

The University of Sydney

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Highlighting our achievements

Sydney Nursing School





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Sydney Nursing School

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Sydney Nursing School



Artist's impression of the proposed new facility to co-locate health disciplines on the Camperdown Campus.

Welcome to Sydney Nursing School – excellence in nursing education and research.

In this booklet we explain our vision for a healthier world, and present some of the achievements that have seen us become the leading nursing school in Australia.

Our vision

To creatively sustain a vibrant, respectful environment in which staff and students collaboratively engage in quality nursing and midwifery education and research that impacts on national and international policy and practice to improve the health of all people and their communities.

Our mission

To be known in Australia and internationally for our collaborative and interdisciplinary approach to achieving excellence in education and research; and for improving and maintaining health in partnership with people, their families and communities.

Our values

- Collaboration
- Creativity
- Respect
- Scholarship

The facts

- Sydney Nursing School is ranked 1st in Australia and 13th in the world for nursing research and education excellence (2016 QS World University Rankings by Subject).
- We were awarded the highest possible score: 'well above world standard' in both the 2012 and 2015 Excellence in Research for Australia audits by the Australia Research Council.
- Nearly 2000 students are currently enrolled in our nursing programs.
- Around 90 percent of nursing graduates who completed their degrees in 2014 had found full-time employment by 2015.
- 30 coursework scholarships are allocated annually to domestic and international undergraduate, postgraduate and rural entry students, including four PhD scholarships.
- Since 1995, Sydney Nursing School has worked with the Singapore Institute of Management to educate nurses in Singapore. In 2016, 171 students were studying nursing with Sydney Nursing School in Singapore.
- We recently extended our presence into Western Sydney with the first cohort of Sydney Nursing School graduate entry students commencing at Westmead in Semester 1 of 2016.
- In 2015, we received the largest-ever gift to an Australian nursing school from the Susan and Isaac Wakil Foundation. This was followed in 2016 by a \$35 million gift to the University of Sydney that will enable construction of Stage 1 of the University of Sydney's proposed Health Precinct on the Camperdown Campus. We will relocate to this new building in 2019.
- Nurses are in increasing demand in Australia, with a further 85,000 needed by 2025 (see Australia's Future Health Workforce Report, 2014).



A career in nursing

Nurses make a genuine difference to people's lives. As highly trained and valued professionals, nurses have great career opportunities all over the world. In clinical settings and as researchers, nurses contribute to health research and health policy – continuously leading improvements to healthcare practices.

People in Australia have rated nurses the most ethical and honest profession each year for 21 years in a row.*

Nurses are in high demand by a wide range of employers, with the opportunity to care for people and their families in many hospital and community settings, including:

- general practices
- health centres and clinics
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services
- hospices
- aged-care facilities
- in people's homes
- in rural and remote communities.

You will also find nurses in other services and industries such as health insurance, media, travel, pharmaceuticals and bioethics. Nurses work in positions of influence and innovation, policy development, education and research and at the highest levels of government across the world.

Nurses also work in areas of conflict such as war zones, and in famine, disease and disaster management. In all of these places, you will find graduates of Sydney Nursing School.

Our students have an excellent record of obtaining their new-graduate transition program place of choice. In the 2015 Australian Graduate Survey, 85 percent of our bachelor's degree graduates and 92 percent of our pre-registration Master of Nursing graduates were reported as being employed full time.



*Roy Morgan Research, Image of Professions Survey, 2015

Why Sydney Nursing School?

The world is opening up to different possibilities in health and healthcare through new treatments, new ways to deliver care, and new approaches to disease prevention and health promotion.

Partnership and participation are now significant features of reimagining health for the future. However, healthcare systems across the world are increasingly challenged by the economic and social costs of care.

Sydney Nursing School produces graduates who have the critical thinking skills and nursing knowledge to provide the best care for people, wherever they are. We expect our graduates to engage with and contribute to important decisions about trends in treatment, patient care and disease prevention.

Our students learn from leading clinical experts and academics who are active researchers in the areas in which they teach. Their research aims to improve patient experience, inform clinical practice and education and influence health and health policy.

