

FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Post Registration Diploma in Health Visiting



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION: The **Post Registration Diploma in Health Visiting** provides the knowledge, skills, abilities, attitudes and values that, in composite, relate to the professional competencies and outcome expectations of Nurses who will be assigned to the community health setting.

START DATE: January 2021

DURATION: Three (3) Semesters, Full-Time.
A total of 51 credits will be required for the award of this undergraduate diploma.

LOCATION: The UWI School of Nursing, Faculty of Medical Sciences, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus

DELIVERY MODE: Each course will be delivered using face-to-face classroom sessions except the Internship or those courses that have a Clinical Practicum component.

CONDITIONS OF TRAINING: Successful candidates will continue to receive their salaries and only the allowances for which they are eligible during the period of training.

NOTE: Traveling allowances for traveling officers selected will be subject to Chapter 23:50 of the Traveling Allowances Regulations Second Schedule Part 1, 2 (d) V

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION: Upon entry to the programme, candidates holding permanent appointments in the Regional Health Authorities will be required to enter into an agreement to serve the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for a period of one (1) year following the successful completion of training.

FEES: This programme is *NOT* approved for GATE funding

- Tuition Fees** – TT\$50,000 per student for the entire programme. Half payable in semester one and half payable in semester two, AND
- Compulsory Fees** – TT\$1,465 (see breakdown on page 7 of the Undergraduate Fee Booklet at <https://sta.uwi.edu/resources/documents/UndergraduateFeeBklt.pdf>)

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GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must

- be citizens of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago;
- EITHER hold permanent appointments with the Regional Health Authorities (for persons working in the public sector); OR hold appointments in a private sector institution (for those who are not employed by the Regional Health Authorities);
- be currently registered with the Nursing Council of Trinidad and Tobago.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Candidates must also satisfy the following criteria:

- be registered as a Nurse on the General Registrar of the Nursing Council of Trinidad and Tobago; and possess a post-basic qualification in any health related program of no less than six (6) months duration;
- possess a post basic qualification in midwifery and/or psychiatric nursing (for male nurses only);
- EITHER (a) have had a period of satisfactory experience in the Community Health Services; OR (b) show evidence of a special interest in Community Health Nursing;
- possess any other qualification that the Faculty may deem appropriate.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- For persons holding permanent appointments with the Regional Health Authorities**
 - Paper Application Forms and the Fact Sheet for the Programme can be collected from the respective RHAs or the Health Sector Human Resource Planning and Development Unit, Ministry of Health.
 - Completed application forms and all required supporting documents (certified copy of birth certificate, job letter, current Nursing Council registration) must be submitted to: **Health Sector Advisory Unit, Ministry of Health, 63 Park Street, Port-of-Spain, through your respective Regional Health Authority.**
- For persons working in private institutions**
Applicants must apply online at <https://sta.uwi.edu/admissions> and will be considered as SELF FINANCING/ FEE PAYING students.

Application Processing Fee [ALL APPLICANTS]: All application fees for the academic year 2020-2021 have been waived as of May 2020.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2020



CONTENT: The programme is divided into thirteen (13) courses as outlined below:

