



## Tēnā koe, nau mai, haere mai

Welcome to the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health.

This is a great place to achieve your academic aspirations if you are interested in postgraduate study or are already underway. With a team of expert lecturers and visiting clinicians we have developed a proud reputation for providing a supportive and inspiring learning experience.

Everything we do is driven by our vision, to shape the health future of Aotearoa/New Zealand by:

- ▣ leading improvements in health outcomes
- ▣ building leaders in research, policy and practice
- ▣ providing expertise in nursing, midwifery and health.

We take very seriously our role of helping health professionals like you to extend yourselves through education and research. By working with you to help meet your career goals, we know we are also helping to improve health care in New Zealand.

We offer a simplified, structured yet comprehensive qualifications framework, delivered by our dynamic teaching team from stunning new premises in the heart of Wellington's health care community.

Join us and you will experience postgraduate study the way it should be—relevant, up-to-the-minute and tailored to your personal and professional needs.

Read on to find out more about your options, then contact us or visit our website for more information and help with developing your programme of study.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Professor Jo Walton**  
Head of School

## Take the next step on your professional journey

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health specialises in postgraduate qualifications for nurses, midwives and other health professionals. So whether you are taking your first steps with a postgraduate certificate, keen to advance to the next level or considering the research opportunities of a PhD, we have a programme that is perfect for you.

Take a few minutes to read this brochure and you will learn about our exciting programmes designed to meet the demands of today's clinical and research environment, offering new levels of simplicity and choice.

Recognising the demands of a busy lifestyle, we have developed both full-time and part-time courses that make it easy for you to learn while you are working. You will complete most of your study at your own pace, while occasional visits to our Wellington campus will provide you with invaluable opportunities to network and socialise with your peers and industry experts both nationally and internationally.

You will benefit from the extensive knowledge and experience of our academic and administrative team. With a unique blend of research and teaching expertise and 'real world' clinical experience in their fields, they will support you throughout your study, both face to face and via the power of internet-based technology.

Developed through a comprehensive review and extensive consultation with clinicians, academics, managers and current and potential students, the framework has a straightforward yet flexible structure of progression. Through a 'building blocks' approach our programmes will enable you to gain qualifications that reflect your knowledge, skills and clinical experience.

Choose a path that suits you best—from entry-level certificate qualifications to postgraduate diplomas and our two Master's programmes: the Master of Nursing Science and Master of Health Care.

Each path has a combination of compulsory and 'elective' courses, with both coursework and thesis-based research options at Master's level. The path you take, and the points at which you join (or leave) the framework will depend on your previous academic achievements and chosen professional direction. Your options do not stop there. If you would like to apply your research skills to a PhD, we will be with you every step of the way.

*"I've been associated with the School since 2005, when I was first invited to contribute to Summer School for one of the Master's programmes. I've been involved ever since, and am continually impressed with the way the whole team works to ensure that students are supported throughout their educational experience.*

*"Students also benefit from an excellent academic environment that reflects the scholarly activities of its staff and its commitment to collaboration with the wider health care sector. So whether they're undertaking a well-established professional programme or the recently developed clinical Master's programme, they know they are accessing a highly credible research faculty as well as contemporary and highly relevant courses."*

**Dr Maureen Coombs, MBE**

Consultant Nurse Critical Care

Senior Lecturer, School of Health Care Sciences, University of Southampton

# Master of Nursing Science (MNS)

Our Nursing Science programme is designed for qualified and experienced Registered Nurses seeking to develop their theoretical knowledge and practical skills, both in general practice and in specialist areas of expertise. If you are planning to seek registration as a nurse practitioner with the Nursing Council of New Zealand, it also includes advanced assessment, diagnostics and therapeutics, pharmacology and nurse practitioner practicum courses.

You will usually need a Bachelor's degree in Nursing (or equivalent) to qualify for entry into this programme of study.

## Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science (PGCertNS)

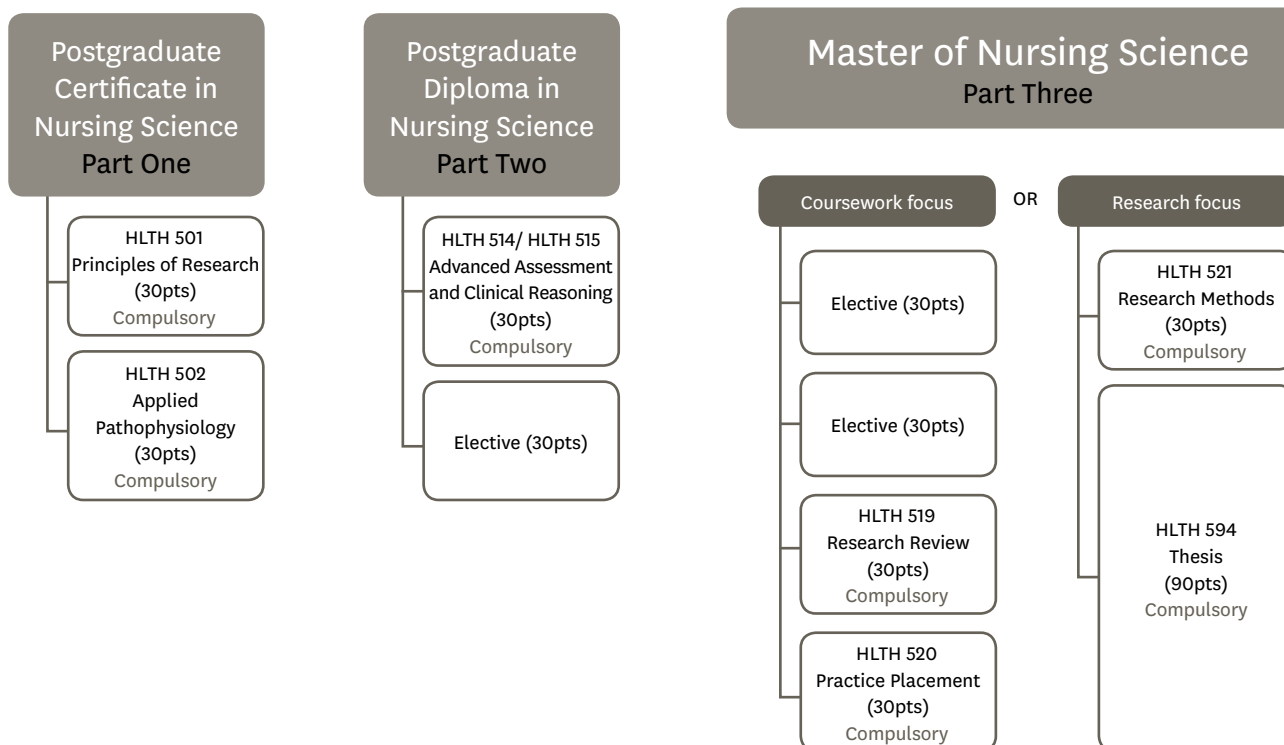
The PGCertNS will provide you with the essentials for a Master of Nursing Science. You will emerge with an advanced understanding of pathophysiology relevant to your particular practice, as well as excellent skills in appraising research literature and relating it to your chosen discipline. In applying this knowledge to your workplace, you will be able to identify potential solutions for improving health outcomes among the patients with whom you work.

## Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science (PGDipNS)

You will develop your knowledge, skills and professional confidence even further with the PGDipNS. In addition you will gain a deeper understanding of pathophysiological concepts and current nursing practice issues, develop your ability to carry out advanced assessments on patients in order to improve your clinical reasoning, and enhance your skills in locating, analysing, evaluating and applying information and research to your everyday work.