Many of our staff also work in frontline healthcare services, making a real difference to the healthcare landscape in Australia and internationally.

Our students gain practical, hands-on experience in dedicated clinical simulation facilities at both the Mallett Street and Westmead Precinct campuses of the University. Our students also attend clinical placements within the Sydney metropolitan area, in rural and remote areas of NSW,

interstate and overseas. We aim to prepare our students for professional practice through evidence-based clinical learning and research-led teaching.

We share close affiliations with the University of Sydney's clinical schools based at Royal Prince Alfred, Royal North Shore, Concord, Nepean and Westmead hospitals, with academic leads across Sydney based at the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse, Royal Hospital for Women, St Vincent's Hospitals, Royal Rehab, the Charles Perkins Centre and at a number of medical research institutes.

Student life at Sydney Nursing School is vibrant, active and dynamic. Our students contribute to University decision-making, join community volunteering programs and meet people from across the University through the 200 clubs and societies facilitated by the University of Sydney Union, including the Sydney University Nursing Society (SUNS).

From 2019, enabled by a generous gift from the Susan and Isaac Wakil Foundation, we will be moving to the University of Sydney's Health Precinct on the Camperdown Campus. Purpose-built, co-located facilities will enable multiple disciplines to increase their collaboration in education and research in health and healthcare.



Why Sydney Nursing School?



Our history of leadership

Since the Cumberland College of Nursing amalgamated with the University of Sydney in 1991, the University has been committed to producing, supporting and inspiring leaders in nursing and midwifery.

Our researchers, students, alumni and staff are leaders in their fields who use their knowledge and skills to change lives in Australia and around the world.

Our points of distinction are the University's reputation, the breadth of health disciplines within the University, the energy, dedication and talent of our staff, the design and strength of our programs and our strong student focus.

1973

Cumberland College of Health Sciences offers the first tertiary institution-based programs to nurses in New South Wales. The college teaches diploma programs in Nursing Administration, Nursing Education and Community Health Nursing.

1977

The NSW government mandates that the Ministry of Education, not the Ministry of Health, be responsible for educating nurses.

1978

Cumberland College moves to the current site of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Lidcombe.

1984

The Institute of Nursing Studies at Sydney College of Advanced Education (CAE), located adjacent to the University's Camperdown Campus, begins working with Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) Hospital to offer elements of their pre-registration nursing program.

1985

The New South Wales Government determines that all pre-registration nursing education in NSW will be carried out in the higher education sector.

1986

The Master of Applied Science (Nursing) by Research is introduced – the first master's level nursing program offered in NSW.

1989

Sydney CAE ceases as a corporate body and the Institute of Nursing Studies is amalgamated with the University of Sydney.

1991

The federal government decides to transfer all nursing education in Australia to the higher education sector by 1991. Cumberland College of Nursing becomes the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Sydney.

2000

The Faculty of Nursing moves from Cumberland College in Lidcombe to Mallett Street, Camperdown, offering a full suite of programs including research degrees, post-registration specialty courses and midwifery.

2004

Midwifery is recognised in legislation as a separate discipline. The faculty changes its name to the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery.

2006

The pre-registration Master of Nursing program is introduced.

2011

The faculty adopts the name 'Sydney Nursing School' in line with University branding conventions.

2012

The new Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies) program is introduced.

2016

The first cohort of Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) commences at the Westmead Precinct.

2019

Sydney Nursing School will join the University of Sydney Health Precinct at the Camperdown Campus, alongside the Faculty of Health Sciences.



Pathways to nursing

We offer three pathways to becoming a nurse. Upon graduation, our students are eligible to apply for registration as a nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.



For those who do not already have a degree, there are two options:

- Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies)
- Master of Nursing/combined degree (choose one of three bachelor's degrees combined with a Master of Nursing).

For those who have a degree in any field, we have a postgraduate option:

- Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry).

Following successful graduation with a Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies), students from the University of Sydney and other universities can apply for our one-year Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) program, opening the door to a future research degree. You can study this program in full-time or part-time mode.



