



# ORTHOPAEDIC NURSING

Stage 1

## Overview

This academic plan is designed to provide opportunities for nurses to develop advanced knowledge and specialist skills in orthopaedic nursing.

The Master of Nursing Science (Orthopaedic Nursing) - Stage 1 is comprised of seven courses, four of which have an orthopaedic focus. The remaining three compulsory core research literacy, knowledge translation and professional practice are undertaken by all students enrolled in a graduate diploma. These three courses are provided by flexible (external) mode. The four orthopaedic courses will provide graduates with a rigorous grounding in physiology, pathophysiology, biochemistry and therapeutics supporting the prevention, assessment and diagnostic studies of both acute and chronic musculoskeletal conditions. This is then applied to the medical and/or surgical management of specific musculoskeletal disorders, therapeutic management of comorbidities, rehabilitation, rehabilitation and discharge planning.

Graduates of this academic plan will be able to care for adult and paediatric patients with both chronic musculoskeletal disorders and conditions or traumatic musculoskeletal injuries, throughout their whole continuum of care. While most of the focus is based within an acute care setting there is discussion on the potential for an increased role of orthopaedic nursing in the community setting.

Successful completion of Semester 1 specialty courses is a prerequisite for continuing in Semester 2 specialty courses. Students granted status can study a course of Critical Reading in Clinical Nursing or they may undertake another course at the discretion of the course coordinator.

## Teaching Methods

This academic plan will be taught using a flexible mode of delivery, online classroom tutorials and on campus workshops (2 days in both first and second semesters).

## Career Pathway

Postgraduate coursework programs enhance career prospects and allow professionals to pursue a special interest. The School of Nursing offers its programs to enable students flexible pathways of study. Given entry requirements are fulfilled, students have the following pathways available.

## Program Duration

Stage 1 (Graduate Diploma) of this program can only be undertaken part-time over two years. Stage 2 (Master of Nursing Science) can be undertaken with an additional one year full-time or two-years part time study. Both Stage 1 and Stage 2 must be completed within the six year time limit.

## Entry Requirements

An applicant for admission to the program of study for the Master in Nursing Science (Stage 1) shall:

- > be registered, or be eligible for registration, as a nurse in Australia and be employed at a minimum of 0.64 FTE (full time equivalent) in orthopaedics; and
- > have qualified for a degree of Bachelor of Nursing, or equivalent, of a university accepted for the purposes by the University; or
- > have at least two years experience as a registered nurse in the field of the specialisation to be undertaken.

## Fees

For the fees applicable to this program, please access the website: [www.adelaide.edu.au/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/)

## Contact



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## Speciality core course

Courses are subject to availability.

### 7141 Orthopaedic Trauma Nursing

Units:	3 units
Teaching period:	TBA
Contact hours:	Weekly two hour tutorial via the online classroom
Content:	This course aims to increase a student's level of theoretical knowledge about fundamental bone anatomy and physiology. It will identify how this knowledge influences the identification, treatment, management and observation for complications of traumatic injuries. Focus will be on how individualised nursing care can assist the patients' recovery following a traumatic injury.

### 7142 Advanced Orthopaedic Nursing Practice 1

Units:	3 units
Teaching period:	TBA
Contact hours:	Two 7 hour workshops on campus
Content:	This course aims to develop those skills required to function as an advanced Orthopaedic nurse. Specifically allowing an effective assessment of gait, range of movement, radiological images. The course will also provide theoretical knowledge and skills to complete an orthopaedic specific physical and functional assessment. This is presented in a theoretical format and via a two day workshop on campus.

### 7143 Therapeutic Management of the Orthopaedic Patient

Units:	6 units
Teaching period:	TBA
Contact hours:	Weekly two hour tutorial via the online classroom
Content:	This course will examine factors that are not unique to orthopaedic nursing but influence the day to day and long term management of the orthopaedic patient. Providing a greater understanding of the impact of these factors allows the advanced clinician to provide effective, individualised care for each patient. There is a strong focus on chronic disease specific to orthopaedics including a theoretical component of disease processes and the impact on practical nursing care.

### 7144 Advanced Orthopaedic Nursing Practice 2

Units:	3 units
Teaching period:	TBA
Contact hours:	Two 7 hour workshops on campus
Content:	This course aims to further develop those skills required to function as an advanced Orthopaedic nurse. Specifically the skills and theoretical knowledge required to apply/manage effective traction, splinting and/or immobilise a limb post injury. This is presented in a theoretical format and via a two day workshop on campus. This course will also focus on spinal disorders and the knowledge requirements regarding the rehabilitation needs of the spinal and the general orthopaedic patient.

## Core courses

### 7102EX Research Literacy

Units:	3 units
Teaching period:	Semester 1 or Semester 2
Contact hours:	Flexible Learning Mode
Content:	This course is designed to familiarise students with the methodologies used in health research. Students will learn about empirical methods such as experimental studies and also the fundamentals of interpretive and critical methodologies, such as phenomenology. The aim is for student to learn how to read and critically evaluate research relating to their practice.

### 7100EX Knowledge Translation

Units:	3 units
Teaching period:	Semester 1 or Semester 2
Contact hours:	Flexible Learning Mode
Content:	This course is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to access, critique and incorporate evidence into their practice with the aim of improving patient care. Students will; consider the context in which their practice occurs, use pragmatic methods of assessing where practice needs to improve and plan a practice change project through facilitating a multi-disciplinary team.

### 7101EX Professional Practice

Units:	3 units
Teaching period:	Semester 1 or Semester 2
Contact hours:	Flexible Learning Mode
Content:	This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to consider a number of issues faced by registered nurses in advanced practice settings. Concepts such as accountability, ethical decision-making, advocacy, leadership in nursing practice, culturally competent nursing, evidence based practice and the nurse practitioner role are considered as this course assists the student to explore the perimeters within which nurses practice.

## Study Plan

Students must follow the study plan to guide enrolment for the duration of the program. Any deviations from the study plan must be discussed with the Specialty Coordinator.

## Applications

Application for this program is made through the SATAC GradStart admissions portal.

For application and admission information see Student Centre web site: [www.adelaide.edu.au/programs](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/programs)

Website: [www.satac.edu.au](http://www.satac.edu.au)

SATAC code: 3CM136

Applicants must also complete an "Additional Information Request Form", available at the School of Nursing website. This form should be submitted within ten working days after applying to SATAC.

## For further enquiries

The University of Adelaide  
SA 5005 Australia

Telephone: +61 8 8313 5208

Freecall: 1800 061 459

Online enquiries: [adelaide.edu.au/student/enquiries](http://adelaide.edu.au/student/enquiries)



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