

# Master of Nursing Science (MNSc)

POSTGRADUATE



CHRISTCHURCH

**Become a nurse – build on any degree**

Centre for Postgraduate Nursing Studies, University of Otago, Christchurch

Key features:

- Open to graduates of any discipline.
- Delivered through our Christchurch campus.
- Two years of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.
- Clinical placements available throughout the South Island.
- Access to a state-of-the-art simulation centre.

The Master of Nursing Science (MNSc) offers a unique pathway to a nursing career for graduates of any discipline. This professional master's degree will prepare you for work in contemporary health settings in an era of rapid development in health technology and medical advances. A worldwide nursing shortage means you will be entering an in-demand profession.

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# Master of Nursing Science (MNSc)

The MNSc is an intensive, two-year pathway to nursing registration studied full-time or part-time through a master's qualification. The University of Otago was the first to offer this preregistration nursing programme in New Zealand.

Graduates from the MNSc will be independent and skillful in the provision of nursing care that integrates research, theory and practice and meets the Nursing Council of New Zealand's competencies for registration.

## Why study nursing?

Nursing is a rewarding and satisfying field that focuses on helping others. Nurses are trusted and respected professionals who are vital in delivering modern healthcare. A global nursing shortage means you will enter an in-demand profession with a great career outlook and job security. Nursing is a multi-dimensional job combining interpersonal, technical, and clinical skills. The Master of Nursing Science offers a gateway to a nursing career across a multitude of healthcare settings both in New Zealand and overseas.

## Background required

Graduates of any discipline can apply. To be eligible to apply you would normally require a B grade average or above in the final two years of your qualifying degree. Selection into the programme will be determined through assessing a combination of your academic record, reasons for undertaking the MNSc, and a possible interview if you are shortlisted. We also require you to provide two referees.

## Teaching and learning

The MNSc offers a comprehensive, integrated programme covering key scientific and therapeutic principles, knowledge, and skills for nursing in contemporary contexts.

The programme is taught over two extended academic years at the University of Otago Christchurch campus with regular clinical placements throughout the South Island. You will learn through a mixture of lectures and case-based learning, facilitated online learning, clinical skills development in the simulation lab and clinical placements in a variety of healthcare contexts.

## Clinical experiences

You will undertake between 1,100 and 1,500 hours of clinical practice aligned with course papers in a range of health care settings. Support and instruction while in clinical practice is provided by registered nurses in collaboration with a University staff member who will contribute to clinical teaching and facilitate the integration of theory, research and simulation learning with the clinical environment.

## Degree structure

The MNSc consists of 12 taught papers and a 30-point research project. You must complete all papers:

### First year

- NURS 441 Professional Nursing
- NURS 442 Health Care in New Zealand
- NURS 443 Nursing Science 1
- NURS 444 Nursing Science 2
- NURS 445 Introduction to Clinical Nursing Practice
- NURS 446 Nursing Clients with Altered Health States
- NURS 447 Applied Nursing Research

### Second year

- NURS 501 Nursing Science 3
- NURS 502 Mental Health Nursing
- NURS 503 Nursing Clients with Complex Health States
- NURS 504 Consolidation of Practice
- NURS 580 Nursing Research Project
- NURS 581 Integrating Practice

## Careers in nursing

Nursing opens up many career opportunities and areas of specialisation including: paediatrics, primary health care, rural, mental health, and Māori health.

Graduates of the MNSc may also choose to progress to the following roles:

- Nurse educator
- Clinical nurse specialist
- Nurse administrator
- Research nurse

## PROFILE

### Roche De Bruin

STUDYING FOR A MASTER OF NURSING SCIENCE

After completing a Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences and considering a research-based career, Roche De Bruin realised she was craving a more people-oriented profession. The University of Otago, Christchurch's Master of Nursing Science degree ticked all the right boxes.

"The University's Christchurch campus has a reputation for offering world-class education. It also has so many student services and events – it seemed like a great place to study and also a fun university.

"I have really enjoyed getting to meet new people. I've also loved the variety of experiences our campus offers through placements, course-related activities and university events."

Highlights of the course so far have been the clinical experiences and clinical simulation classes, which Roche says help you to learn the finer details of nursing in a relaxed, engaging atmosphere. Roche is hoping that her qualification will enable her to pursue an adventurous and diverse career as a nurse within an organisation like Médecins Sans Frontières, or as a nurse practitioner.



For more information:  
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