## Master of Nursing Science (MNS)

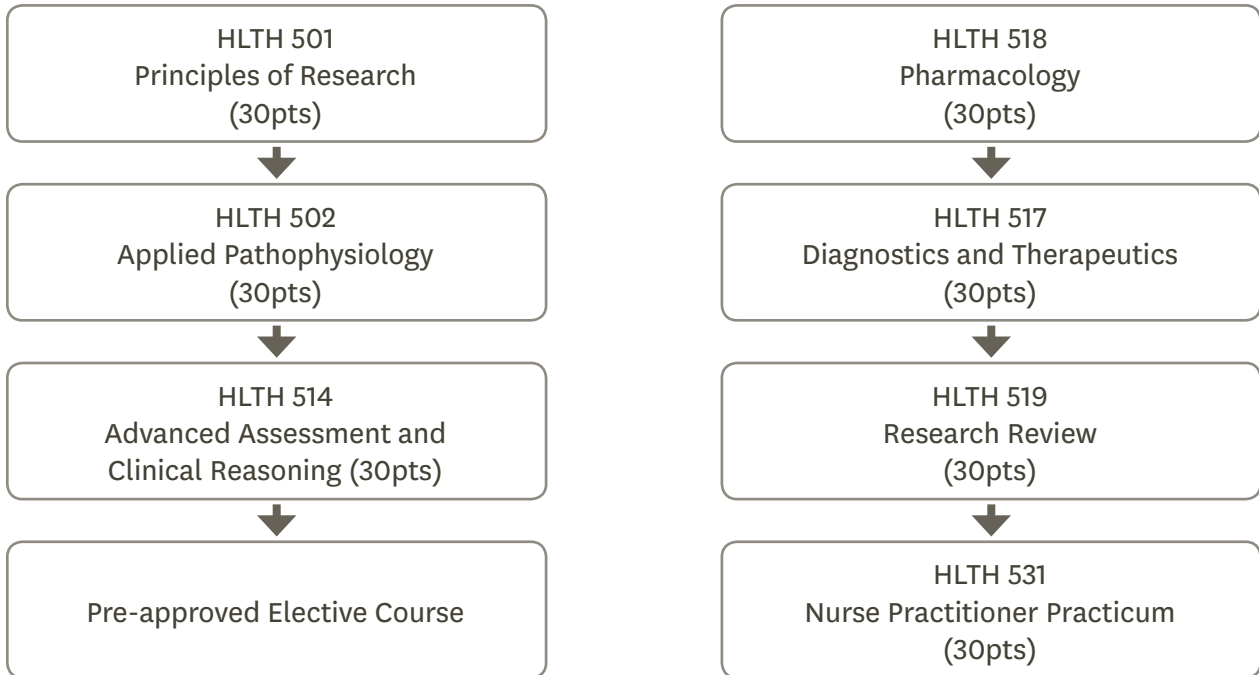
With your MNS you will be an expert practitioner in your chosen area of practice, bringing new insights to your clinical decision-making. You will also have fine-tuned your skills in clinical leadership, be able to integrate practice, theory and research to improve the health care you provide, and have the ability to critique and apply your research findings in practice.



## Nurse Practitioner Pathway (MNS)

Our nurse practitioner programme provides a distinctive pathway and structure framed within the Master of Nursing Science. The recommended pathway has been internationally benchmarked, and will provide you with the knowledge and skills of an advanced health professional. You will need to complete seven courses and one pre-approved elective.

The suitability of your elective course will need to be agreed upon by the Lecturer Nurse Practitioner and approved by the Head of School. In addition it must support your development as a Nurse Practitioner. Your award will be a Master's in Nursing Science and having undertaken the recommended courses will meet the New Zealand Nursing Councils stipulated requirements for Nurse Practitioners.



### Ben Storey Master of Nursing (Clinical) Capital & Coast DHB, Emergency Department

Keen to acquire the clinical expertise he needs for a career as a nurse practitioner, Ben says Victoria's Master's programme was the obvious choice—especially given that he's a mature student with a busy personal and working life.

Ben is relishing the programme's intellectual challenge, as well as its focus on nursing research that's so crucial to evidence-based best practice. He particularly enjoys the combination of online tutorials, on-site seminars and email communications—and the “approachable and interesting lecturers, all of whom are there to help you succeed.”

Overall, Ben says his learning experience has been great. “All of the lecturers are amazing in their fields, with an evident appreciation and passion for their subjects. I'm confident the programme will give me the skills I need to reach my professional goals.”



# Master of Health Care (MHC)

Our healthcare programme has been developed for people with backgrounds in health-related disciplines, such as allied health, midwifery, medicine, health leadership, management, service development, quality assurance and education. Enrolling in this programme will allow you to develop your knowledge of and skills in the health services sector.

You will usually need a Bachelor's degree in a health discipline (or equivalent) to qualify for entry into this programme.

