Master of Mental Health Nursing

How to apply
Direct to RMIT University
rmit.edu.au/programs/apply/direct
Semester 2, 2017
– Applications open 1 May 2017
– Timely applications close 31 May 2017
Semester 1, 2018
– Applications open 14 August 2017
– Timely applications close 10 November 2017
Late applications will continue to be accepted after this date if places are still available.

Entry requirements
- A Bachelor of Nursing degree, or equivalent, or a Bachelor’s degree in psychiatric/mental health nursing from an approved higher education institution.
- In the case of nurses with senior experience in mental health a Diploma (or be equivalent)
- Current registration or be eligible for registration as a Registered Nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
- 840 hours of supervised clinical practice
- 840 hours of supervised clinical practice already completed in the field of mental health nursing OR you are completing this as part of a graduate year program in mental health nursing or supervised practice during the candidature
- Full-time study load.
- Please provide these documents when making your application.
- Please note: for registration, international applicants will need to meet the English language IELTS score of 7.0.
- In all bands required by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Full-time and part-time study:
  - Full-time: 18 months
  - Part-time: 3 years

Fees
How much you’ll pay will depend on whether you’re offered a Commonwealth supported place or a full-fee place. Entry for this program is primarily through Commonwealth supported places. Government financial assistance is available to eligible students regardless of the type of place you enrol in.

Fees apply to 2017 only and are based on an annual full-time study load of 96 credit points unless otherwise noted. A proportionate fee applies for more or less than the full-time study load. Tuition fees are adjusted on an annual basis and those fees should only be used as a guide.

For more information and to learn how to calculate your exact tuition fees see: rmit.edu.au/programs/fees/ postgraduate

Credit and exemptions
Graduates of RMIT’s Graduated Diploma in Mental Health Nursing are eligible to seek 96 points of credit transfer towards the Master of Mental Health Nursing.

Applicants who have completed an equivalent postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma (which must include a Research Methods component) in mental health nursing at another university can claim a maximum of 72 credit points (50%) towards the Master of Mental Health Nursing.

You can also apply for credit if you have completed a recognised psychiatric graduate nurse program that was at least 12 months long and/or are a nurse with advanced standing and experience in mental health.

Scholarships
The Australian College of Nurses and the Department of Health and Human Services offer scholarships for completion of specialty practice degrees in mental health nursing.

The Master of Mental Health Nursing offers a strong focus on mental health nursing and prepares you for advanced leadership and clinical roles.

Learning and teaching
The courses are offered via distance education/online and face-to-face classes supplemented by online material.

You will be exposed to a range of teaching and learning opportunities including distance education packages, online learning, face-to-face lectures and learning experiences. All lectures are video recorded to enhance the flexible delivery of this program.

You will experience a range of learning approaches including learner-centred curriculum, learning activities and projects and working in multidisciplinary teams.

Career outlook
Graduates will be able to seek to extend their careers in mental health nursing in a wide range of hospital and community settings across metropolitan and rural areas. Graduates of this program should be well prepared to take on shift leadership and care coordination roles as well as mentorship of staff in a mental health setting.

Professional recognition
You can join the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses and cite this qualification as part of your application for credentialing. Credentialed mental health nurses can be funded for employment under the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program.

Industry connections
RMIT University is committed to providing you with an education that strongly links formal learning with professional or vocational practice. This assessment you will complete within this program will reflect the contemporary work you will be involved in within mental health nursing clinical practice.

This information is designed for Australian and New Zealand citizens and permanent residents of Australia.
Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University website before lodging your application. Visit: www.rmit.edu.au
NURS1066 – Context of Mental Health Nursing
Credit points: 12
You will develop your ability to recognise and differentiate between psychiatric disorders within the existing criteria for classification and diagnosis of mental illness. Cultural beliefs and concepts of mental illness are explored. There is an emphasis on current treatment modes for psychiatric disorders and disabilities, including the role of pharmacology in the treatment of each specific mental disorder.

NURS1087 – Assessment Analysis in Mental Health Nursing
Credit points: 12
This course develops skills in holistic psychiatric nursing assessment. Multiple assessment models are examined from theoretical and practical perspectives. Assessment for anxiety disorders, depressive disorders, mood disorders, eating disorders, family violence and sexual assault will be explored.

NURS2119 – Dual Diagnosis and Community Work
Credit points: 12
This course examines dual diagnosis and common comorbidities associated with mental illness. You will be exposed to a range of therapeutic strategies and interventions for working with individuals across the service continuum.

NURS1049 – Mental Health Nursing Clinical Portfolio
Credit points: 12
You will draw on professional psychiatric nursing theory and knowledge to develop a conceptual framework on which to base your clinical practice. Particular emphasis is placed on the development of clinical practice skills underpinned by the standards of the Australian Nursing Council Incorporated (ANC) and the Australian and New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses (ANZCMHN).

Year 2
Select and complete 48 credit points from the following courses.

Semester 1 of any year
NURS2186 – Global Mental Health
Credit points: 12
Global Mental Health will consolidate and build on knowledge and skills from your previous studies. Assessment and care planning for people with comorbid conditions, hard to treat presentations and early detection strategies for risk of health care deterioration are all addressed.

NURS2189 – Leadership, Supervision and Mentoring in Health Care
Credit points: 12
This course provides you with opportunities to develop skills in individual-centred, recovery focused leadership, supervision and mentoring within the nursing profession. The current status of the profession will be examined to provide a context for the conceptualisation of effective leadership skills. The notion of leadership will be explored in relation to clinical practice change, delegation and shift leadership and improving the delivery of a quality experience for consumers.

NURS2191 – Health Research Project 2
Credit points: 12
This course offers students who have successfully completed prerequisite coursework an opportunity to undertake a minor applied, supervised research project. In consultation with the course coordinator, you will choose a project topic and mode of study that will enhance your knowledge of an area relevant to nursing and/or health care.

NURS2189 – Leadership, Supervision and Mentoring in Health Care
Credit points: 12
This course provides you with opportunities to develop skills in individual-centred, recovery focused leadership, supervision and mentoring within the nursing profession. The current status of the profession will be examined to provide a context for the conceptualisation of effective leadership skills. The notion of leadership will be explored in relation to clinical practice change, delegation and shift leadership and improving the delivery of a quality experience for consumers.

NURS1049 – Mental Health Nursing Clinical Portfolio
Credit points: 12
You will draw on professional psychiatric nursing theory and knowledge to develop a conceptual framework on which to base your clinical practice. Particular emphasis is placed on the development of clinical practice skills underpinned by the standards of the Australian Nursing Council Incorporated (ANC) and the Australian and New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses (ANZCMHN).

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