Inside view

Professor Kate White
Research area: Cancer

“Cancer is life changing. A diagnosis can bring a range of emotions, new priorities and challenges, and the need to navigate complex treatments. As health professionals, we tend to focus our efforts on the physical manifestations of illness and the management of symptoms. But cancer does not occur in a vacuum, that is why the major focus of my work is supportive care for those with cancer as well as their family, friends and colleagues.”

Pathways to nursing

Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies)	Combined degrees	Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry)
Registered nurse		
Specialty areas: aged care, infectious diseases, clinical nursing, cancer and haematology, child and family health, clinical trials, community health and rehabilitation, emergency and trauma, health technology, intensive care, mental health, neurosciences, operating theatres, paediatrics, palliative care and more.		

Further career options

International health	Frontline intervention	Higher education	Management	Clinical leadership	Pathways to research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International aid agencies, eg, Médecins Sans Frontières, International Red Cross - World Health Organization - UNESCO - UN expert advisory panels - International Council of Nurses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Australian Defence Force - Royal Flying Doctor Service - Emergency and disaster response teams - Remote Area Health Corps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - University lecturer - Program director - Research assistant - Research fellow - Education management - Research professor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nurse unit manager - Director of nursing - Area director of nursing - Health services manager - Chief executive, Health Services/Department of Health - Chief nursing and midwifery officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nurse practitioner - Nurse educator - Clinical nurse consultant - Clinical nurse specialist - Clinical trials manager - Clinical academic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) - Masters (Advanced Learning) specialty degrees - Master of Philosophy - Doctor of Philosophy

Clinical simulation and placements

The study of nursing involves undertaking supported clinical placements in health facilities (both public and private) and practical training in clinical laboratories that simulate nursing environments.

Before each clinical placement, students practise skills in our clinical laboratories and high-fidelity simulation areas. Our nursing laboratories contain the latest equipment, including computerised manikins, that enable our students to develop and practise skills in communication, assessing physical and psychological status and delivering individualised care.

Clinical placement settings include emergency departments, intensive care units, paediatric units, mental health facilities, community health centres and many more. Most placements take place within the Sydney metropolitan area, but we can also arrange rural, remote interstate and international placements.

For example, students practise recording vital signs, listening to breath, heart and bowel sounds, performing wound dressings, preparing and administering medications, conducting interviews, charting progress, and accurately documenting patient information.



Inside view

Professor Sally Tracy

Research area: Healthy beginnings – midwifery and women's health

“Women deserve a better experience in childbirth. Our research has shown that for women at any level of obstetric risk, caseload midwifery is safe and cost effective. Such an approach can strengthen the health and wellbeing of women, the start of the early years of a child's life, and the capabilities of women to take care of their families and themselves.”

Our courses

Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies)

Post-registration Bachelor of Nursing (Singapore)



Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies)

Graduates are eligible to apply for registration as a nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia and to work as a registered nurse in Australia. Our graduates are highly sought after for new graduate transition positions in public and private hospitals.

Our students learn to care for individuals, families, groups and communities. By studying within a philosophy of care that focuses on people and their individual health and healthcare needs, students engage with the social contexts of people's lives in both community and acute healthcare settings.

We use case studies from real situations to challenge students' clinical and decision-making skills. The advanced studies element of this degree is woven into a focus on leadership, using research to make evidence-based decisions, conducting care in partnership and enhancing our students' understanding of the international health landscape.

Post-registration Bachelor of Nursing (Singapore)

We offer a transition from diploma to degree program in partnership with the Singapore Institute of Management in Singapore. This one-year, full-time program is also available in part-time mode and is delivered in Singapore to registered nurses by Sydney Nursing School academics.

We are working to establish the Master of Philosophy and PhD programs with the Singapore Institute of Management from 2018.

Our courses

Combined degrees

Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Nursing
 Bachelor of Arts/Master of Nursing
 Bachelor of Science/Master of Nursing

Combining two degrees is another way our students can explore a diverse range of subjects at undergraduate level while taking a more career-specific path through a master's degree in nursing.

