

Module Handbook 2019/20

Module Name: Current Issues in Community Practice

Module Code: UZTS7M-20-3 & UZTS7N-20-M

Module Leader Name: Dr Alison Hughes

Aims of the Handbook

The handbook is a guide for students in the Department of Nursing and Midwifery. The information in the handbook can also be found in a number of other electronic or paper sources and the document provides links to the definitive data sources wherever possible.

Please note that the electronic version of the handbook will be kept up to date and you will be notified of any significant changes. If you have taken a hard copy of any information please remember to refer back to the electronic version to ensure that you are working with the most up to date information.

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1. Module team information

Module Leader

Dr Alison Hughes, Room 2C13, 0117 3284464 alison2.hughes@uwe.ac.uk

Module Team

Alison Hughes, 0117 3284464 Alison2.hughes@uwe.ac.uk

Angela Young 0117 9656261 Angela2.young@uwe.ac.uk

Kathy Rogers 0117 3287335 Kathy.rogers@uwe.ac.uk

Dawn Odd (V100) 0117 3288565 Dawn2.Odd@uwe.ac.uk

CPD Administration: 0117 328 1158 HAS.CPD@uwe.ac.uk

External examiners from other institutions are appointed to each module to act independently and work with the module team in the management of threshold academic standards. The external examiner appointed to this module can be found at

[http://www2.uwe.ac.uk/services/Marketing/about-us/cas/Extnl Exam Allocation to Mods.pdf](http://www2.uwe.ac.uk/services/Marketing/about-us/cas/Extnl_Exam_Allocation_to_Mods.pdf)

2. Module enhancement

Module evaluations and ongoing student feedback help to ensure the module meets the needs of students. Module delivery and content continues to evolve in light of this feedback.

3. Module specific information

Welcome to the Current Issues in Community Practice module. This module is a compulsory module for students enrolled on the BSc (Hons) PGDip /MSc in Specialist Practice (District Nursing). Students successfully completing this programme have the ability to claim the NMC recordable qualification in District Nursing (SPQ: DN).

Students undertaking this module and who are enrolled on the above programme:

- Must be on part one (Adult Nurse) of the NMC register
- Must be working with an appropriate client group
- Must be working in an environment which enables them to meet the module learning outcomes.

- Must have completed a period of experience of sufficient length to have consolidated pre-registration outcomes and to have gained a deeper understanding in relevant professional practice.

The module aims to help you develop your knowledge and skills in relation to current issues in community practice and to apply this learning to inform and improve care and services. The module will draw on your expertise and experience to explore a variety of issues relevant to community nursing practice, including integrated care and partnership working, commissioning, user and carer involvement, public health, risk management and delegation and caseload management. The syllabus and timetable provide details of areas that are covered in the module.

The module team comprises colleagues from a variety of clinical and academic backgrounds, and the team is here to support your learning. We very much hope that you will enjoy this module. Should you have any concerns with regard to the module, then please feel free to discuss these with members of the module team.

This module handbook should be read in conjunction with the University guidance and advice for students, which can be accessed via the following link.
<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/academicadvice.aspx>.

Particular attention should be paid to academic regulations which can also be found via the above link.

To view the full module specification, go to: <http://info.uwe.ac.uk/modules/>

Module Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes for M level	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate in-depth and advanced knowledge and understanding of literature, research and policy at the forefront of contemporary community nursing practice (component A). 2. Synthesise a wide range of evidence in order to initiate and lead service improvement, reaching judgements which extend beyond taught concepts (component A) 3. Critically evaluate the opportunities for and challenges to integrated practice within the community setting (component A) 4. Evidence comprehensive knowledge and understanding of public health and critically evaluate its application to practice (Component A)
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	<p>5. Critically appraise ethical and legal issues relating to their professional practice (Component A)</p>
<p>Learning Outcomes for level 3</p>	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyse literature, research and policy relating to contemporary community nursing practice (Component A) 2. Identify areas for service improvement and innovation within their practice, and formulate effective strategies in response (Component A) 3. Analyse the opportunities for and challenges to integrated practice within community settings (Component A) 4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of public health and its application to their practice (Component A) 5. Critically appraise ethical and legal issues relating to their professional practice (Component A)
<p>Syllabus Outline</p>	<p>Health and Social Care Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and social care policy: how services and individuals respond to, initiate and deliver policy • Public Health /Health Promotion and making every contact count <p>Strategic working practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning & contracting mechanisms • Networking, influencing and political leadership in the context of community nursing • Articulating the value (of professional contribution) • Service evaluation • Responding to and influencing the quality agenda <p>Managing and coordinating care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caseload management and coordinating complex care • Managing risk • Managing and Leading teams • Service user and carer involvement <p>Integrated practice</p>