## Postgraduate Certificate in Health Care (PGCertHC)

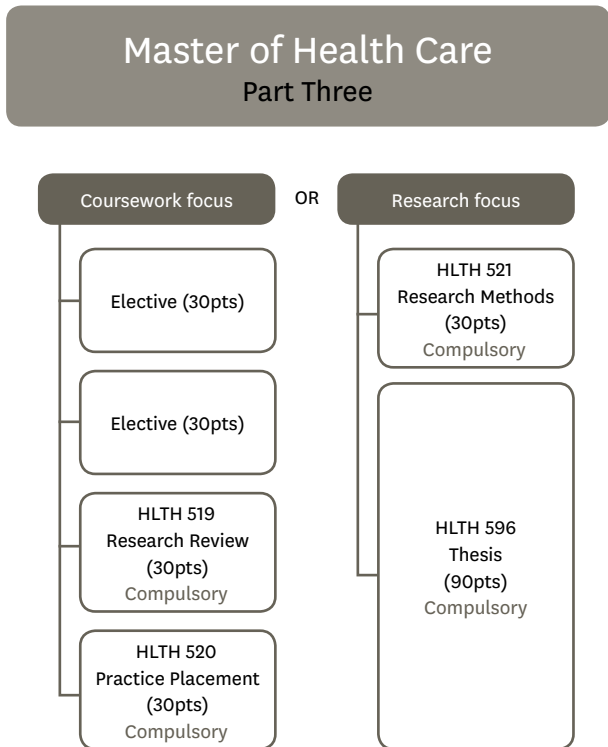
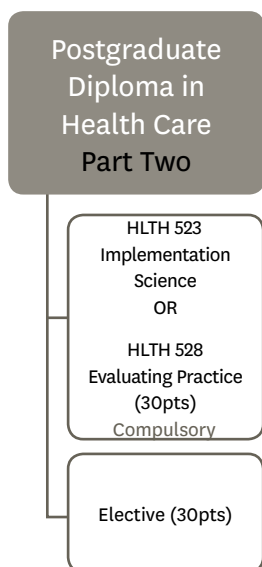
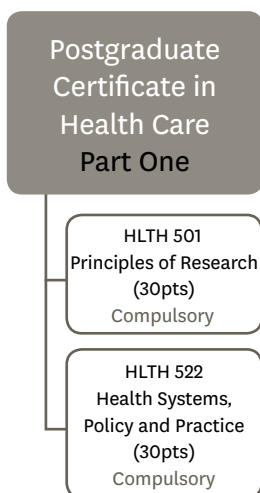
Through a PGCertHC you will gain research skills that are relevant to your own workplace environment, as well as learning about the structure and complexities of the health environment, including how policy is set and decisions are made. It is information that will help you to improve health care outcomes in your chosen field, and is vital if you plan to proceed to a Master of Health Care.

## Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care (PGDipHC)

The PGDipHC takes your study to the next level—introducing you to a programme that will increase your knowledge and understanding of your chosen discipline and the health service environment, and enable you to seek critique and apply relevant research in your everyday practice. With a new ability to analyse, evaluate and resolve issues, you'll have invaluable skills as an agent of change.

## Master of Health Care (MHC)

With a Master of Health Care you will have an advanced and sophisticated knowledge of complex healthcare systems that you can use to manage change and improve outcomes in your chosen field. You will also acquire research skills that will enable you to take new and innovative approaches to addressing health service issues. By developing excellent theoretical and practical skills you will position yourself as a leader in your workplace.



## Research-based degrees

With a strong team of academic professionals to support you and excellent access to extensive online library resources, you have everything you need for your study—whether it is for a Master of Nursing (MNurs), Master of Midwifery (MMidw) or PhD.

Throughout your research and thesis writing, your supervisors will advise you on proven and contemporary research approaches and meet with you regularly to discuss your project, your ideas and your progress toward completion.

You will also be able to meet and network with other Master's and PhD students at our twice-yearly 'research schools'—unique opportunities to discuss research issues, work in progress and strategies with your peers and academic staff, and with invited national and international guests. You are also welcome to attend a mid-year 'research writing week' where you can critique and develop your writing skills.



### Hana Tuisano Master of Arts (Applied) in Nursing

Having completed her Master of Arts (Applied) in Nursing in 2010, Hana is aiming towards the next exciting step in her 'nursing academic pathway'. Hana has and remains inspired by Pacific Nursing Leaders who have graduated with a PhD at Victoria's Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health.

Hana was born in Dunedin and is of Tokelau/Samoan descent. Working as both a Research Assistant at the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health and in clinical practice, Hana enjoys the challenges of academic study, and the opportunities it offers for personal and professional transformation.