Year one of the four-year combined degree program is fully focused on units within the undergraduate degree – either arts, health sciences or science. Years 2 and 3 are split equally between both degrees. Year 4 is entirely focused on nursing.

Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Nursing

This program allows students to develop expertise in nursing and allied health and apply knowledge about health and health systems in their nursing career. In addition to nursing, career options upon graduation include:

- project management
- health promotion
- health administration
- health technology
- specialisation
- research.

Bachelor of Arts/Master of Nursing

This program gives students a broader knowledge of the humanities along with the skills to become a registered nurse. Students choose from more than 40 humanities subjects, including languages, psychology, performance studies, social policy, government and international relations, Indigenous Australian studies and film studies. Upon graduation, students are highly employable in:

- hospitals, mental health and community health facilities
- media and communications
- government
- community and international aid organisations
- management
- teaching and research.

Bachelor of Science/Master of Nursing

This program is designed for students who want to develop a deeper understanding of science as well as develop expertise in nursing. More than 29 areas of science are available, including biology, chemistry, neuroscience, pharmacology and psychology. Graduates have a wide range of career choices, such as:

- clinical trials design
- health management
- biotechnology
- treatments that shape personalised healthcare
- research in microbiology and epidemiology
- product development and pharmaceuticals
- forensic science
- environmental science.

Our courses

Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry)



This two-year course builds on students' previous undergraduate education, in preparation for work as registered nurses in local, national and international healthcare settings.



The Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) is delivered at two locations: our Mallett Street Campus in Camperdown, and the Westmead Health Precinct in Western Sydney.

Our academics encourage students to draw upon their previous skills and experience to thrive in the complex health environment. Students gain an understanding of how to work with other health professionals to provide the highest quality person-centered care.

Students develop a strong theoretical understanding of health and illness and study areas such as human biology, pharmacology, research and evidence-based practice, illness experiences, healthcare systems, leadership and legal and ethical issues in healthcare.

Students undertake more than 800 clinical placement hours in varied settings including emergency departments, intensive care units, paediatric units, oncology units, mental health facilities and community health centres.

Upon graduation, our students are eligible to apply for registration as a nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

Advanced learning master's programs

Our advanced learning master's programs are designed for registered nurses. Our courses offer the flexibility of completion at either graduate certificate, graduate diploma or master's degree level. These courses build on the knowledge registered nurses have gained through clinical practice. They solidify the theoretical foundations of practice and build confidence to use the latest evidence to inform clinical decision making and prepare nurses to become leaders in their fields.

Advanced nursing practice/clinical nursing

Students who study this course gain the leadership skills and confidence to advance their clinical practice in a range of areas and move towards senior roles in various health settings. Advanced nursing practice explores the ways in which nurses work within clinical environments with a focus on patient safety and the provision of quality care.



Cancer and haematology nursing

Cancer is the single largest cause of premature death in Australia, and represents nearly one-fifth of the total burden of disease in the health system. With increasing trends towards both home-based care and intensive treatments such as stem-cell transplantation, this course explores the broadening roles of nurses in cancer and haematology care.

We explore nursing interventions to reduce the impact of cancer and its treatment, drawing on research and the theoretical underpinnings of cancer and haematology care. Students in this course learn to make evidence-based decisions using research generated at our Cancer Nursing Research Unit – an innovative collaboration between Sydney Nursing School and the Sydney Local Health District.

Clinical trials practice

The role of clinical trials in testing new treatments is now well recognised. Clinical trials are used extensively across every field of health and, with the increasing complexity of clinical research and its regulation, a greater level of knowledge and expertise is required for all nurses and health professionals involved in clinical trials management.

The clinical trials practice program was developed to offer those involved in clinical trials further experience to improve trial data quality, manage information systems effectively, project manage and interpret clinical trial data.



Emergency nursing

Emergency nursing is an exciting specialty that requires the application of advanced knowledge and skills to a challenging and diverse group of patients who are experiencing acute and sometimes life-threatening conditions. Emergency nurses work closely with patients and families who may be confronted by trauma, accidents or acute and unexpected illness.

