Graduate Profile

DipHE
Mental Health Nursing
The following information, in conjunction with the graduate’s individual practice portfolio and C.V., constitutes the graduate profile for the named award.

**Awarding Body:**
Oxford Brookes University

**Programme Accredited / Approved By:**
Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

**Final Awards:**
Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) Mental Health Nursing

**Programme Aims**
Graduates from the above named programme have demonstrated themselves as confident, skilled, knowledgeable, sensitive and responsive practitioners in the field of Mental Health Nursing who are committed to lifelong learning. The practitioners will be able to develop interpersonal and clinical skills in order to negotiate a partnership with service users which demonstrates an understanding of the experience of mental health problems. They will be able to provide care based on an understanding of professional responsibility, skills, and practice, as well as knowledge of biological and social sciences, legal and ethical principles, and social policy in order to meet professional competence. In order to meet the requirements of the University, graduates have achieved:

- 2300 hours of theory and 2300 hours of supervised clinical practice, gaining the following CATs points:
  - 120 Basic
  - 120 Advanced

Graduates have completed a programme of studies which incorporates shared learning with other health professionals and fosters an inclusive understanding of the health needs of all individuals, with consideration given to cultural, racial and ethnic differences.

**Learning Outcomes Achieved**
On completion of this programme and award the individual will have developed and be able to demonstrate knowledge, values and professional strategies in the following areas:

**Knowledge and Values to:**
- Understand and analyse Mental Health Nursing in the broad context of healthcare provision.
- Develop evidence based knowledge and skills in order to:
  - Assess, plan and provide sensitive nursing care to both individuals and groups, based upon individual needs in partnership with both client and carers;
  - Incorporate the legislative and ethical components of mental health nursing care.
- Recognise and utilise a range of knowledge in order to critically analyse, evaluate and reflect on practice.
- Utilise effective self-management, teaching and teamwork and develop potential for leadership.
- Demonstrate a broad range of academic skills, particularly those of appraisal and the ability to articulate a logical argument.
  - Identify and respond effectively to own learning needs;
a. present information and arguments coherently utilising a range of media where appropriate;
b. demonstrate logical reasoning in written work and discussion;
c. advance logically reasoned arguments through the medium of discussion, debate and negotiation;
d. demonstrate understanding of the importance of evidence and research and their contribution to developing Mental Health Nursing;
e. articulate the range of research methods that can be used in relation to generation of knowledge;
f. critically discuss key concepts and theories;
g. demonstrate expertise in the construction, analysis and synthesis of arguments

Professional Strategies to:
- Apply the principle of choice for clients and their carers needs to be established as a basis for the practice of Mental Health Nursing.
- Build relationships with people who use mental health services that values both partners
- Deliver services that involve skilled sensitive, professional support from competent mental health nurses.
- The need to consider evidence based practice and health promotion
- Meet all the requirements of the NMC for entry to the Register, including the achievement of proficiencies Complete a Portfolio of experience that will include a Personal Profile and reflections on practice.

NMC PROFICIENCIES

PROFESSIONAL / ETHICAL PRACTICE:
- Manage self and one’s practice and that of others in accordance with the NMC Code of Professional Conduct, recognising one’s own abilities and limitations
- Practice in accordance with an ethical and legal framework that ensures the primacy of patients / client interest and well being and respects confidentiality
- Practice in a fair and anti discriminatory way, acknowledging the differences in beliefs and cultural practices of individuals or groups

CARE DELIVERY
- Engage in, develop and disengage from therapeutic relationships through use of appropriate communication and interpersonal skills.
- Create and utilise opportunities to promote the health and well being of patients / clients and groups
- Undertake and document a comprehensive, systematic and accurate nursing assessment of the physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of patient / clients/ communities
- Formulate and document a plan of nursing care, where possible in partnership with patients / clients / carers / significant others within a framework of informed consent.
- Based on best available evidence, apply knowledge and an appropriate repertoire of skills indicative of safe nursing practice
- Provide a rationale for the nursing care delivered that takes account of social, cultural, spiritual, legal, political, and economic influences
- Evaluate and document the outcomes of nursing and other interventions
• Demonstrate sound clinical judgement across a range of differing professional and care delivery contexts

CARE MANAGEMENT
• Contribute to the identification of actual and potential risks to patients / clients and their carers, to self and others and participate in measures to promote and ensure health and safety
• Demonstrate an understanding of the role of others by participating in inter professional working practice
• Demonstrate literacy, numeracy and computer skills needed to record, enter, store, retrieve and organise data essential for care delivery

PERSONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
• Demonstrate responsibility for one’s own learning through the development of a portfolio of practice and recognise when further learning may be required
• Acknowledge the importance of seeking supervision to develop safe nursing practice
  a. Professional Guidance Chief Nursing Officer.
  b. Guidance following the publication of
  c. Department of Health (2006a) From values to action: The Chief Nursing Officer’s review of mental health nursing, London: Department of Health includes a further publication below regarding competencies for mental health nurses.
  d. Department of Health (2006b) Best practice competencies and capabilities for pre-registration mental health nurses in England; The Chief Nursing Officer’s review of mental health nursing, London: Department of Health
  e. Link to Best Practice Competencies also see Appendix 1 for Ten Essential Shared Capabilities.

