

# Professional Doctorate in Nurse Practitioner (Research) (253JA.3)

Please note these are the 2021 details for this course

## Domestic students

Selection rank	
Delivery mode	
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	4.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Nursing
UAC code	
English language requirements	An IELTS Academic score of 6.5 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent). <a href="#">View IELTS equivalences</a>

## International students

Academic entry requirements	To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our <a href="#">academic entry requirements page</a> .
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[View UC's academic entry requirements](#)

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**Delivery mode**

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**Location**

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**Duration** 4.0 years

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**Faculty** Faculty of Health

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**Discipline** Discipline of Nursing

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**CRICOS code**

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**English language requirements** An IELTS Academic score of 6.5 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent).

[View IELTS equivalences](#)

# About this course

## Introducing an Australian nursing first

Designed for experienced and qualified nurse practitioners seeking to take their career to the highest levels of healthcare research and understanding, this Professional Doctorate in Nurse Practitioner (Research) course will offer you a direct pathway to becoming a leader in your specific field of nursing interest.

Across this three-year doctoral degree, you'll learn valuable research skills and gain in-depth practical experience, thanks to an engaging and thought-provoking selection of coursework units and practice opportunities - before selecting a research topic related to improving clinical practice to focus on for your dissertation.

Upon completion you'll graduate with a doctorate and a systematic and critical understanding of nurse practitioner delivery services; and associated consumer outcomes within the broader field of health. Also, your completed research should make a significant contribution to nursing practitioner procedures, and you'll be ready to promote your new insights to the community and your peers.

As a Higher Degree by Research (HDR), this course is covered under the Australian Government's Research Training Program (RTP) funding model, which provides a fee offset for domestic students for the standard duration of the course.

**Study a Professional Doctorate in Nurse Practitioner (Research) at UC and you will:**

- develop a systematic and critical understanding of a substantial and complex body of knowledge at the frontier of health services
- independently and engage in critical reflection, synthesis, and evaluation.
- develop adapt and implement research methodologies to extend and redefine existing knowledge or professional practice, disseminate and promote new insights to peers and the community
- generate original expertise and understanding to make a substantial contribution to the health field
- have expert and specialised cognitive, technical and research skills in nursing; specifically, in
- the role of a nurse practitioner
- apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, definitive judgement, adaptability and responsibility as an expert, leading clinical scholarship in health.

## Work Integrated Learning (WIL)

A professional doctorate is, by its very nature, the embodiment of WIL and is much more focused on professional practice than a traditional Ph.D. Throughout your coursework, and specifically in your dissertation, you'll be encouraged to apply your existing knowledge and undertake new research to identify and explore a real-world problem in clinical nursing practice.

While developing your research, you'll receive an exceptional level of support and encouragement from your allocated supervisor who will be an esteemed expert and leader within the nursing profession.

Thanks to our partnership with the ACT Government Health Directorate, which includes the Research Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Practice, you'll also take part in seminars, workshops, and conferences and will learn about cutting-edge research and innovative solutions to complex challenges facing the health sector.

## Career opportunities

- nurse academic
- clinical research nurse
- nurse researcher
- advanced nurse practitioner
- director of Nursing

## Course-specific information

Applicants need to meet all the following criteria:

- hold an undergraduate degree or equivalent, as approved by the University
- hold a master's degree or equivalent, as approved by the University
- be endorsed as a nurse practitioner in Australia.

## Candidates must:

- satisfactorily complete all requirements of each unit in the coursework component of the course within the first year of full-time candidature or the first three years of part-time candidature
- attend and participate in an intensive research workshop and complete presentation components of their academic

milestone - unless an exemption has been approved.

- attend and participate in a minimum of one intensive research workshop each calendar year, as scheduled by the Course Convenor.

Domestic students who are accepted on this course are provided for under the Australian Government's Research Training Program (RTP) funding model, which provides a fee offset for the standard duration of the course. Once your RTP entitlement is consumed, you will be charged the annual fee rate that applied at the start of your degree. Further information on fees for Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students can be found [here](#).

# Admission requirements

Applicants must have:

1. An undergraduate degree or equivalent as approved by the University; and
2. A masters degree or equivalent as approved by the University; and
3. Be qualified as a nurse practitioner in Australia or another country.