Students of the emergency nursing program learn how to deliver specialist care; managing emergency presentations; supporting the patient and family at a time of great vulnerability and assisting their journey either to hospital admission or safe discharge to home.

Intensive care nursing

Intensive care nurses deliver complex care to critically ill patients, such as those experiencing single or multiple organ dysfunction due to serious illness or injury. They work in complex environments that often demand rapid, sophisticated judgments to be made in high-pressure situations. It is the intensive care nurse's role to help patients and their families to understand their illness and to deliver care and treatment in the intensive care environment. This course integrates and builds on the students' existing clinical experience in intensive or critical care nursing.

Mental health nursing

About 45 percent of people in Australia will experience a mental illness during adolescence or adulthood.* Nurses make up the largest sector of the mental health workforce in Australia and lead the way in the prevention, planning and delivery of mental health care across all settings.

This course focuses on current issues in mental health, as well as therapeutic skills and role development. Students undertaking the mental health nursing program learn how to work with people experiencing a range of conditions who are seeking specialist assessment and treatment. This learning spans a variety of healthcare environments in which clients present with mental illnesses, mental disorders and psychological distress.



*SANE Australia, 2015.

Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner)

Nurse practitioners work autonomously and collaboratively in a variety of healthcare settings across Australia to diagnose, manage and treat specific health conditions.

This course, which is offered at master's level only, equips registered nurses to assess, plan, implement and evaluate integrated care, with the aim of optimising outcomes for both recipients and systems of care.

As part of delivering care, students are taught the process of ordering and interpreting diagnostic investigations as well as planning and self-monitoring the initiation, titration or cessation of medications. Upon graduation, students are eligible to apply for authorisation as a nurse practitioner in Australia.



Primary health care nursing

With the rising incidence of complex, chronic diseases and an ageing population, the need for skilled primary healthcare nursing leaders is greater than ever.

Students in this course learn about chronic disease prevention and management, including relevant evidence-based, decision-making processes and practices, concepts of self-management and coordinated, quality care.

There is an emphasis on the determinants of health, community needs assessment, community participation, health promotion models, health education and health literacy and how these inform and underpin primary healthcare in the community.

True to the philosophy of primary healthcare, this course encourages interdisciplinary work through electives and opportunities for collaboration across the University's School of Public Health and the Charles Perkins Centre.



Scholarships and exchange

Scholarships recognise the immense talent of our students and open doors to new opportunities. We currently offer scholarships that range in value from \$2500 to \$87,500 (over three years).

Coursework scholarships and prizes

In May 2015, the Susan and Isaac Wakil Foundation donated an unprecedented \$10.85 million to Sydney Nursing School for coursework scholarships. This was the largest-ever donation to a nursing school in Australia and enabled the establishment of awards to assist a range of students with their study, tuition and accommodation costs.

Up to 12 Susan Wakil Scholarships are offered annually by Sydney Nursing School to help educate deserving students who show a high level of ability and potential.

These scholarships are available to undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students who are either based in Sydney, are from rural or regional areas of Sydney, or are from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background.

We offer other coursework and merit-based scholarships to nurses studying at the University of Sydney, including from the Sisters of Charity Foundation, the Women's Plans Foundation and the John and Diana Hutchison Merit Prize.



Isaac and Susan Wakil

Research scholarships

Our generous donors have allowed us to offer a range of other scholarships for the purpose of growing and developing nursing and midwifery research. These include the Skellern, Beth Spence and Royal Freemasons Benevolent Institution scholarships for PhD students.

Summer scholarships program

Each year, Sydney Nursing School offers up to 10 summer scholarships worth \$2000 each to give currently enrolled undergraduate and postgraduate students an opportunity to learn about nursing and midwifery research, to develop research skills and to encourage exploration into further research studies. Summer scholars will work on a project under the supervision of one of our leading researchers for up to four weeks full-time over summer (140 hours between January and February).

International student exchange programs

Students of pre-registration nursing programs may apply for an international exchange experience through any one of a range of recognised Australian Government programs or through our international exchange partnerships.

Our student exchange program currently includes Han University in the Netherlands; the Karolinska Institute in Sweden; and others as available.

