



Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
Unit Title:	Intensive Care Nursing Practice
Unit ID:	HEALC6402
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(HEANP6003)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	060309

Description of the Unit:

This unit explores the applied role of the advanced clinical nurse in an intensive care setting. Through this unit students engage in the application of advanced level clinical reasoning in the intensive care clinical setting. This unit focuses on advanced level integration of theoretical knowledge and evidence based practice for the safe and effective care of the intensive care patient taking a lifespan and evidence based approach.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

No work experience

Placement Component:

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment.

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory						

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	✓	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Describe an advanced assessment of the critically ill patient through comprehensive primary, secondary and tertiary surveys and explore planning and management based on assessment findings.
- K2.** Critically analyse and describe the applied pathophysiology related to a patient presenting with multi-systems failure, traumatic injury or end of life considerations.
- K3.** Demonstrate sound knowledge, implementation and management of invasive therapies, diagnostic tests and therapeutic considerations of the critically ill patient in the intensive care environment.

Skills:

- S1.** Demonstrates competency in the transferrable skills required to care for the critically unwell patient, including accurate assessment, invasive therapy monitoring, analysis and evaluation in the intensive care environment.
- S2.** Adopt a professional and analytical approach to nursing the critically ill patient in the intensive care environment, using a collegial approach to work with the interdisciplinary team and achieve optimal patient outcomes.
- S3.** Applies advanced theoretical knowledge that informs clinical and practical skills of basic and advanced life support in the intensive care environment, commensurate with the Australian and New Zealand Committee on Resuscitation.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Identify and demonstrate the application of problem solving skills to the nursing management of a critically ill patient admitted to the intensive care unit.
- A2.** Gain the ability to engage in life-long learning through reflective practice and seek learning opportunities to keep abreast of digital and non-digital advances in healthcare and engagement, ensuring most recent evidence based practice
- A3.** Apply leadership attributes and profession practice consistent with the National Safety and Quality Health Service standards when caring for health care consumers as part of the interdisciplinary team in intensive care settings.

Unit Content:

Practice Standards for Specialist Critical Care Nurses (2015), National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards (2017-2019), Registered Nurse Standards for Practice (2016) and International Council of Nurses Code of Ethics for Nurses (2012) have substantially informed the syllabus/content of this unit. Topics may include: Application of systems approach to assessment and therapeutic management of complex presentations in the intensive care environment for patients across the lifespan, Application and interpretation of monitoring and diagnostic testing for the intensive care patient Health promotion and long term care of the intensive care patient End of life support and organ donation including care of families and significant others in the intensive care environment Professional practice considerations in the management of conflict Application of Basic and Advanced Life Support therapies in the intensive care environment

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Application of Knowledge of a contemporary intensive care treatment, incorporating current evidence-based literature supporting its application in the intensive care unit.	Poster and/or video	40-60%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A3	Application of an advanced theoretical knowledge to the care of the critically ill patient.	Essay/ annotated bibliography	40-60%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Apply advanced level evidenced based theoretical knowledge, and clinical reasoning in the intensive care environment	Clinical Assessment or Clinical Practice Portfolio	S/U

Adopted Reference Style:

APA ()

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

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