The M. Sc. / P.Grad. Dip. / P.Grad. Cert. in Specialist Nursing is designed to provide the student with the appropriate level of knowledge, clinical expertise and technical skills necessary to function as a competent, effective and caring practitioner.
Course Outline
The M. Sc. / P.Grad. Dip./P.Grad. Cert. in Specialist Nursing (Gerontological Care) is designed to provide the student with the appropriate level of knowledge, clinical expertise and technical skills necessary to function as a competent, effective and caring practitioner. There is a strong commitment to research-based practice, and a focus on the development and integration of theoretical knowledge and clinical experience. Alternatively, applicants may apply for the P.Grad.Cert. in Specialist Practice – Gerontological which includes the three specialist theory modules. Students who successfully complete the P.Grad. Cert. may progress to the P.Grad. Dip/M.Sc. in Specialist Nursing -Gerontological Nursing.

Structure and Delivery
The course is offered on a two year part-time basis. This course includes clinical and practice based teaching, learning and assessment and students may be required to attend additional sessions at associated service provider sites as well as at the student’s practice base during year one of the course.

Year One: commences with a full week in September and thereafter one day per week for the remainder of the academic year.
Year Two: attendance at workshops throughout the academic year.

Modules
Year 1 Modules Specialist
- Principles of integrated care in gerontological nursing
- Biopsychosocial principles of gerontological nursing
- Advancing gerontological nursing practice
- Supervised Practice Placement (Gerontological nursing)

Core
- NU7013 Theory & Practice of Enquiry Methods for Healthcare
- NU7020 Leadership, Quality improvement and Governance

Year 2 Module
- NU8007 Dissertation

Entry Requirements
The criteria for admission are that the candidate must have:
- current registration on the appropriate nursing division of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland Active Register;
- A minimum of two years post-registration clinical experience since first registration
- a minimum of one year experience in the specialty at the time of application;
- an honours degree in nursing or a related discipline or equivalent professional and academic qualification or satisfy the selection committee that they have the academic ability to successfully complete the programme;
- additional criteria may be required by individual Health Service Providers;
- each student will be engaged in specific practice settings relevant to the specialist area for the duration of the programme of study.

Applicants wishing to complete the PG Dip/MSc Gerontological Nursing clinical practicum module, are requested to have sourced 2 additional age-related clinical areas (i.e. acute care of older person, rehabilitation of older person and long-term care of older person) in addition to current clinical place of work prior to application.

Further details are available from
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