Học Mãi scholarship recipients gain international experience by undertaking an exchange experience in Vietnam.

Research



At Sydney Nursing School we are committed to developing research that leads to improved patient experiences and influences health policy.

We strive to:

- develop leaders in each of our identified areas of research strength
- attract high-performing research students in these areas
- become known nationally and internationally for innovative, collaborative research that engages all health professionals who practise within the broader context of healthcare.

Three of our professors lead clinical research centres within major Sydney hospitals, focusing on the co-designed care of cancer, mental illness and midwifery. Another professorial-led research team is located within the Charles Perkins Centre and focuses on cardiac and chronic disease.

Our reputation in research is internationally recognised. In both 2012 and 2015, we achieved the highest possible Excellence in Research for Australia ranking for research: “well above world standard”, and we were ranked first in Australia for nursing by the 2016 QS World University Rankings by Subject.

In 2015, research into the cause of heart attacks conducted by one of Sydney Nursing School's researchers gained international media reach of more than 100 million people.

We encourage our students who have an interest in pursuing research to go on to further study in our higher degree research programs: the Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy.

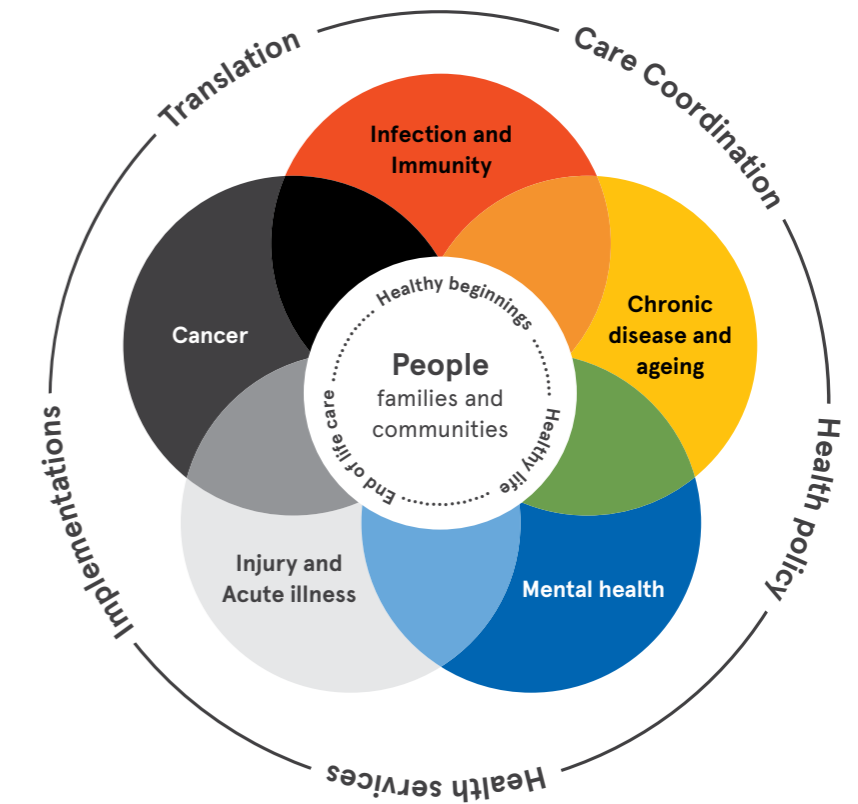
The research we conduct at Sydney Nursing School is closely aligned with the research activities of the University's health faculties and schools, and with the broader strategic research directions of the University. Our multidisciplinary approach allows our researchers to conduct high-impact, translatable research in a variety of areas using a broad range of methods.

Sydney Nursing School's research approach is based on the principle that people, families and communities are at the heart of everything nurses and midwives do.

This diagram illustrates our five research priority areas, all of which extend across the lifespan (inner ring) – from healthy beginnings (midwifery and women's health), throughout life (healthy life), to end-of-life care.

Our five research priority areas are:

- Cancer
- Chronic disease and ageing
- Infection and Immunity
- Injury and Acute Illness
- Mental Health.