"I've seen significant improvements in my capacity to respond to change and acquire new skills and knowledge," she says. "The lecturers have been really supportive, and so generous with their time in helping me to 'unpack' and 'reframe' my thinking about nursing leadership."

Hana says she particularly enjoys meeting and networking with other nurses and learning about their own academic pathways. She thrives on "dialoguing and listening to Pacific nurses share their cultural insights in relation to the nursing profession".



### Helen Rook Master of Nursing, PhD (Candidate)

Helen is now underway with her PhD, having already completed a Master of Nursing at the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health. She's a big fan of the distance learning approach, especially as she has two sons under the age of three and is also one of our lecturers.

"The programme is definitely not for the fainthearted!" she laughs. "However, the team here understand the pressures; many of them have been there themselves. I find it really encouraging to see others on the same path as me but further down the road."

Helen says she's driven by her passionate interest in nursing and its future, as well as the enjoyment she gets from discussions and debates with her peers on nursing practice and what it means to be a nurse.

"The School offers an excellent clinical nursing programme and a supportive and productive learning environment," she says, "It also has a great 'community of scholarship', with clinically informed and research-active lecturers who have a real enthusiasm for professional nursing."

Helen's research interests include nursing theory, careful nursing, therapeutic milieu, and the relationship between nursing and quality patient outcomes.

## Courses offered in 2012

### TRIMESTER 1

HLTH 501	Principles of Research
HLTH 505	Specialist Practice (Critical Care)
HLTH 516	Health, Illness and Disease
HLTH 518	Pharmacology
HLTH 521	Research Methods
HLTH 528	Evaluating Practice

### TRIMESTER 2

HLTH 502	Applied Pathophysiology
HLTH 509	Specialist Practice (Aged Care)
HLTH 513	Special Topic: Real World Midwifery: Sustaining Clinical Practice
HLTH 517	Diagnostics and Therapeutics
HLTH 522	Health Systems Policy and Practice
HLTH 525	Diversity in Health Care
HLTH 530	Special Topic: Nursing: Compassion and Competence

### TRIMESTER 1 + 2/3

HLTH 514	Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning
HLTH 515	Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning: Neonatal Nursing
HLTH 519	Research Review
HLTH 520	Practice Placement

### TRIMESTER 2 +3/3

HLTH531	Nurse Practitioner Practicum
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### FULL YEAR: Trimester 1+2+3

HLTH594/596	Thesis (90 points)
NURS592/MIDW 592	Thesis (120 points)
NURS/MIDW/HEAL 690	PhD

## The academic year

Victoria's academic year has three trimesters. The first (1/3) runs from February to July, the second (2/3) from July to November and the summer trimester (3/3) from November to February.



## Nicky Jackson Master of Midwifery

Having postponed studying for a Master's while she had a young family, Nicky is now well underway—enjoying a “motivating, flexible and accommodating” course that she believes is highly relevant to her professional practice.

The self-employed case loading midwife also manages a company that provides antenatal education to women in the Hutt Valley and Wellington. She says she chose Victoria because of its excellent reputation and the way it enables her to fit study around her work and family life.

“I get great support from my lecturers and supervisor, and the on-site schools are motivating and well-organised,” she says. “This direct contact is complemented with facilities such as the distance library and Skype, which enable me to access information and talk directly with my supervisor without leaving home. It's a combination that really works.”

## School dates 2012

### NURS 592 Master of Nursing (MNurs)

### MIDW 592 Master of Midwifery (MMidw)

First school: Mon 5–Wed 7 March

Second school: Mon 10–Wed 12 September

Research writing week: Mon 11–Thu 14 June

### NURS 690 PhD in Nursing

### MIDW 690 PhD in Midwifery

### HEAL 690 PhD in Health

First school: Mon 5–Fri 9 March

Second school: Mon 10–Fri 14 September

Research writing week: Mon 11–Thu 14 June

## Courses and dates 2012

Here is an introduction to the individual courses we offer, along with the details of when you will need to visit us for 'Schools' (see box below) and research student writing weeks (for Master's students completing thesis or research work). Some courses also offer online learning, teleconferencing and tutorials and these dates will be advised by the course coordinator when you enrol. Attendance at the Schools is part of your course requirements.

**Note: all courses are run subject to numbers. The proposed dates above will be confirmed on acceptance of your Offer of Study.**

### **HLTH 501 Principles Of Research**

This course focuses on the research process, research concepts, the location, implementation and critique of research in practice.