1. **NURS 0100: Physiology** - is a continuation of, and builds on Human Anatomy and Physiology covered in the students' basic curriculum. The course examines the function of the body's systems. Laboratory exercises will allow the students to focus on the examination of selected parts of these systems through histological and skeletal preparations. Emphasis is on student-centred learning, and strategies such as brainstorming, lecture/discussion, questioning and group work will be used to facilitate learners to actively engage with content and develop critical thinking skills.
2. **NURS 0110: Psychology** - This course is designed as an introductory level or foundational course, which provides an introduction to psychology. Psychology is a discipline concerned with human thought, emotion, and behaviour. The science and practice of psychology are based on knowledge developed from both human and animal research. The course will therefore introduce many key topics, and specifically those in the sub-fields of developmental, abnormal, and social psychology such as history of psychology, human development and growth, biological foundations of psychology, perception, learning, personality, social cognition, health, stress and coping, human development, cognition and language and social influence, psychological/personality disorders, in addition to other interesting topics. The course also focuses on intelligence, memory, emotions and motivation. After a brief introduction to the history of the discipline and the research methods that provide the foundation for psychological investigation and knowledge building, the focus will be on the sub-areas of developmental, personality, and social psychology. This course will be delivered using a variety of teaching/learning experiences including lectures/discussions, group work, and individual assignments.
3. **NURS 0120: Sociology** - This course provides an introduction to the problems, issues, themes and main ideas of sociology. It is intended to provide basic social facts about the Caribbean and other similar developing societies, and to enable students to adopt a scientific approach to understanding and interpreting social phenomena. Sociology for the Caribbean lays the foundation upon which advanced academic work in sociology and the other social sciences can be built. Furthermore, the course enables students to tackle contemporary policy problems in a theoretically and empirically informed manner. The teaching and learning environment is student-centred where students are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning needs, e.g., through Problem Based Learning (PBL) activities and active participation in both classroom and clinical areas.
4. **NURS 0130: Social History and Social Administration** - This course introduces the students to social policy as it addresses the development of social history and the influence of non-governmental organizations in Trinidad and Tobago. The role of central and local government in this respect will also be examined. The course will be assessed by a variety of formative assessments.
5. **NURS 0140: Health Visiting Studies** - This course introduces the students to the principles of health visiting through the application of the nursing process to delivery of care from a primary health care perspective. Various models of care will be examined to determine approaches which may be applied to situations in health visiting. Students will be required to conduct neighbourhood assessments and develop appropriate responses to address the identified needs of individuals, families and communities.
6. **NURS 0150: Principles and Practice of Teaching** - This course introduces the student to the principles and practice of teaching within community based settings. Students will examine the concepts of health and wellness, the determinants of health behaviour, national health status, the history of health education and health promotion. The student will be provided with opportunities to apply principles of teaching as an important foundation for population-based health care.
7. **NURS 0160: Principles and Practice of Management** - The course provides the student with opportunities to explore organizational, leadership and management motivational theories and their application to midwifery health care administration. It prepares the learner to apply principles of leadership to the management and coordination of care for groups of patients, to better understand and manage the health care environment and its resources, and to supervise the care delivered by members of staff under their supervision. Students will utilize a number of teaching/learning strategies to engage the materials provided in this course in reflecting on health care organizational systems and structures as well as principles of effective leadership/management that is rooted in theoretical perspectives. Upon completion of the course the learner will be able to apply principles of leadership and management in midwifery and in the health care delivery system.
8. **NURS 0170: Research Methods** - This introductory research methods course is intended for students as their first introduction to basic research methodology, proposal writing, data analysis and report writing. The goal is to produce a "user-friendly", highly accessible, and straightforward introduction to research methods couched within the quantitative and qualitative traditions of research. It seeks to promote an enthusiastic and knowledgeable interest in research by helping students to become familiar with the language, tools and purposes of research. The course examines qualitative and quantitative approaches to the research process and also guides students in examining strategies for research, its utilization and dissemination in their study discipline or their area of special interest. It will be assessed using formative and summative assessments.
9. **NURS 0180: Organization of Health Services in Trinidad and Tobago** - describes the organization, role and function of the health and social services in Trinidad and Tobago. The influence of local, regional and international organizations would also be highlighted. The laws pertaining to the provision of health and social services in Trinidad and Tobago will be addressed. The course will be evaluated through a number of formative assessments.
10. **NURS 0190: Ecology & Environmental Health** - This course examines health issues, scientific understanding of causes, and possible future approaches to control of the major environmental health problems in industrialized and developing countries. Topics include how the body reacts to environmental pollutants; physical, chemical, and biological agents of environmental contamination; vectors for dissemination (air, water, soil); solid and hazardous waste; susceptible populations; biomarkers and risk analysis; the scientific basis for policy decisions; and emerging global environmental health problems.
11. **NURS 0200: Professional Aspects of Health Visiting** - This course introduces the students to the concepts, philosophy and principles upon which health visiting in Trinidad and Tobago are based. The origin and development of health visiting at national, regional and international levels will be addressed. Issues for which ethical decisions are required will be examined.
12. **NURS 0210: Major Diseases and Conditions Affecting Health** - This course introduces the students to the epidemiological trends in disease surveillance. It will examine the common public health challenges affecting individuals, families and communities along the continuum from a primary care perspective which emphasizes health promotion and maintenance. Students will also examine the role of major health conditions on the country's national development.
13. **NURS 0220: Scope of Health Visiting (Area of Practice)** - This course is concerned with the application of skills taught in the programme to the professional activities of the health visitor. The course offers opportunities for the participant to integrate concepts and principles which are taught in other areas of the programme to clinical situations. The four family groupings will be used as the basis for identifying family-related problems that may be actual or potential in nature. They will also be provided with opportunities for developing their competence in the conduct of physical assessments, make home visits as well as manage a health facility. This course will be an internship where students will be attached to clinical areas throughout each RHA.