Module Descriptor

Title	Biosciences for Adult Nursing		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Published
Code	NURS08077	**SCQF Level**	8
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Health and Life Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	Elaine Stewart		

Summary of Module

This SCQF Level 8 module deepens students' knowledge of typical anatomy and physiology in adults with common health conditions, building on the Biosciences for Health and Bioscienes for Nursing modules. It also addresses altered human function and disordered physiological processes that cause or are affected by common health conditions in adults. This exploration of pathophysiology provides a contemporary evidence base for holistic nursing care and the rationale for various nursing skills and procedures, in line with the Future Nurse Standards (NMC, 2018).

The module will take a whole-person approach to the understanding of the pathophysiology and associated nursing care of people living with a condition impacting the major body systems not covered in the preceding Biosciences for Nursing module (where appropriate, students may revisit some of the systems that were covered in Biosciences for Nursing). In addition, students will develop their understanding of cancer and the process of dying. This will include exploring the conditions from an acute and chronic perspective and considering the physical, mental and social impacts the condition may cause.

Students will learn to correlate altered physiological processes with signs and symptoms, contextualizing them within clinical environments. The module emphasises evidence-based practices to explain and implement nursing care for individuals with common health issues. Additionally, students will gain an understanding of the rationale behind some NMC (2023) Annexe A and B nursing skills and procedures, ensuring safe and effective patient-centred care.

In addition, students will develop their understanding of pharmacology by exploring common groups of drugs and the role medication has in the management of various commonly encountered conditions, including contributing to additional symptoms. Drug interactions, adverse reactions and the impact of aging on pharmacodynamics will be explored. Numeracy skills associated with drug calculations and other nursing skills and procedures will be developed within this module.

This module supports students to develop graduate attributes: universal, work-ready and to be successful in developing academic, personal and professional attributes. This will encourage students to become autonomous, resilient practitioners who are effective communicators, and research-minded to support evidence based practice.

Formative opportunities will be provided during this module in a variety of mechanisms which may include: feedback on classroom-based activities from academics and/or peers, feedback on performance of nursing skills and procedures, feedback on assessment plans or

short pieces of formative work and feedback from wider university support services (e.g. Academic skills team).

Educate students to understand anatomy, and physiology including pathophysiology in common conditions including application of evidenced based nursing care for those experiencing common conditions. Understanding classes of drugs and their role in managing common conditions. This module contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (2023) SDG 3 Good Health and Wellbeing, SDG - 4 and Quality Education, whilst also aligning to the graduate attributes of UWS; universal, work-ready and successful.

United Nations (2023) Sustainable Development: The 17 Goals. Available from: https://sdgs.un.org/goals

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus**[1] ☐	**Hybrid**[2] ☒	**Online**[3] ☐	**Work -Based Learning**[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☒ Ayr ☒ Dumfries	☒ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Explore typical anatomy and physiology of some body systems and the pathophysiology of common conditions affecting these sytems.
L2	Demonstrate and apply a detailed understanding of the evidence-based nursing care for adults with common conditions.
L3	Recognise classes of drugs and explain their role in managing common conditions.
L4	Apply the evidence-base to perform a range of nursing skills and procedures relating to adult nursing care.
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 8** Developing knowledge around typical anatomy and physiology of body systems. Understanding the pathophysiology of common conditions affecting adults and the nursing care that they will require. Exploring the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of common medications used in nursing care
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 8** The application of antomical, physiological and pathophysiological knowledge to practical nursing assessments. Developing evidence-based person centred care plans. Integration of medication management into nursing care
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 8** Analyzing and interpreting clinical signs and symptoms in the context of altered physiology. Evaluating evidence to inform nursing interventions. Solving complex problems related to patient care using a holistic approach.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 8** Communicating effectively with patients, families, and healthcare professionals. Documenting nursing assessments and care plans accurately and comprehensively. Utilising numeracy skills to calculate medication dosages and to perform other nursing skills and procedures.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 8** Demonstrate professional autonomy in nursing practice. Demonstrating responsibility for personal learning and development. Adhering to ethical and legal standards in nursing care, ensuring accountability for patient outcomes.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours. You will be taught through a combination of lectures, tutorials, workshops and, if part of this module, guided activity in our clinical skills laboratories. This will be supported by materials hosted on our virtual learning environment. Your time on campus is also designed to support your professional development as you work towards becoming a Registered Nurse. Group

work, role play, and presentations help you to develop the communication, teamworking and leadership skills needed for professional practice.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	15
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	6
Laboratory / Practical Demonstration / Workshop	15
Personal Development Plan	3
Independent Study	161
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) (2018) The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses, midwives and nursing associates. Available at https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/code/ (Accessed: 07 January 2025).

Delves-Yates, C. (ed.) (2022) Essentials of Nursing Practice. 3rd edn. London: SAGE Publications.

Rowberry, D., Gauntlett, L. & Hurt, L. (eds.) (2023) Essential Clinical Skills in Nursing. London: SAGE Publications.

Cook, N. & Shepherd, A. (eds) (2024) Essentials of Anatomy and Physiology for Nursing Practice. 3rd edn. London: SAGE Publications.

Barber, P. & Robertson, D. (2020) Essentials of Pharmacology for Nurses. 4th edn. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Boyd, C. (2022) Medicine Management Skills for Nurses. 2nd edn. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell.

Nair, M. & Peate, I. (2015) Pathophysiology for Nurses at a glance. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

Cook, N., Shepherd, A., Dunleavy, S. & McCauley, C. (2022) Essentials of Pathophysiology for Nursing Practice. 2nd edn. London: SAGE Publications.

(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are attending and participating in all timetabled programme activities including on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, placement, work-based elements, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:
The Nursing and Midwifery Council require that students complete 2300 hours of theoretical preparation. Therefore, there is an expectation that all students attend all scheduled activities associated with the module. This includes on campus and synchronous online activities.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. This module is appropriate for all students. In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. To promote inclusive practice, procedures and processes have been subject to Equality Impact Assessment where appropriate. In line with the Equality Act 2010 and UWS Refreshed Equality Outcomes 2021 - 2025 Public Sector Equality Duty Mainstreaming and Equality Outcomes Report 2021 (uws.ac.uk) (pp. 37 - 39) the School of Health and Life Sciences encourages the disclosure of support requirements, including disability, at the recruitment stage and throughout the duration of the module. Emphasis is placed on confidentiality of information, the benefits of disclosure, and that no detriment to progress will be experienced. The School will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments to teaching and learning approaches and arrangements for assessment, and (when applicable) periods of placement, where appropriate. All learning materials, activities and scenarios will utilise a diverse range of patients to reflect the diversity of students. Professional programmes have Standards of Proficiency which detail the knowledge, skills and understanding required to be met to permit professional registration to be able to practise safely and effectively in the profession. As an education provider for this professional programme, UWS is not able to adjust these standards. However, we can make reasonable adjustments to assist students in meeting these standards. The Nursing and Midwifery Council (2019) have additional information regarding reasonable adjustments which can be found here: https://www.nmc.org.uk/supporting-information-on-standards-for-student-supervision-and-assessment/student-empowerment/what-to-expect/reasonable-adjustments-if-applicable/
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Adult Nursing Community Health**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Pre-registration Adult Nursing
Moderator	Caroline Miller
External Examiner	D Gallimore
Accreditation Details	NMC

Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	1

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
OSCE/Practice Assessment
Assessment 2
Online class test
Assessment 3
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs)	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	50	0.5

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Class test (written)	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	50	1.5

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	2 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