Transferable Skills
Graduates will demonstrate the following transferable skills:-

SELF MANAGEMENT
• Demonstrate a range of effective learning skills ;
• Accept responsibility in a range of circumstances;
• Demonstrate reliability;
• Take initiative where appropriate;
• Identify and act on learning needs both individually and as part of a group;
• Manage your own time to meet module requirements within the context of overall workload;
• Organise self directed learning sets;
• Manage personal and professional boundaries;
• Reflect critically on academic and personal development;
• Demonstrate appropriate appearance and demeanour;
• Maintain confidentiality where appropriate.

LEARNING SKILLS
• Demonstrate effective self directed learning skills;
• Transfer learning between contexts;
• Locate, retrieve and appraise information;
• Demonstrate cognitive skills of analysis, conceptualisation, evaluation;
• Work co-operatively in action learning sets;
• Read efficiently and with purpose;
• Appraise published research;
• Appraise their own performance and that of others in a formative and constructive manner;
• Undertake sustained and independent academic work;

COMMUNICATION
• Demonstrate fluent communication of ideas and concepts by a range of modes;
• Facilitate communication in others;
• Adapt communication in response to cultural and sociological influences;
• Communicate with groups of individuals;
• Demonstrate coping strategies for communication in challenging circumstances;
• Demonstrate the ability to negotiate.

TEAM WORK
• Work effectively in multiprofessional groups;
• Take initiative and lead others in specific projects;
• Facilitate, support and encourage others;
• Give constructive feedback to significant others;
• Share and assert own feelings and opinions whilst valuing those of others;
• Recognise and negotiate individual and group objectives;
• Take a leading role in seminar, practical and workshop sessions.

PROBLEM SOLVING
• Demonstrate lateral thinking and creativity in relation to problem solving;
• Respond effectively to changes in outcome or unexpected circumstances;
• Effectively select, implement and evaluate resources and strategies chosen to solve problems in a variety of circumstances.

QAA (for Higher Education) Subject Benchmarking:
The programme facilitated achievement of the graduate characteristics identified below:-

Working as a professional in Health Care: Expectations
• Managing oneself, one’s practice and that of others in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct, and critically evaluating own abilities and limitations
• Transfer knowledge and skills to a variety of clinical settings and unexpected situations
• Work in partnership with patients, clients and families and recognise when this approach to patient care may be inappropriate diversity, inclusion, etc)
• Practice in accordance with the professional, ethical and legal framework
• Recognise the complexity of the professional, ethical and legal framework and its impact on nursing care and decision-making
• Demonstrate sound clinical judgement across a range of situations
• Contribute to public protection by creating and maintaining a safe environment of care
• Delegate care to others as appropriate ensuring effective supervision and monitoring
• Demonstrate understanding of the roles of others by participating in multi-professional care

Principles and Concepts: Application
• Apply theories, concepts and principles of nursing to deliver patient-centred care for individuals, families and communities
• Recognise potential risk and intervene to prevent, where possible, complications occurring
• Analyse and interpret relevant health education/promotion information and use this knowledge to promote the health and well-being of groups
• Use appropriate research and other evidence to underpin nursing decisions which can be justified, even when made on the basis of limited information
• Undertake and document a plan of nursing care in partnership with and the consent of patients, clients and where appropriate their carers and families
• Demonstrate accountability for nursing care delivered, taking into account social, spiritual, cultural, legal, political and economic
• Accurately document and evaluate the outcomes of nursing and other interventions
• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of effective multi-professional agency working practices and participate in teamwork that respects and uses the contributions of members of the health and social care team.

Subject Knowledge, Understanding and Associated Skills
• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the subjects underpinning nursing (see section A) through application to a range of practice settings
• Discuss the political and social context within which the provision of health and social care takes place
• Understand and apply the values that underpin anti-discriminatory working practices
• Communicate effectively with patients, clients, carers and other health care professionals
• Demonstrate an understanding of research and other evidence where appropriate, apply findings to practice
• Engage in and disengage from therapeutic relationships through use of effective interpersonal skills
• Provide safe and sensitive care through the use of practical skills and knowledge of current best practice
• Interpret and use data with the aid of technology to enhance the management of care

Reviewed Feb 2007