Nursing and Midwifery

www.nuigalway.ie/nursing.midwifery
Nursing and Midwifery at NUI Galway

The School of Nursing and Midwifery at NUI Galway was established in 1993 to run high quality degree programmes in the field of nursing and midwifery. Located in Áras Moyola, a new, purpose-built facility with lecture theatres, computer suites, research facilities and state-of-the-art clinical skills laboratories, the School is committed to providing quality, dynamic programmes that are responsive to the changing needs of the health care sector.

The School works in partnership with external bodies, particularly the Health Service Executive (HSE), in developing relevant, clinically focused programmes.

Nursing (General)
The Bachelor of Nursing Science (General) is a four-year degree programme. The course involves both theoretical (comprised of lectures, seminars, workshops, experiential learning skills and reading time) and clinical components (work placement in a hospital setting). Graduates of the programme are eligible to apply to register with An Bord Altranais.

Course Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Nursing Science (General)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAO Code:</td>
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<tr>
<td>GY 515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry points (2009):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average intake:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entry requirements</td>
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<td>Minimum Grade HC3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O level in the Leaving Certificate including: Irish, English, Mathematics, a laboratory science subject i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science and any two other subjects recognised for entry purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students must meet the entry requirements stipulated by An Bord Altranais, including medical clearance (students must be deemed fit through a medical screening) and ensure that they have signed the self-declaration form for Garda vetting.</td>
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Course Outline

The first three years of the programme run from September to June, following the normal University year. In these three years, the course includes a combination of theoretical and clinical instruction, where you will be attending lectures and tutorials, learning about different aspects of Nursing, and also undertaking periods of clinical practice.

In January of the fourth year, you will undertake a continuous 36 week internship of clinical placement. During this time you will be an employee of the health service and paid a salary.

Career Opportunities

Nurses have the opportunity to work in both hospital and community settings. The Bachelor of Nursing Science degree from NUI Galway is recognised internationally, so you can also work overseas. Graduates of the general nursing degree programme will be in a position to work in many settings in general hospitals including, medical/surgical wards, general and specialist areas, theatres, emergency departments and care of older people services. Many career opportunities exist in clinical practice, management and nurse education. Graduates may also go on to further study to specialise in children’s nursing, midwifery, public health nursing and a range of other postgraduate studies.

What our students say...

Suelyn Sibanda
BSc (Nursing)

“I decided to do a nursing degree after working for three years as a care assistant with a nursing agency. I felt I could do more, give more in my job but I was limited. I enjoy the way the programme is set out with due emphasis given to both theory and clinical experience components. Through the theoretical component, I’ve had the chance to learn many things, not just about nursing but also about biological sciences and social sciences, making the course all the more dynamic and enjoyable. I have also gained clinical experience in medical and surgical nursing, midwifery, psychiatric and public health nursing.”
Nursing (Psychiatric)

Psychiatric nursing aims to assist in the development of the mental health of individuals with deficits in this area and to promote mental health and well being. At the heart of psychiatric nursing is the development of therapeutic relationships, engaging with users, their carers and families. This four-year programme leads to the award of Bachelor of Nursing Science (Psychiatric) and graduates are eligible for registration in the Psychiatric Division of the Nurses Register maintained by An Bord Altranais.

Course Outline

The first three years of the programme run from September to June, following the normal University year. In these three years, the course includes a combination of theoretical and clinical instruction, where you will be attending lectures and tutorials, learning about different aspects of Nursing, and also undertaking periods of clinical practice.

In January of the fourth year, you will undertake a continuous 36 week internship of clinical placement. During this time you will be an employee of the health service and paid a salary.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the psychiatric nursing degree programme will be in a position to work in many settings and with many service users including:

- In-Patient Mental Health Services
- Community Mental Health Services
- Child and Adolescent Services
- Voluntary Organisations
- Recovery and Rehabilitation Services
- Services for Older People
- Substance Misuse
- Primary Mental Health Care

Course Facts

Bachelor of Nursing Science (Psychiatric)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAO Code:</th>
<th>GY 516</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Entry points (2009):</td>
<td>410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>Average intake:</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Entry requirements</td>
<td>Minimum Grade H3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O level in the Leaving Certificate including: Irish, English, Mathematics, a laboratory science subject i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science and a any two other subjects recognised for entry purposes.</td>
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What our students say...

