

## Module Specification

### Module Summary Information

|   |                       |   |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| 1 | <b>Module Title</b>   | The Professional Practice of District Nursing |
| 2 | <b>Module Credits</b> | 30  |
| 3 | <b>Module Level</b>   | 6   |
| 4 | <b>Module Code</b>    | PHE6022                                       |

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| 5  | <b>Module Overview</b> |
| <p><b>Aims of the Module:</b></p> <p>Health services in the UK are undergoing unprecedented reform; this is transforming the way health care is provided. Greater emphasis is on prevention, health promotion and supporting self-care. <i>Our Health, Our Care, Our Say</i> White paper (DH, 2006) highlights wider preventative issues and particularly the importance of integrated, community based health care. Moving more care outside acute hospitals and into the community and people's homes, this places the district nurse at the centre of this health reform. Training is required to meet changing demographics and lifestyles as well as NHS reforms in general as detailed in the DH white paper <i>Modernising Nursing Careers (DH 2006)</i>; thereby ensuring that the student once qualified has the confidence, skills and knowledge to apply the principles of district nursing in practice.</p> <p>Society in the UK today is more complex, giving rise to a need for greater understanding of social, cultural, racial and geographical diversity, if district nurses are to meet the changing health needs of the local population. Health is not distributed equally and inequalities continue to be a major challenge, the acquisition of an in-depth knowledge of the local community by the analyses of data and the undertaking of a health need assessment will prepare the district nurse for this role.</p> <p>The specialist practitioner District Nurse has a high degree of autonomy in practice and will frequently have to make sound clinical judgements utilising robust ethical and legal principles</p> <p>The development of a reflective practitioner is essential to the programme. Only through critical analysis, reflection and experiential learning can practice be evaluated and developed and contribute to professional maturity and competence.</p> |                        |

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| 6  | <b>Indicative Content</b> |
| <p><b><u>Professional Issues</u></b></p> <p>Professionalism for community nursing will be critically evaluated in the context of the profound changes taking place in the structure of health care delivery.</p> <p>The theoretical underpinnings of nursing practice will be critically appraised in developing services and practice in respond to the changing health needs of the community. Application of theory to practice will be tested by the module leader and the practice teacher/sign off mentor via the assessment process</p> <p><b><u>Legal and ethical issues</u></b></p> <p>The examination of critical legislation and government policies will be undertaken within the context of community nursing. Ethical dilemmas pertinent to community nursing will be analysed and debated.</p> <p>The specialist practitioner District Nurse has a high degree of autonomy in practice and will frequently have to make sound clinical judgements utilising robust ethical and legal principles</p> <p><b><u>Health promotion</u></b></p> |                           |

Health promotion forms a vital component of practice and is an integral component of district nursing practice. Theories of health, health beliefs and health promotion models will be discussed. The principles and practice of undertaking a health needs assessment underpinned by critically appraised epidemiological and demographic data.

### **Action Learning Sets**

The examination of common elements of community nursing across the pathways, for example vulnerable adults. The Action Learning Sets enable the students to engage in debates across professional boundaries, strengthening understanding and the knowledge of other professions in community nursing.

| <b>7 Module Learning Outcomes</b>  |   |
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| <b>On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:</b> |   |
| <b>1</b>   | Apply the Principles of District Nursing in Practice.   |
| <b>2</b>   | Critically examine decision making processes in district nursing using legal and ethical principles for practice. |
| <b>3</b>   | Demonstrate reflective and evaluative skills utilising appropriate up to date evidence.                           |
| <b>4</b>   | Develop team leading skills, generating a climate of learning and development.                                    |

| <b>8 Module Assessment</b> |                  |                   |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>Learning Outcome</b>    |                  |                   |                  |
|                            |                  | <b>Coursework</b> | <b>Exam</b>      |
|                            |                  |                   | <b>In-Person</b> |
| <b>1, 4</b>                |                  |                   | Portfolio        |
| <b>2, 3</b>                | Written Response |                   |                  |

| <b>9 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities</b>  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>Learning Activities</b>   | <b>Hours</b>                |
| <b>Scheduled Learning (SL)</b><br>includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable            | 75                          |
| <b>Directed Learning (DL)</b><br>includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE | 150                         |
| <b>Private Study (PS)</b><br>includes preparation for exams  | 75                          |
| <b>Total Study Hours:</b>  | 300 notional learning hours |