

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Policy, Politics and Nursing
2	Module Credits	30
3	Module Level	6
4	Module Code	NUR6055

5	Module Overview
Relationship with Programme Philosophy and Aims	
<p>Contemporary health and social care issues are a subject that are threaded throughout the programme. There have been many important changes in the NHS arising from the Health and Social Care Act for example commissioning of services and greater patient/service user choice. The government's response to the Francis Report ("Patients First and Foremost" DoH 2013) and reports from other professional, statutory and regulatory bodies have identified issues that impact on nursing students and their future role as Registered Nurses. This module will help ensure that graduating nurses are politically aware of agendas for change in healthcare, and will encourage the leadership skills to promote core values such as care and compassion. Therefore to ensure there is a focus on an ever changing health and social care services this module will ensure that recent and future policy changes and their impact on patient/service user care are explicit in the programme to ensure students can contribute to the debate around nursing, health and social care.</p> <p>This module will develop students' knowledge of political and policy drivers and their application to contemporary nursing practice. It will promote a critically evaluative approach to Nursing care, placing emphasis on enhancing reflective practice and evidence based health care. It will ensure our students have a robust understanding of the importance of policy as applied to practice.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
<p>The content is subject to change to ensure that changes in legislation and policy and current issues are incorporated into the module.</p> <p>Health and social care change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing demography and social diversity. • Equality and diversity. • Demands of health care services for acute and long-term care. • Inquiries and reports relevant to current nursing practice. • Impact of health and social care change on the role of the nurse. <p>Policy and legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation and development of policy in health and social care. <p>Legislation related to health care, e.g. Health and Social Care Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning of services. • Competition for service provision. • Diversification of provision. • Funding for health and social care – local and national. • Legal issues – Equality Act, Health and Safety. 	

- The impact of policy and legislation on the role of the nurse.

Healthcare structure and organisation:

- Quality assurance and governance in healthcare.
- Professional, statutory and regulatory bodies.
- Involvement and partnership with service users and carers.
- Ethics – justice, fairness and ‘rationing’ of care.
- Choice in health and social care.

Leadership and change:

- Risk assessment.
- “Whistleblowing”
- The role of the nurse in leadership and change agency.
- Power in health and social care.

Application of content to specific fields of nursing.

7	Module Learning Outcomes
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:
	1 Engage in critical discussions regarding global, national and local changes in health and social care and their impact on Nursing and/or other professional groups.
	2 Demonstrate critical understanding and evaluation of relevant policy drivers, current policy, legislation and local/national guidelines and their influence on nursing.
	3 Critically engage in academic debate about the underlying political and philosophical principles of health care structure and organisation.
	4 Demonstrate an appreciation of how the politics of health care and nursing can empower and influence nurses to be autonomous, leaders and agents of change.

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1, 2, 3, 4	X		

9 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities	
Learning Activities	Hours
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	34
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	136
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	130
Total Study Hours:	300