

DEPARTURES AND VARIATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY'S REGULATORY  
FRAMEWORK:

BSc (Hons) Specialist Nursing (District Nursing with integrated nurse prescribing Pathway)  
PG Diploma Specialist Nursing (District Nursing with integrated nurse prescribing Pathway)

COVER SHEET

*Presenter: Professor A McKillop*

Action is required of the Committee as indicated below.

To consider a request from the Faculty of Life and Health Sciences requesting a deviation from the 60cp for students on this pathway of the BSc Hons Specialist Nursing programme.

This request has been approved by the Associate Dean (Education) on behalf of the Faculty.



## Memo

To: Professor Brian Murphy  
Chair, ASQEC

From: Professor Aine McKillop, Associate Dean Education  
Ursula Chaney, Academic Lead Education, Nursing

Date: 12/10/2020

Ref:

### DEPARTURE AND VARIATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY'S REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

#### Course Title:

BSc (Hons) Specialist Nursing (District Nursing with integrated nurse prescribing Pathway)  
PG Diploma Specialist Nursing (District Nursing with integrated nurse prescribing Pathway)

As part of CA3 revisions (submitted August 2020), it was identified that the current SPQ District Nursing pathways exceed the maximum study load in Semester 2.

The aforementioned programmes are designed to comply with PSRB requirements, the NMC (2001) Standards for Specialist Education and Practice. The BSc (Hons)/PG Diploma Specialist Practice *District Nursing Pathway* is a one year full time programme (45 weeks per year) leading to the award of BSc/PG Diploma Specialist Nursing and a recordable qualification with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). These programmes have theoretical and practice components and successful completion enables students to award with the academic qualification of BSc/PG Diploma Specialist Nursing and integrated prescribing enabling registration with the NMC as having Specialist Nursing (district nursing) and the V100 Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribing.

The SPQ DN pathway is different to the other SPQ Pathways available as it is the only one with integrated prescribing. To obtain the recordable qualification 'District Nursing with integrated Nurse Prescribing', students taking the District Nursing Pathway are required to take an additional module (NMC requirement) related to Nurse Prescribing V100 (NUR853 Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribers at Level 7 or NUR666 Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribers at Level 6 ), a 20 credit semester 2 & 3 module). These 20 credits do not contribute to the overall classification of the award, however successful completion leads to the professional award of V100.

The undertaking of the module in semester 2 & 3, results in students exceeding the 60 credit maximum in Semester 2 by 10 credits (not Semester 3). This was approved by the University panel and the NMC at the time of revalidation, in line with the professional requirements of these programmes. The practice learning element of the prescribing module is integrated across semesters 2 and 3. The practice learning aspect of the prescribing module is (DN pathway only) within the NUS530 SPAD (portfolio), in that 10 of the 75 practice learning days must be spent in the prescribing context. Students undertaking this are able to balance this module as it is across semester 2 and 3, with the practice days of prescribing are integrated as part of the 75 day requirement.

The Faculty would request a deviation from the 60cp for students on this pathway of the BSc Hons Specialist Nursing programme.

APPROVED BY: Professor Aine McKillop, Associate Dean Education