Candidates must:

1. Satisfactorily complete all requirements of each unit in the coursework component of the course within the first year of full-time candidature or the first three years of part-time candidature
2. Attend and participate in the intensive research workshop at which the presentation components of their academic milestone has been scheduled, except where otherwise negotiated with the candidate's Principal Supervisor and the Course Convenor
3. Attend and participate in a minimum of one intensive research workshop each calendar year, as scheduled by the Course Convenor.

## Assumed knowledge

None.

## Periods course is open for new admissions

This course is not open for new admissions.

## Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules and university policy](#).

# Course requirements

Professional Doctorate in Nurse Practitioner (Research) (253JA) | 72 credit points

**Required - 57 credit points as follows**

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

## Coursework Units - Must pass 9 credit points as follows

Health Specialty Topic 1 PG (8566) | 3 credit points — Level P

## Dissertation - Must pass 48 credit points from the following

Nurse Practitioner Dissertation R FT (48cp) (9128) | 48 credit points — Level R

Nurse Practitioner Dissertation R PT (48cp) (9129) | 48 credit points — Level R

Nurse Practitioner Dissertation R PT (3cp) (9595) | 48 credit points — Level R

## Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Qualitative Research Practice in Health PG (9583) | 3 credit points — Level P

Quantitative Research Practice in Health PG (9585) | 3 credit points — Level P

### Open Electives - Must pass 12 credit points from the following

- Any Postgrad level units relevant to the student's research interest, selected with prior approval of the Course Convener & in consultation with the Chair of the Supervisory Panel.

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

# Typical study pattern

# Course information

## Course duration

Standard six semesters full-time or part-time equivalent. Maximum eight semesters full-time or part-time equivalent.

## Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
2. Produce a thesis that demonstrates the outcome of a sustained course of supervised research that has produced original findings, and constitutes a coherent and cogent argument communicating the significant aspects of research and writing undertaken for the degree	<p>The research graduate is able to:</p> <p>1.3 Identify issues at the forefront of knowledge in the research field and critically reflect and re-evaluate knowledge to address issues as they arise;</p> <p>2.2 Demonstrate critical thinking skills in order to</p>

	<p>investigate, formulate and apply a range of approaches to problems including critical analysis and interpretation of research outcomes;</p> <p>1.3 Evaluate critically and question the philosophies, theories and practices, and research outcomes in the research field;</p> <p>3.2 Identify, analyse, evaluate and communicate information and knowledge using oral, visual and written mediums, selecting the appropriate medium for the context and communicate to specialist and non-specialist audiences;</p> <p>3.3 Critically reflect on the effectiveness of personal communication practices;</p> <p>4.1 Create a shared vision and conceive appropriate and achievable goals, objectives, actions and strategies;</p> <p>5.1 Demonstrate the basic principles of originality and creativity in research and be able to use original approaches to produce works that critique and extend current forms of knowledge and understanding;</p> <p>5.2 Formulate new approaches and interpret the existing bodies of work and their relevance to the new approach; and</p> <p>5.3 Critically and creatively reflect on approaches to research methodology, implementation and outcomes</p> <p>6.1 Describe the ethical dimensions of a project; and</p> <p>6.2 Practice ethically, engaging with colleagues and the community in a professional way.</p>
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3. Be capable to lead the nursing profession through translation of research evidence into clinical practice.

The research graduate is able to:

1.2 Apply and integrate knowledge in the relevant profession and use that knowledge to develop creative solutions in new situations;

3.1 Understand the communication practices of the profession and their applicability beyond the discipline context;

4.2 Provide leadership, develop, implement and evaluate project plans and be able to operate in a changing environment;

4.3 Continue to develop as a reflective practitioner; and

6.3 Demonstrate a social conscience as a reflective practitioner and community member.

1. Demonstrate research knowledge and skill.

The research graduate is able to:

1.1 Conceptualise, contextualise and exhibit a systematic understanding of knowledge in the research field within the wider context of society and the professions;

2.1 Describe and apply the inquiry philosophies, theories and practices in addressing research issues and appreciate different methodological approaches; and

6.1 Demonstrate respect for the concept of ethics and associated ethical processes, including ethical frameworks and codes of practice as appropriate.

## Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Doctor of Nurse Practitioner	DNursPractitioner

## Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Current and Commencing Students	Email <a href="mailto:student.centre@canberra.edu.au">student.centre@canberra.edu.au</a>

## Download your course guide



# Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

[Explore Scholarships](#)

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UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge



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and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.