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concepts of partnership and co-production• Teamwork and integration |
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4. Assignment Brief

Students are required to submit a **3000 word assignment** in which they **critically evaluate the impact of a policy on current practice.**

The policy we want you to focus on, is the **NHS 10 year Plan**. It will not be possible for you to explore the whole of this document, however, you will need to **critically evaluate an aspect of the plan, and identify the implications for District Nursing practice.**

The aim is to encourage students to explore the policy/practice interface in detail, and critically analyse the implications of the policy for district nursing practice. Students will use this analysis to make recommendations regarding care and services.

It is very important that you refer to the evidence base (research, journal articles etc) within the academic and professional literature to support your discussion. You need to demonstrate this throughout the assignment.

The following broad sections will help you structure your work:

Introduction: (approx. 500 words)

- Brief background to the policy (aim/ intention and why now?)
- Identify one particular aspect of 10 year plan that you are looking at, and provide a rationale for your choice, ensuring you link it to District Nursing. Examples could include: support for the workforce, prevention and health inequalities, better care of major health conditions, technology and digital working to support care etc.

Evaluation and Implications for District Nursing Practice. (approx. 2,200 words)

- Provide further details of the particular aspect that you are evaluating. What exactly is being suggested and why? Is the intention to build on previous efforts to bring about change, and if so, what have been the problems in the past? For example, if the focus is on 'prevention', why hasn't the Health Service been as effective as it might have been in tackling issues related to public health? What does the literature say about this? Is there literature which has looked specifically at the public health role of DNs? Whilst this discussion will help to set the scene, the main focus of this section should be to consider the **impact** of the policy on district nursing practice (see bullet points below).
- What has the academic and professional response been to the policy? What research evidence / literature is there that relates to the impact/implementation of the 10 year

plan which can help shed light on the particular aspect of the policy in which you are interested?

- What are the strengths and opportunities of the policy and what appear to be some of the challenges?
- Considering the chosen aspect of the policy, how might you relate this to your own practice / service? For example, what impact, if any, are the changes having on patient care and services within your organisation? If there are challenges, how might you understand these, again making reference to the evidence base.

Recommendations (approx. 300 words)

- Having reviewed the evidence, and with reference to the particular aspect you are discussing, does your analysis suggest that what is being proposed will help to improve care and services? What, if any, are the limitations?
- What recommendations would you make to ensure the policy brings about the necessary improvements in services?

Your assignment should:

- Demonstrate full and accurate use of references using the UWE Harvard system A guide to referencing can be found at:
<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/studysupport/studyskills/referencing.aspx>
- Be presented in **Arial** font size **12**
- Be **1.5** spacing.
- Be a **word** document only (i.e. no PDF)
- Be **aligned** to the right
- Have your student number at the footer or header of each page.
- Have page numbers.
- Identify number of words at the end.
- NOT have your name on your submission.
- Reflect UWE guidance on maintaining confidentiality, which can be found here:
<https://simita.uwe.ac.uk/HAS/students/MaintainingConfidentiality>

Further guidance and support

If you would like support with essay writing, try 'myskills' on the university website for guidance and tips on essay writing. <http://www.uwe.ac.uk/library/resources/hub/>
Details of additional support can also be found at this site.

The 'Assignment Support' tab in Blackboard also hosts a variety of resources to support your academic writing and provides further guidance with regard to the assignment. Members of the module team will also be happy to discuss your assignment plans.

Assignment Support

Members of the module team can review 20% (= 600 words) of students' draft assignment once. Please email staff and you will receive written feedback on your draft. In addition, there will be an opportunity during the module where students can discuss their assignment with academic staff. Students will need to request written formative feedback no later than 3 weeks prior to the assignment submission date.

5. Submission details

Please submit an electronic version of your 3000 word assignment via Blackboard. Please note, that the submission deadlines are absolute and based on UWE server time, therefore you are strongly advised to submit work well ahead of the deadline dates to avoid situations where penalties could be incurred. Penalties are imposed if a submission is made up to 24 hours after the deadline, and the highest mark you can receive will be the minimum pass mark (if the assessment is passed). After the 24 hours have passed, the work will not be accepted for marking.

