynamic characteristics that are both historically and socially determined will be elaborated as and when appropriate but will be considered in depth in the Sociology of Nursing Care course in the final year.

HISTORY →

Nursing Care (Foundation Course)

The aim of this course is to introduce the student to themes, issues, methods and problems concerned with such nursing activities as are both basic and common to all aspects of nursing care. While subsequent Nursing Studies units will cover specific professional areas, the core of nursing must be sought within a foundation course upon which the others are based. Basic to nursing activities is the maintenance of health, the prevention of disease, and the care of the sick, all of which take place in a variety of settings. Practising nurses need to be conversant with a functional approach to health, that is, they are to support and to direct their clients' varied coping mechanisms, irrespective of clearly defined pathology. Therefore, their understanding must include knowledge about the complexities of health and disease, about formal and informal institutions providing health/illness care which include nursing and other hierarchies, about the role and situation of clients, and finally about systematic working methods.

Syllabus:

What is understood by nursing: the care/cure dichotomy; the meaning of health and illness; institutions delivering health/illness care; the structure of hospitals; models of nursing: the 'nursing process'; the health model: activities of 'daily living'.

*Finance?
points of sale?*

C.U. value: 2 units;

Teaching: twice weekly, 1½ hour, lecture seminars plus fortnightly seminar;

Assessment: unseen written examination: one paper of three hours, ? plus three assessment essays of 2,000 words designed particularly to test the ability to relate clinical practice to theory.

NB: With this syllabus there will be submitted a commentary setting out what is involved in the course in more detail; a draft has been considered by the working party and is available to anyone interested.

SOCIOLOGY

The aim of the course is to discuss the significance of the social context within which nurses perform their work.

Syllabuses:

Sociology I: Introduction to Sociology: Sociological Perspectives.

The nature of social reality; sociological perspectives; traditional and industrial societies; urban and rural communities; the nature of social order and unity; social problems in modern society; the nature and direction of social change.

C.U. value: $\frac{1}{2}$ unit;

Teaching: weekly lecture plus fortnightly seminar;

Assessment: unseen written examination: 1 paper of two hours.

Sociology II: The Sociology of Modern Society: Social Differentiation.

The family in modern society; gender roles; ethnic minorities; social differentiation: the division of labour; social stratification; authority and power; bureaucracy in modern society; modern occupations and professions.

C.U. value: $\frac{1}{2}$ unit;

Teaching: weekly lecture plus fortnightly seminar;

Assessment: unseen written examination: 1 paper of two hours.

RESEARCH METHODS I

The aim of the course is to provide a standard introduction to Research Methods in the social sciences. In all probability, students will follow the new revised 1-unit course taken by all other students in the department (S100 plus the qualitative half of S 200). If a separate syllabus is required, then the following will be submitted:

Syllabus for Research Methods I (Draft only)

Key issues in social research: the role of social research; the relevance of scientific method; the problem of correlation and ^{regression} association. Historical sources; descriptive statistics; comparative methods. Data collection and measurement: sampling and surveys; questionnaires; interviewing; observation, participant and otherwise. Analysis and Interpretation: sources and bias; validity; inference and meaning; tests of significance ~~and tests of association~~; interview findings. Data presentation.

C.U. value: 1 unit;

Teaching: twice weekly lectures plus fortnightly seminars;

Assessment: unseen written examination: 1 paper of three hours.

RESEARCH METHODS II: Applied Research Methods

Practical problems of measurement, validity + reliability.

The aim of the course is for the student to apply what he has learnt to the subject area of his degree. It will probably be one of several courses in Applied Research Methods in the Department which may well have a common syllabus with a sectionalised examination paper. If a separate syllabus is required then the following will be submitted:

Applied Research Methods (Draft only)

An examination of research methods in: studies in the history of nursing; contrasts in the definitions of health and illness; patients and their doctors: surveys and interpretation; causal enquiry: depression; interviewing and observation: hospital research; compilation of research reports into, e.g., the utilisation of services of services, social factors in rehabilitation.

C.U. Value: $\frac{1}{4}$ unit;

Teaching: $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour seminar fortnightly for one semester;

Assessment: one essay of 2,000 words.

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