



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Nursing Science

Syllabus

Nursing, with a focus on medical, surgical and psychiatric care

Course Code: OMG133

Course Title: Nursing, with a focus on medical, surgical and psychiatric care
Omvårdnad med fokus på medicinsk, kirurgisk och psykiatrisk vård

Credits: 39

Degree Level: Undergraduate level

Progressive Specialisation: First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

Major Field of Study:

OMA (Nursing Science)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2025-01-28, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2025 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Registered for The nursing profession and responsibilities, fundamentals of nursing and medical science, 30 ECTS credits, with 26 ECTS credits completed, and the Clinical placement (VFU) component completed in The nursing profession and responsibilities for nursing in health and illness based on geriatric and cardiovascular care and pharmacology, 30 ECTS credits, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

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

1. explain surgical conditions and their specific nursing care, including relevant pharmacology,
2. explain orthopedic conditions and their specific nursing care, including relevant pharmacology,
3. explain gastrointestinal conditions and their specific nursing care, including relevant pharmacology,
4. explain nephrological conditions and their specific nursing care, including relevant pharmacology,
5. explain psychiatric conditions and their specific nursing care, including relevant pharmacology,
6. explain the concepts of stress, crisis, and coping, and
7. explain pain in terms of physiology, assessment, analysis, and treatment.

Competence and skills

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

8. describe symptoms and signs of illness, relate them to symptom theory, and plan nursing care accordingly,
9. apply the nursing process in relation to both basic and specific nursing care and discuss nursing in relation to central concepts and theories within the discipline,
10. perform dependent nursing interventions and prepare, inform about, conduct, assist with, and evaluate examinations and treatments,
11. plan and organise nursing care, demonstrating initiative and the ability to act appropriately in both expected and unexpected situations,
12. perform basic emergency care in acute medical conditions,
13. document nursing care and apply the information and communication technology used in inpatient care,
14. apply healthcare policy documents in nursing practice,
15. perform drug calculations, assess the appropriateness of calculations and prescriptions, and handle medications safely, and
16. independently carry out commonly used medical-technical procedures.

Judgement and approach

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

17. apply an approach focused on patient safety in close patient care and reflect on the significance of a culture of patient safety,
18. provide basic and specific nursing care with good judgment, accuracy, and demonstrated responsibility,
19. identify and discuss ethical issues in relation to nursing,
20. demonstrate self-awareness and empathy in interactions with patients and next-of-kin, and
21. demonstrate a professional attitude when interacting with patients, next-of-kin, and staff, using appropriate and effective language for the context.

Content

The course includes Nursing (23.5 ECTS cr), integrated with Medical Science (15.5 ECTS cr). It comprises 18 weeks of clinical placement (27 ECTS cr), distributed across surgery (9 ECTS cr), internal medicine (9 ECTS cr), and psychiatry (9 ECTS cr).

Instruction is in the form of introductory lectures, seminars, clinical skills training, simulations, and clinical placements.

The course covers the following:

Etiology, pathophysiology, symptoms, signs, diagnostics, treatment (including specific pharmacology), prevention, and nursing care related to:

- Surgical conditions, including pre- and postoperative care, epidural anesthesia, and drainage
- Orthopedic conditions
- Gastrointestinal conditions
- Nephrological conditions
- Psychiatric conditions, including stress, crisis, and coping
- Sepsis
- Transfusion medicine

Pain management, including acute and chronic pain, pain assessment, analysis, treatment, and specific pharmacology

Core concepts and theories in nursing:

- The nursing process
- Fundamentals of care
- Nursing ethics
- Symptom theory

Students receive training in the following skills:

- Perform dependent (prescribed) nursing interventions
- Plan and participate in examinations and treatments
- Organise and manage nursing work in departments, responding appropriately in both routine and unexpected acute situations
- Document nursing care, test results, and medical treatments
- Use information and communication technology applied in inpatient care
- Work in accordance with healthcare regulations (laws, statutes, national and local guidelines)
- Practice patient-safe care in direct patient interaction

Students develop the following abilities:

- Ability to reflect on patient safety and the culture of patient safety across clinical settings
- Self-awareness as future nurses
- Capacity to demonstrate empathy towards patients and their relatives
- Professional conduct in interactions with patients, next-of-kin, and colleagues
- Use of professional language that is appropriate and functional in clinical contexts

Students also develop the following clinical skills:

- Drug calculation (Level II): standard solutions, dilution of fluids, and assessment of calculation reasonableness
- Handling of injectable and infusion medications and dilution of pharmaceuticals
- Use of peripheral and central venous access
- Calculation of fluid balance and nutritional needs
- Insertion and management of gastrointestinal tubes
- Hospital-based cardiopulmonary resuscitation (S-CPR)
- Basic emergency response to acute medical conditions, including use of NEWS, ABCDE, emergency trolley, and case-based management involving specific pharmacology for acute scenarios

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is individual and continuous through various forms of examination throughout the course, including written exams, oral exams, seminars, assessments at the clinical

training center, and clinical placements (VFU, with 32 hours of mandatory attendance per week).

Students who have not passed the regular course examination are offered at least two additional opportunities for reassessment within one year of the original exam date. Students who have not passed their clinical placement (VFU) are offered reassessment on one occasion.

Examinations that require the completion of the clinical placement will, as far as possible, be offered the next time that the course is given, but no later than within one year.

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

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.

The course OMG133 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the course OMG003.

The examiner may be required to terminate an ongoing clinical placement (VFU) if a student demonstrates severe unprofessional conduct at the placement site and such conduct poses a risk of personal injury. Termination of the clinical placement means that the examiner fails the student. A student whose VFU has been discontinued due to severe unprofessional conduct is not permitted to resume the placement until the examiner has verified and approved that the student possesses the necessary knowledge and skills to do so. This decision must be documented in writing and specify the grounds for failure. An individual study plan must be established for the student, clearly outlining the lack of knowledge and skills, the support to be provided by the higher education institution, how the student's competence will be reassessed, and when the first reassessment will take place. The student is entitled to a maximum of two VFU periods in order to achieve a passing result.

As stipulated in the Higher Education Act Chapter 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.