



2015 Pre-registration Nursing Curriculum

Guidance for Mentors

Contextualised Nursing Practice – NU2563 (Part 2, PLE 3).

NU2563 “Contextualised Nursing Practice” is a five week clinical practice module situated at the end of year two of the B Nursing / B Nursing (Hons) programme (Part 2, PLE 3). It is based upon a 30 hour week and not 37.5 hours as in other placements in the programme. The module was written as part of the 2015 pre-registration re-validation and is an assessed elective practice module.

It is “elective” in the sense that students are enabled to choose where they undertake this module (within their own field of practice) and this is linked to the programmes support for student careers and employability. Therefore when students commence this experience they have done so to engage in the delivery of care (commensurate with their level of knowledge and skills gained on their programme to date).

The students will have undertaken a two week careers and employability period during their programme prior to undertaking this placement. It is hoped that this elective module will enable students to experience nursing in a placement area that they have had no prior experience of or an area of practice that they may be considering as a focus of their professional nursing career once qualified.

The module is assessed. Given the relatively short nature of this placement learning experience this assessment is based on the award of a pass or fail. There is no requirement to assess the student using grading i.e. A, B, C etc. You will notice this when referring to the final review interview within the OAR for PLE 3, Part 2. The mentor will use their professional judgement in determining whether a student is awarded a pass grade or a fail grade. It should however be remembered that this is a relatively short placement experience so judgement is based on whether the student has been generally satisfactory or otherwise. The essence of this placement experience is for the student to explore the nursing role and practices in this elective placement whilst being supported and supervised in the delivery of care.

On what basis is this assessment made? Mentors will be familiar with the four NMC Domains of Nursing competence as set out in the NMC (2010) Standards. Mentors will also be familiar with the Ongoing Achievement Record and the way in which competencies are laid out under the four domains of practice:

- Professional values
- Communication and Interpersonal Skills
- Nursing Practice and Decision Making
- Leadership, Management and Team Working

Mentors are required to refer to the first generic standard for competence in each domain i.e. D1, D2, D3, D4, when considering feedback at both the interim and final review. Again it is emphasised that mentors should also be aware of the student's part on the programme and the relatively short period over which this placement is scheduled when assessing the student.

Expectations of the student – the student will be expected to complete the pre-practice learning activities prior to this placement. The student, having elected to take this placement, will also be expected to come to this placement with some thoughts as to their learning development plan. These may be drawn from the student's prior practice learning experiences, discussions with their personal tutor or specific objectives that they would seek to achieve to maximise their learning about the area of nursing that they have elected to experience.

As per the Quality Standards for Practice Placements, mentors should meet with the student within two days of the commencement of the placement to have a preliminary interview. It is important that clear objectives are identified early in this placement to inform the student personal learning development plan and so that this can be reviewed and assessed during and at the end of the placement.

FAQs

Can students undertake night duty on this placement?

Yes, where appropriate. It is also expected that students will work one weekend in three (where applicable).

Does the student require to complete a time sheet for this placement?

Yes, absolutely. The hours undertaken will count toward NMC clinical hours for their programme. At initial interview, review the off duty to ensure that you are available to work with the student for a minimum of 40% of the student's time in practice. If you are on nights or annual leave during the student's placement please ensure that the student knows who will be supporting them in your absence. ***This placement is based on a 30 hour week.***

Does service user/carer feedback apply to this placement?

Yes, please refer to the relevant guidance section within the Ongoing Achievement Record.

Given the short time period for this placement, can a student undertake interprofessional/spoke experiences?

Yes, but mentors and clinical educators should be aware of the relatively short time period. There may not be a need to apply a timetabled or planned schedule of spoke experiences here but rather the professional judgement of the mentor should be applied and based on the student's personal learning/development plan.

Can a cause for concern be raised?

Yes, and where a student's performance is deemed to be on course to be a fail, the cause for concern process must be implemented in consultation with the Practice Education Team.

Further information about the module is presented in a short audio visual presentation on the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Practice Education web pages.

The students are scheduled to submit their OARs from this placement on September 9th 2016. It would be greatly appreciated, where possible, if the students off duty could be arranged in order for them to finish before 9th September e.g. 8th, to enable recording of the outcome prior to the University Assessment Board on September 14th.