**1/3                      30 pts**

1st School            Mon 12 & Tue 13 March  
3rd School            Mon 30 April, Tue 1 & Wed 2 May  
4th School            Mon 28–Wed 30 May

### **HLTH 502 Applied Pathophysiology**

Pathophysiological states confronted by advanced clinicians are explored in relation to current theoretical frameworks and emerging evidence. This course provides a foundation for clinical decisions related to interventions, management and expected outcomes of pathophysiological states across the lifespan.

**2/3                      30 pts**

1st School            Mon 16–Wed 18 July  
2nd School            Wed 22–Fri 24 August  
4th School            Tue 9 October

### **HLTH 505 Specialist Practice: Critical Care**

This course will develop knowledge of specialist practice at an advanced level, in the context of international developments in patient care. Innovations in practice and challenges facing specific specialty practice areas are the key content areas.

**1/3                      30 pts**

1st School            Mon 19–Wed 21 March  
2nd School            Wed 9–Fri 11 May

### **HLTH 509 Specialist Practice: Aged Care**

This course will develop knowledge of specialist practice at an advanced level, in the context of international developments in patient care. Innovations in practice and challenges facing specific specialty practice areas are the key content areas.

**2/3                      30 pts**

1st School            Mon 30 July–Wednesday 1 August  
2nd School            Wed 3 & Thu 4 October

### **HLTH 513 Special Topic: Real World Midwifery: Sustaining Clinical Practice**

This course explores the role and the place of the midwife. In particular, it examines the central theme of 'keeping birth normal' and analyses this in light of contemporary issues faced in maternity care nationally and internationally.

**2/3                      30 pts**

1st School            Mon 30 & Tue 31 July  
2nd School            Wed 3 & Thu 4 October

## What are Schools?

Our Schools are block courses designed to supplement your learning, give you time to study and provide you with access to our staff for advice and guidance. Held in our new premises at Wellington Regional Hospital, they're also a great opportunity for you to meet and mingle with your fellow students—to share ideas and strategies for learning, identify areas for change and benchmark your progress.

### **HLTH 514 Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning**

### **HLTH 515 Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning: Neonatal Nursing**

This course is designed to develop the skills of systematic history taking, clinical examination and diagnostic reasoning with a focus on the neurological, cardiovascular, respiratory, and abdominal systems. Students work alongside mentors in their clinical practice to develop these skills.

**1+2/3 30 pts**

1st School	Wed 14–Fri 16 March
2nd School	Wed 23–Fri 25 May
3rd School	Wed 19 & Thu 20 September

### **HLTH 516 Health, Illness and Disease**

This course focuses on sociological and anthropological literatures about the experience of being healthy and being sick as it relates to institutional recognition of disease.

The course is delivered online (six seminars in total) on the following dates:

**1/3 30 pts**

Seminar 1	Thu 15 March
Seminar 2	Thu 29 March
Seminar 3	Thu 26 April
Seminar 4	Thu 10 May
Seminar 5	Thu 24 May
Seminar 6	Thu 7 June

### **HLTH 517 Diagnostics and Therapeutics**

This course examines the sensitivity, specificity and utility of commonly used diagnostic testing methods (including the FBC, 12 lead ECG and telemetry monitoring, radiological imaging, and cardio-pulmonary diagnostics). In addition, course modules will explore the assessments of nutrition, infection, and anaemia alongside their associated common therapies. Students must be in direct patient contact.

**2/3 30 pts**

1st School	Mon 13 & Tue 14 August
2nd School	Mon 1 & Tue 2 October

### **HLTH 518 Pharmacology**

This course examines principles of pharmacology and complex pharmacokinetics with an aim towards safe and effective administration of medication.

**1/3 30 pts**

1st School	Mon 26 & Tue 27 March
2nd School	Mon 7 & Tue 8 May
3rd School	Wed 6 & Thu 7 June

### **HLTH 519 Research Review**

This course focuses on issues concerned with the review of research literature in relation to clinical and academic interests and relevant to a specific health environment.

**1+2/3 30 pts**

1st School	Mon 19 & Tue 20 March
2nd School	Mon 23 & Tue 24 July

### **HLTH 520 Practice Placement**

This course entails an intensive, clinical or other workplace experience based on a learning contract developed between students, their mentors and academics at Victoria University of Wellington.