The outer ring of the diagram recognises the strong position of nurses and midwives in coordinating and implementing evidence-based care and translating research into practice and policy to improve health services.

The University of Sydney invests in research that changes the way we think about the world and how we live and work in it. The University is a member of Australia's prestigious Group of Eight network and the Association of Pacific Rim Universities.



Inside view

Associate Professor Tom Buckley
Research area: Injury and acute illness

“My research into preventative cardiology has determined that people are eight-and-a-half times more likely to suffer a heart attack after an acute episode of anger. Two-thirds of episodes are related to arguments – the other third of cases are related to driving anger or workplace stress. Anger can potentially increase our heart rate, raise our blood pressure and tighten the blood vessels in the body, which can result in a heart attack.”

Our strategic research priorities



People, their families and communities are at the centre of everything we do. Our research extends across the lifespan: from healthy beginnings at birth, throughout life to end-of-life care. We recognise the strong position of nurses and midwives to coordinate and implement evidence-based care, and translate research into practice and policy to improve health services.

Infection and immunity

The impacts of infection, inflammation and immunity on acute and chronic conditions are not fully understood and are areas of increasing research interest across the globe. The management of infections, infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance and the immune health of the community are important considerations for nurses and an area of emerging research interest for Sydney Nursing School.



Inside view

Professor Yun-Hee Jeon
Research area: Chronic disease and ageing

“I am researching ways to improve the health and wellbeing of older people with dementia, depression and other chronic illnesses. I am particularly interested in the notion of ‘social health’ and how people affected by dementia are able to relate to others and enjoy a meaningful life. I believe person-centered, re-ablement approaches to care make a difference in optimising the social health of people living with dementia, as well as their caregivers.”

Chronic disease and ageing

In Australia, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, renal failure, dementia, and other conditions of ageing are leading causes of mortality and comprise a substantial health burden. With an ageing population, the role of nurses in lifestyle and chronic disease management is more important than ever.

Sydney Nursing School researchers collaborate with the University’s Charles Perkins Centre as part of a team that shares a determination to ease the burden of chronic diseases and ageing in Australia.

Injury and acute illness

In every community, there is a need for nurses and other healthcare professionals to evaluate and treat acutely ill or severely injured people, and to help manage the social and emotional costs associated with their care. Our researchers in injury and acute illness conduct work focused on identifying the causes of major injury, the appropriate care of acutely ill people and those with long-term disabilities, and the costs associated with their care. Our researchers work collaboratively with clinicians, clients and their families to conduct meaningful research that is translated into health policy and practice.

Cancer

There are about 2000 cancer and palliative care nurses currently working in Australia. These nurses have high-level expertise in coordinating and managing the care of people affected by cancer through diagnosis, treatment and recovery, and in maintaining quality of life in acute care, home or community settings. Our research is aimed at increasing nurses’ specialist knowledge to support people and their families during and after cancer treatment.

Mental health

Good mental health is associated with a sense of wellbeing, confidence and self-esteem. It enables us to fully enjoy and appreciate other people, day-to-day life and our environment. Nurses are the largest professional group in the mental health workforce, which places them at the forefront to lead the way in improving and providing effective mental health care.

At Sydney Nursing School, we work with clients, their families, nurses, psychologists and other services to conduct research that will support recovery from mental health disorders.



Inside view

Professor Kate Curtis
Research area: Injury and acute illness

“I am passionate about research that improves the trauma patient’s quality of life. It is my vision to substantially increase efficiency in trauma and emergency care and improve outcomes for patients, their families, and the health system.”



Inside view

Professor Niels Buus
Research area: Mental health

“I am developing peer and family support systems to facilitate more holistic care solutions for those affected by mental illness in the community. Through multidisciplinary frameworks, I aim to support the development of new models of mental health care.”

International collaborations

Sydney Nursing School works with many different international collaborators.

Singapore

For more than 20 years, the University of Sydney has partnered with the Singapore Institute of Management to graduate more than 3500 students with nursing and health science degrees.

