Graduate Certificate in Ophthalmic Nursing
UNDA Course Code 4128

The degree at a glance
- Developed and taught in conjunction with the Sydney Eye Hospital.
- Designed for registered nurses who are interested in the management of eye related disorders
- Part-time mode
- Delivered at Darlinghurst
- Notre Dame ranked #1 in NSW (see QILT.edu.au) for
  - Graduate employment rate
  - Overall quality of educational experience
  - Skills development
  - Teaching quality
  - Learner engagement
  - Student support

Ophthalmic Nursing is a highly specialised area requiring registered nurses to possess advanced knowledge and skills. The Graduate Certificate in Ophthalmic Nursing is designed to prepare registered nurses to practice in this field and will be run in conjunction with Sydney Hospital and the Sydney Eye Hospital.

Why Study at Notre Dame?
The School of Nursing offers students a supported learning experience where they will experience a personalised education and interact with staff committed to nursing and the provision of excellent nursing care.

The partnership with the Sydney Hospital and the Sydney Eye Hospital means that students will access experts in the field of ophthalmology and have opportunities for professional workplace experience.

Course Goals
On completion of the course the student will:
1. Provide care to people with ocular disorders that meets the National Competency Standards for the Registered Nurse.
2. Conduct advanced assessment skills, apply theory to practice, interpret clinical data and make sound clinical judgements about patient care.
3. Use evidence based research in the care of people with ocular disorders.
4. Critically reflect on practice and own learning and develop skills for lifelong learning.
5. Demonstrate the capacity for leadership in the practice environment and engage in quality improvement processes.
6. Collaborate with the multidisciplinary team to provide coordinated care to the patient with ocular disorders.
7. Engage in health education and health promotion for people with ocular disorders.
Course Structure
The Graduate Certificate in Ophthalmic Nursing consists of four (4) units.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Unit Title</th>
<th>Credit Points</th>
<th>Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NS4000</td>
<td>Advanced Health Assessment</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS4016</td>
<td>*Ophthalmic Nursing 1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5 day clinical intensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS4017</td>
<td>*Ophthalmic Nursing 2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5 day clinical intensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS4009</td>
<td>Professional Development Assessment</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* These units are conducted at the Sydney Eye Hospital

- **NS 4000 Advanced Health Assessment**
  This unit develops the registered nurses capability in performing an advanced health assessment. Students will analyse, interpret and evaluate the data collected to make sound clinical judgements about patient care. Case studies and the students authentic practice environment are used throughout the unit.

- **NS4016 Ophthalmic Nursing 1**
  This unit introduces the student to the specialty of ophthalmic nursing. It addresses anatomy and physiology of the eye, pathophysiologial processes that affect eye health and assessment and management of clients with ocular disorders. Students will examine client assessment within the context of ocular diseases and the importance of assessment for planning and evaluating care. Pharmacology and the associated nursing management is also examined. Students explore current evidence and research and students are expected to apply it to their problem solving and clinical reasoning.

- **NS4017 Ophthalmic Nursing 2**
  This unit further develops the nurse’s competence in managing clients with ophthalmic disorders. The unit takes a lifespan approach and address ophthalmic emergencies and the management of patients having eye surgery. It will also look at eye health in relation to co-morbidities such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Within the Australian context students will also explore the eye health problems experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and examine the strategies and programs being implemented to address these issues. Pivotal to the nurse’s role is health promotion and education and this will be explored from both a local, national and international perspective.

- **NS4009 Professional Development Assessment**
  This unit seeks to explore the areas of professional development including reflective practice, the role of research and the development of effective leadership. Students will evaluate a variety of research methodologies and methods and undertake critique of the literature. The impact of leadership on professional development will be discussed and students will be encouraged to understand how they, as leaders of the future, can develop the attributes important to these roles.
Course Duration
The standard duration of the Graduate Certificate in Ophthalmic Nursing is one year of part time study. During this time students can be full time employees and also be enrolled in this course. Students who have completed the Certificate in Ophthalmic Nursing at the Sydney Hospital and the Sydney Eye Hospital may receive advanced standing for Ophthalmic Nursing 1 and Ophthalmic Nursing 2.

Mode of Study and Assessment
This course is delivered online with intensive on-campus workshops. Ophthalmic Nursing 1 and Ophthalmic Nursing 2 are usually conducted at the Sydney Hospital and the Sydney Eye Hospital. Students attend a five day clinical intensive.

Admission Requirements
Applicants to the course are required to have a:
- Current registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as a Registered Nurse (RN)
- Bachelor of Nursing (or equivalent)

Fees
Fees will be based on Standard Post Graduate tuition fees.

Further Information
The information contained in this publication is designed as a basic course description. If you would like further information regarding the course, or information pertaining to admissions, fees or the University itself, please contact the Prospective Students Office on (02) 8204 4404 or at sydney@nd.edu.au.

All International enquiries should be directed to the International Students Office at sydney.international@nd.edu.au.

Visit our website at www.nd.edu.au.

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