Evelyn Mullers

BSc (Psychiatric)

“I was always interested in caring for people, and I had a particular interest in mental health so deciding to be a psychiatric nurse was an easy decision. I chose to study Psychiatric Nursing at NUI Galway because of the state-of-the-art new nursing building on the campus, the nursing library which has great up-to-date books and accommodating staff; the wonderful new computer suites in the building, and the fact that the university is close to the hospital. Of course the social attractions in Galway were an added bonus!”
Midwifery Science

The Bachelor of Midwifery Science degree is a four-year degree programme and is provided in partnership with the Health Service Executive West. Following successful completion of the programme, students are eligible to apply to register as a midwife with An Bord Altranais.

The programme consists of both theoretical and clinical modules. Theoretical content provides students with the necessary knowledge for professional practice, and involves lectures, seminars, workshops, experiential learning, skills training and reading time. Clinical modules involve time spent in practical settings.

Course Facts

Bachelor of Midwifery Science

**CAO Code:** GY 517

**Entry points (2009):** 405*

**Duration:** 4 years

**Average intake:** 20

**Entry requirements**

Minimum Grade HC3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O level in the Leaving Certificate including: Irish, English, Mathematics, a laboratory science subject i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science and any two other subjects recognised for entry purposes.

**Additional requirements**

Students must meet the entry requirements stipulated by An Bord Altranais, including medical clearance (students must be deemed fit through a medical screening) and ensure that they have signed the self-declaration form for Garda vetting.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the midwifery degree programme will be in a position to work in maternity hospitals. Some posts include a community role. Alternatively some midwives choose to work as independent practitioners. Graduates may also choose to work overseas to gain valuable experience.

Year 1

- Clinical and Theory Instructions
- Theory
- Biological Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Midwifery Skills
- Midwifery Studies
- Health Promotion

Year 2

- Clinical and Theory Instructions
- Theory
- Biological Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Midwifery Skills
- Midwifery Studies
- Health Promotion
- Research

Year 3

- Clinical and Theory Instructions
- Theory
- Biological Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Midwifery Skills
- Midwifery Studies
- Elective Module
- Research

Year 4

- Clinical and Theory Instruction
- Theory
- Research
- Leadership in Midwifery Practice
- Transition to Professional Practice
- 36 week Internship Clinical Practice

What our students say...

Emma Doyle
BSc (Midwifery)

"Being a third year student, studying Midwifery in NUI Galway, is challenging but definitely rewarding. I really like our new modern Nursing and Midwifery building; it’s such a lovely environment and really conducive to learning. The clinical skills labs are really cool and so well equipped. They give a realistic insight into what it’s like working in a hospital environment.

I enjoy the fact that class sizes are small so you really get to know other students and the lecturers. The lecturers are so enthusiastic about their topics that it makes learning enjoyable and a lot easier! The support and teaching in the clinical setting given by experienced clinical staff is also great and sometimes you are learning things without even realising it."
### Clinical Placement
During the programme you will undertake placements throughout the Health Service Executive West. The majority of the time will be spent on placement at either Portiuncula Hospital Ballinasloe or the Galway University Hospitals (University Hospital Galway and Merlin Park University Hospital).

Students on the Midwifery programme will spend the majority of their time on placement at the Maternity Department of University Hospital Galway, Mayo General Hospital, Castlebar Hospital and Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe. While on clinical placement, you will be supervised by a qualified midwife, who has been specifically trained to guide you.

These placements are a very valuable aspect of our programmes as they give you the opportunity to develop the clinical skills you need to practise. During this period of internship, you will be an employee of the Health Service Executive West and will receive a salary.

At the start of the programme, each student is assigned to a host hospital for clinical placements. The Allocations Officer will determine student placements, in accordance with An Bord Altranais requirements. Students who are required to travel to distant placements may apply to the HSE West for support in meeting travelling and accommodation costs.

### Student Health and Security Screening
All successful applicants who are offered places on our Degree programmes are required to have Medical Screening and Garda Vetting. This will include medical assessment, screening and, if necessary, vaccination prior to the first clinical placement, in accordance with the policies of NUI Galway and the HSE West.

Candidates born in Ireland, who have lived overseas for a period of six months or more after they reach 15 years of age, also need Police Clearance from any or all of the countries in which they have lived.

Candidates not born in Ireland need Police Vetting from their country of origin if they resided in that country until they were 15 years of age or if they returned to their country of birth for a period of six months or more.