

AQF LEVEL	AQF LEVEL 8 CRITERIA – GRADUATE CERTIFICATE		PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
PURPOSE	The Graduate Certificate qualifies individuals who apply a body of knowledge in a range of contexts to undertake professional/highly skilled work and as a pathway for further learning.		
KNOWLEDGE	Graduates of a Graduate Certificate will have specialised knowledge within a systematic and coherent body of knowledge that may include the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills in a new or existing discipline or professional area	<p>In the context of acute care nursing practice, graduates of the Graduate Certificate in Acute Care Nursing will have advanced knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the role of the nurse in advanced practice within the various clinical, political and professional contexts the scientific and theoretical basis for the clinical assessment, management and care of acutely ill patients and groups with altered physiological function the multiple legal, social, ethical, organisational and scope of practice implications and considerations for effective and informed advanced practice and professional role development contemporary concepts of leadership and management relevant to health services including standards, policies and legislation associated with advanced nursing practice research and evidence-base that informs quality and safe nursing practice and health care. 	
SKILLS	<p>Graduates of a Graduate Certificate will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cognitive skills to review, analyse, consolidate and synthesise knowledge and identify and provide solutions to complex problems cognitive skills to think critically and to generate and evaluate complex ideas specialised technical and creative skills in a field of highly skilled and/or professional practice communication skills to demonstrate 	<p>In the context of acute care nursing practice, graduates of the Graduate Certificate in Acute Care Nursing will have:</p> <p>Advanced cognitive skills that demonstrate their ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> synthesise nursing and related content knowledge and professional experience for contemporary practice investigate, analyse and synthesise information, problems, and concepts to interdisciplinary bodies of knowledge and practice in education to inform nursing practice design, evaluate, implement, analyse and theorise the use of techniques, materials, processes, and contemporary practices in nursing care. <p>Advanced professional clinical and non-clinical technical skills to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> conduct focused and comprehensive health assessments of clients within an expanded scope 	

**APPLICATION OF
KNOWLEDGE &
SKILLS**

<p>an understanding of theoretical concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication skills to transfer complex knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences 	<p>of practice in complex and unfamiliar client care situations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify normal and abnormal states of health through synthesis and interpretation of assessment information including client history, physical findings and results of investigations to inform differential diagnoses. • initiate nursing care and interventions and manage acutely ill patients using research and evidence. <p>Advanced communication skills to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solve clinical and practice problems communicate complex knowledge and ideas, including an understanding of theoretical concepts, to patients, their families, other healthcare professionals and a variety of audiences in a variety of acute care nursing practice settings.
<p>Graduates of a Graduate Certificate will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to make high level, independent judgements in a range of technical or management functions in varied specialised contexts • to initiate, plan, implement and evaluate broad functions within varied specialised technical and/or creative contexts • with responsibility and accountability for personal outputs and all aspects of the work or function of others within broad parameters 	<p>In the context of advanced acute care nursing practice, graduates of this program will demonstrate the application of advanced knowledge and skills by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practising in a safe, collaborative and evidence-based manner within their scope of practice relevant to their own speciality focus in accordance with contemporary nursing models of care and professional regulatory standards of practice • assessing the health status of individuals and/or populations and, where necessary, formulate, implement and monitor management plans in consultation with patients, their families and the community • demonstrating professional knowledge and behaviours as determined by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia and the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council. • retrieving, critically evaluating and applying evidence in the performance of nursing and healthcare • evaluating the impact of social factors on health of individuals and communities and moderating these influence of these thereby promoting and optimising the health and welfare • contributing to local and national nursing and health policy and services that enhance the health of individuals and communities • reflecting on current skills, knowledge and attitudes, and plan ongoing personal and professional development.