Attendance at two Schools will be required and student will also be required to provide a record of hours completed during their placements.

**1+2/3 30 pts**

1st School	Wed 28 March
2nd School	Fri 20 July
3rd School	Wed 26 September

### **HLTH 521 Research Methods**

This course will focus on modes and methods of scholarly inquiry in health research. The development of skills in formulating questions, research design, research interviewing, questionnaire design and analysis will be included. The course provides a platform for the completion of a research project.

**1/3 30 pts**

1st School	Wed 21–Fri 23 March
2nd School	Wed 2–Fri 4 May

## **HLTH 522 Health Systems, Policy and Practice**

This course explores health care policy and service delivery in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally. The structural, political, professional and ethical dimensions of health service delivery are examined.

**2/3 30 pts**

1st School Wed 18–Fri 20 July  
2nd School Mon 24– Wed 26 September

## **HLTH 525 Diversity in Health Care**

This course explores health from a cultural, ethnic and population perspective. Differences in health and illness patterns amongst groups are examined. The potential development of more appropriate services to address diversity is assessed

**2/3 30 pts**

1st School Thu 2 & Fri 3 August  
2nd School Wed 10–Fri 12 October

## **HLTH 528 Evaluating Practice**

This course focuses on the evaluation of practice at an individual, service and systems level. A programme approach is taken to evaluate practice and design, implement and report a formal evaluation. Considerations in working with stakeholders are included. Key skills such as audit and focus groups are practised.

**1/3 30 pts**

1st School Wed 21–Fri 23 March  
2nd School Mon 21–Wed 23 May

## **HLTH 530 Special Topic: Nursing: Compassion and Competence**

This course will challenge nurses to consider compassion and competence in 21st century nursing. To this end students will explore both nursing's historical roots and modern day practice. Students will investigate nursing as a professional discipline, the relationship between the character and knowledge of nursing, its theoretical foundations and 'unique' language.

**2/3 30 pts**

1st School Wed 25–Fri 27 July  
2nd School Thu 27 & Fri 28 September

## **HLTH 531 Nurse Practitioner Practicum**

This course provides an opportunity for Nurse Practitioner students to synthesise and apply all previous Master's course learning. Attendance will be required at four fortnightly seminars during the course. During these seminars, students will present patients to one another and discuss concepts critical to their development as future Nurse Practitioners. The proposed dates below may be subject to change based on enrolment numbers.

**2+3/3 30 pts**

1st Seminar Fri 20 July  
2nd Seminar Wed 26 September  
3rd Seminar Wed 28 November  
4th Seminar Wed 25 January 2013

## **HLTH 594 Thesis (90pts) (Master of Nursing Science)**

A small-scale research project is undertaken. Emphasis is placed on the practice of research and theory development in relation to nursing practice and/or health outcomes. The thesis report demonstrates generation and synthesis of knowledge and makes a contribution to nursing knowledge.

**1+2/3 30 pts**

1st School: Mon 5–Wed 7 March  
2nd School : Mon 10–Wed 12 September  
Research Writing Week: Mon 11–Thu 14 June

## **HLTH 596 Thesis (90pts) (Master of Health Care)**

A small-scale research project is undertaken. Emphasis is placed on the practice of research and theory development in relation to nursing practice and/or health outcomes. The thesis report demonstrates generation and synthesis of knowledge and makes a contribution to health related knowledge.

**1+2+3 30 pts**

1st School: Mon 5–Wed 7 March  
2nd School : Mon 10–Wed 12 September  
Research Writing Week: Mon 11–Thu 14 June

## For more information

This is just a glimpse into the study opportunities offered by the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact us:

- ☒ phone us on +64-4-463 5363 or freephone 0800 108 005
- ☒ send an email to [nmh@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:nmh@vuw.ac.nz)
- ☒ visit our website at [www.victoria.ac.nz/nmh](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/nmh)

### Programmes offered in 2012:

PGCertHC	Postgraduate Certificate in Health Care
PGDipHC	Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care
MHC	Master of Health Care
PGCertNS	Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science
PGDipNS	Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science
MNS	Master of Nursing Science
MNurs	Master of Nursing
MMidw	Master of Midwifery
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy (offered in Nursing, Midwifery or Health)

### How to apply

Enrol online at [www.victoria.ac.nz](http://www.victoria.ac.nz). Please ensure you enrol early to avoid any penalties.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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