



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Nursing Science

Syllabus

Intensive Care in Theory and Practice II

Course Code:	KMA513
Course Title:	Intensive Care in Theory and Practice II <i>Intensivvård i teori och praktik II</i>
Credits:	9
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1F)

Major Field of Study:

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2021-09-09, and is valid from the Spring semester 2022 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Admission to the Specialist Nursing programme with a specialisation in intensive care, registered for Pathophysiology and Pharmacology (12 ECTS credits) and The Professional Function of Specialist Nursing in Intensive Care (15 ECTS credits), upper secondary level Swedish 3 or Swedish as a Second Language 3, and English 6, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the students should be able to:

- independently analyse, assess, and prioritise the care needs of patients with vital functions failure*
- independently lead and coordinate the care of patients with vital functions failure, in consultation with the patient, next-of-kin, and other professional groups*
- initiate and independently perform examinations and medical treatment safely*
- handle medico-technical equipment and digital aids independently and in accordance with current responsibility and safety guidelines*

- assist and independently perform examinations and treatments in terminal care*
- Independently instruct and inform patients, next-of-kin, and other professional groups regarding the care of patients with complex conditions*
- demonstrate ability to adopt and reflect upon a professional approach in relation to patients, next-of-kin, and other professional groups*
- reflect upon their own capacity for self-knowledge and empathy*
- identify and problematise possibilities and obstacles for systematic quality and patient safety work from the perspective of sustainability,
- critically review questionnaires or assessment instruments relevant to intensive care,
- describe and analyse the leadership of the intensive care nurse in relation to nursing, teamwork, and gender equality, and
- give an account of contingency plans and organisation in cases of disasters and trauma.

* Learning outcomes examined during the clinical placement period.

Content

The course integrates Nursing (4 ECTS cr) and Medical Science (5 ECTS cr).

Instruction is in the form of lectures, a practical placement and seminars. Students study individually and attend on-campus meetings. The course is partly net-based and various information and communication techniques are used. All instruction is based on field research and evidence-based knowledge. Students' independence is emphasised during the clinical placement. Attendance at the clinical placement is mandatory. The course is offered as full-time study.

During the clinical placement, students develop their professional skills and approach to the role of the intensive care nurse as a nurse leader. They train their ability to understand the meaning of showing respect for patients' dignity, integrity and autonomy. Specifically, students develop skills in prioritising and coordinating care interventions for patients with complex conditions, based on a person-centred approach and together with other professional groups, including the care of terminal patients. In addition, students learn to assess the need for and provide medical treatment, as well as handle medico-technical equipment. The importance of the patient-related leadership of the intensive care nurse in the intra- and inter-professional team is studied. Students reflect on quality and patient safety work and study it in terms of its impact on intensive care from the perspective of sustainability.

Different questionnaires or assessment instruments are reviewed and assessed in relation to quality and patient safety perspectives. Through reflections together with their supervisor, students integrate the theoretical and practical knowledge required to attain professional independence. Students also apply their pedagogical knowledge independently in the meetings with patients with complex conditions, next-of-kin, and other professional groups. This includes paying attention to the specific information needs that certain groups, for instance children, may have.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on performance at the clinical placement, an individual take-home exam, a follow-up seminar and an individual final clinical examination.

The examiner may decide that a student who is very close to a passing grade can complete

a supplementary assignment to receive a passing grade for a specific examination. Additional examination material must be submitted within six days of notification. The supplementary assignment only is then assessed in accordance with the assessment criteria, and if it is insufficient, a grade of fail (U) will be given.

Students who fail the clinical placement have the opportunity to be reassessed on two more occasions as soon as this can be arranged.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G), or Distinction (VG) is awarded in the examination of the course and the modules.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Required course for the Specialist Nursing programme with a specialisation in intensive care.

A student who, in the examiner's judgement, will fail to obtain a Pass grade for the clinical placement component on the grounds of grave and unprofessional conduct may be required to immediately discontinue the clinical training.

As stipulated in the Higher Education Act Ch. 4, sect. 6, SFS 1992: 1434, and Regulations of Student Expulsion from Higher Education SFS 2007: 989, a student who suffers from mental disorder, abuses alcohol or drugs, or has been guilty of a serious offence endangering others or valuable property can be expelled until further notice. In such a case, the Rector files a complaint to the Expulsion Board of Higher Education, which investigates the matter and makes a decision. A decision of expulsion shall always entail that the student must discontinue the education until further notice. The Expulsion Board of Higher Education is responsible for all Swedish higher education institutions.