Master of Nursing (Practice Inquiry) 1 year

The Master of Nursing (Practice Inquiry) will teach you how to conduct clinical audits and quality improvement projects in any health care setting to improve nursing practice and patient outcomes.

Admission requirements
This course is open to applicants who meet the following requirements
• Bachelor degree in nursing or equivalent; and
• Eligibility for nurse registration in Australia.

Mode and duration
Mixed mode – online and on campus.
Full-time (1 year) or Part-time (2 year) enrolment.

Course details
This course includes practice-oriented coursework combined with a nursing inquiry project. The course is comprised of four 10 credit point (cp) units and a 40 credit point project which will be supervised by an ACU staff member. This course is open only to domestic students.

Unit descriptions (Part-time enrolment plan shown below)

YEAR 1  SEMESTER 1

NRSG626 INQUIRY INTO NURSING PRACTICE (10 cp)
This unit establishes the foundations for inquiry into nursing practice which will guide learning throughout the course. In the context of contemporary evidence-based health care, the stages of the research process will be reviewed with particular emphasis on issues associated with the planning and conduct of research. Nursing practice issues suitable for inquiry will be identified with a view to developing relevant innovative research projects. Ethical principles will be reviewed and applied to the planning and conduct of research.

HLSC640 INTERPRETING HEALTH RESEARCH (10 cp)
This unit addresses issues of knowledge development and the history, methods and processes of nursing, midwifery and related research. Ways to search, read and interpret relevant literature are explored, along with approaches to analysis and synthesis of literature as a preparatory step in writing a literature review for a proposed research study.

YEAR 2  SEMESTER 1

NRSG638 NURSING INQUIRY PROJECT PT (20 cp) (Part A)
The nursing inquiry project enables students to undertake and report on nursing inquiry they have undertaken under the supervision of a member of staff. Students will apply knowledge of nursing inquiry addressed in previous units through guided active participation in phases of the project. Projects will take the form of a systematic review or meta analysis, or a clinical audit or quality improvement project.

SEMINER 2

HLSC646 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS (10 cp)
This unit aims to develop students’ ability to use qualitative research methods in the context of health-related research. Research questions, research design and research methods for qualitative data collection and analysis will be examined. The use of a variety of structured and unstructured approaches will be explored, and issues of rigour and credibility will be addressed. Research proposal and report writing will also be included.

HLSC647 QUANTITIVE RESEARCH METHODS (10 cp)
This unit aims to develop students’ ability to use quantitative research methods in the context of health-related research. Research questions, research design and research methods for quantitative data collection and analysis will be examined. Approaches to descriptive and inferential statistical methods will be discussed as well as issues of validity and reliability. Research proposal and report writing will be included.

NRSG639 NURSING INQUIRY PROJECT PT (20 cp) (Part B)
Continuation of Nursing Inquiry Project from Semester 1.