Submission date: Tuesday 4th February 2020

You will receive informal feedback verbally through all teaching sessions – ensure you listen carefully. Each assessment you submit will be returned to you with written feedback, and consists of comments made by tutors on students' assessed work which enables students to understand how they have met the defined assessment criteria and identifying areas for further improvement. The period for providing feedback will not normally exceed 20 working days (excluding University closure days) following the deadline for submission of the assessment concerned. This period may be shorter or longer for some forms of assessment. Where the period is greater than 20 working days, students will be informed of the deadline and the rationale for the extension. Outcomes which have not been confirmed by an examining board shall be considered as unconfirmed.

Date of submission feedback: Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Date of re-submission: Tuesday 14th July 2020

MyUWE is used to communicate unconfirmed marks, provide cover sheets for assessments and to submit work.

6. Additional information and reading lists

Your module reading list can be accessed online, through the module's Blackboard page.

The short video available on the library's website will introduce you to some of the key features of the online reading list system: <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/library/searchforthingsa-z/databases/a-z/r.aspx#readinglists>

The module reading list can be found here: <http://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk>

Word Count

The word limit for this assignment is **3000** words. The University's policy on word count can be found here:

<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/aboutus/policies.aspx>

Portfolio Development

Students enrolled on BSC (Hons) PGDip/MSc Specialist Practice (District Nursing) are required to submit a practice portfolio **at the end of the programme**, evidencing the achievement of the NMC Specialist Practice (SP) standards (District Nursing) and 16 weeks (600 hours) theory and 16 weeks (600 hours) practice. The portfolio is an on-going record of learning and development throughout the programme. Students will be expected to begin work on their portfolio during this module and time is set aside at the beginning of the module to provide further details.

On-going support with regard to portfolio development is also available during the Round Robin sessions and all documentation and guidance is available on Blackboard. Mentors in practice will support students in developing their portfolios (see below). Portfolio guidance is contained within the Portfolio Handbook and can be found on Blackboard.

Mentors

Sign off mentors / Practice Teachers (PT) are required for all nursing students on specialist practice programmes leading to a recordable NMC qualification (NMC Standards to support learning and assessment in practice: 5.2.1). The sign off mentor /PT must meet the following criteria:

- Mentors must be current and identified on the local register as a 'sign off' mentor or a practice teacher/educator
- Mentors who make judgments about whether a student has achieved the required standards of proficiency for safe and effective practice, must be on the same part or sub-part of the register as that which the student is intending to enter (i.e. Only a registrant with the same SPQ may sign off an SPQ student)
- They must be working in the same field of practice as that in which the student intends to qualify.

The mentor provides supervision, and facilitates support and learning opportunities for the student and must be familiar with the requirements and learning outcomes of the programme and the NMC SP standards for District Nursing. It is a requirement that student's employers will take responsibility to identify a suitable and experienced mentor who is willing to undertake the mentoring role.

Practice/Theory integration days

A number of Theory/Practice integration days are included in the module timetable to demonstrate that the integration of protected learning time in practice is integral to the achievement of the programme learning outcomes and NMC standards for Specialist Practice. Students are expected to use this time to work toward completion of the learning outcomes and standards. Attendance at the University on these days is not required.

7. Communication

Throughout your time with us, you will receive regular communication from your module leaders, and also administrative staff. It is your responsibility to ensure that you read everything that you are sent, and act upon it where appropriate.

The main communication channel used is the Blackboard for all the modules you are currently studying. Blackboard provides the main communication channel for module specific information and these too should be checked regularly for new content and announcements.

Please see <http://info.uwe.ac.uk/myUWE/guidance/default.asp> for further information on all aspects of your myUWE portal.

8. Advice and support

There are a range of facilities and services available to go to for advice and support depending on what the issue is. Remember - asking for help at the earliest possible stage will help you in the long run. Your first point of call should always be Alison Hughes as she will be able to sign post you to the right services and will be able to deal with specific matters relating to teaching and learning. If you are not able to contact Alison for any reason go to an Information Point, details of which can be found at <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/informationpoints.aspx>

Student Support Advisers are available and can also be contacted through the Information Points, see <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/academicadvice/studentadvisers.aspx> for information on how they might be able to help.

However, you are more than welcome to talk to other members of UWE staff depending on who you feel most comfortable talking to.

Links to the Programme Handbook for BSc (hons) Specialist Practice can be found here <http://info.uwe.ac.uk/programmes/displayentry.asp?code=B7BC43&rp=listEntry.asp> and for the MSc Specialist Practice, here: <http://info.uwe.ac.uk/programmes/displayentry.asp?code=B70012&rp=listEntry.asp>