Our bachelor-level course has enabled registered nurses in Singapore to obtain a degree that allows them to expand their career opportunities with a qualification from Australia's number one nursing school.

We are excited to expand educational and research opportunities with the Singapore Institute of Management and other health partners in Singapore in the near future.

China

Staff and affiliates of Sydney Nursing School contribute to teaching in the nursing undergraduate and research programs at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in Shanghai. They regularly participate in the annual Sino-Australian Research event.

Our academics collaborate through many teaching and research exchanges with colleagues in China, including with Peking Union Medical College (Beijing) and Chongqing Medical University (Chongqing); in Hong Kong with Hong Kong University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong; and in Taiwan with Taiwan Medical University and National Taiwan University.

Tonga

Sydney Nursing School has been working with Tonga's Ministry of Health since 2012 to develop nursing education in the areas of prevention, detection and management of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes, which are some of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in Tonga.

The non-communicable disease nursing course is accredited by the Tonga National Qualification and Accreditation Board. It was developed by the Ministry of Health with assistance from Sydney Nursing School and local medical practitioners.

The first group of registered nurses graduated with advanced nursing diplomas in 2014. These nurses now work in health centres and diabetes centres across Tonga, including all outer island groups. Their role is to identify patients at high risk of developing a non-communicable disease, provide advice, and help those with an already diagnosed condition to manage their illness.

Vietnam

Sydney Nursing School staff have made a number of contributions to health and welfare education in Vietnam. In collaboration with the Vietnamese government and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the faculty has developed a three-year course in midwifery now offered at around 50 colleges and universities across Vietnam. This course is supported by a textbook and curriculum framework documents.

A collaboration with the UBS Optimus Foundation developed and implemented the 'Safe Children Vietnam' project. The goal of this project, led by a Sydney Nursing School researcher and coordinated by a PhD student, was to implement legislation to protect children from abuse and neglect. The project engaged doctors and nurses in children's hospitals across Ho Chi Minh City in research into childhood injury.



Inside view

Dr Amelia Latu Afuha'amango Tu'ipulotu
Tonga's first Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

Dr Amelia Latu Afuha'amango Tu'ipulotu was the first Tongan to receive a nursing PhD when she completed her doctorate in 2012.

Dr Tu'ipulotu was working as a nurse in Sydney when she decided she could make a difference in her home country by undertaking further study.

"I knew I needed to gain a better understanding of the reality of nursing practice in Tonga and study both the enablers and challenges within the Tongan nursing context," Dr Tu'ipulotu said.

"I found that policies in the Tongan hospitals often did not fit the reality of nursing practice due to lack of basic resources. The policies we were using were more appropriate to nursing practice in a developed world context."

Dr Tu'ipulotu is now Chief Nursing Officer for Tonga. She is responsible for the majority of the country's nurses who work in four hospitals either on the main island Tongatapu, or the islands of Vava'u, Eua, Haapai and Niua.

"Improving the health of the Tongan people is my top priority and that of the Tongan government. Tonga's nurses are at the frontier of strategies to improve the overall healthcare of the community."

Achieving our vision through philanthropy

Philanthropy has played a critical role in the evolution and growth of Sydney Nursing School and the University of Sydney generally, and we are consistently building on this foundation to ensure we remain a great public university.

Philanthropy allows us to explore new research initiatives, take advantage of opportunities as they arise, allocate the necessary discretionary funds to launch programs, enable the most talented students to join us, and recruit world-class researchers to address the real-world challenges we face today.

Philanthropic contributions from our alumni and friends have helped us to:

- fund 12 annual scholarships in perpetuity to both undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students from Sydney, rural and regional areas and students of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background
- establish a large, national research initiative investigating paediatric critical injury that aims to reduce the incidence and impact of a child's critical injury
- establish multiple PhD scholarships that are empowering nurses and midwives to develop more evidence-based research to inform and influence best practice and ultimately improve the coordination of care
- recognise and reward high-achieving students through annual prizes and awards that encourage our students to realise their potential.

You can find out more about our research priorities at:

- sydney.edu.au/nursing/research

For further information or to support the University, please contact us.

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