Programme Specification

Programme award and title: Masters in Health and Wellbeing of the Older Person

SCQF Level: 11  SCQF Credit Value: 180

Educational aims of the programme:
Concise (e.g. a few sentences), general statement of aims and broad purposes of the programme

- The overarching aim of this programme is to support nurses to develop an enhanced and applied knowledge base of the health and wellbeing of the older person and their service provision.

- A large critical literature has been amassed which shows that current standards of care often fail to deliver good quality care for the older person. Therefore the need to improve the care and experience of the older person in health and social care have become significant policy drivers. To meet policy requirements it is widely recognised that a nursing workforce is needed which has the knowledge, confidence and skills to deliver on these policy drivers.

- Nurses need access to specialist knowledge and subject expertise to, deliver standards, act as positive role models and develop their leadership capacity with older people. This programme will provide nurses with the advanced knowledge and skills to supports these aims. The programme is composed of specialist modules that ensure students can, gain insight into the complexities of caring for older people and act as change agents to facilitate improvements in aspects of care. Knowledge development and experience will be achieved through critical engagement with the academic programme content and practice experience directly related to the care of the older person.

Intended programme learning outcomes:
Outline (e.g. one or two paragraphs) of what the student will know, understand and be able to do as a result of their learning, expressed in the categories below. Please consider the contribution made to the student’s personal development planning (PDP) and future employability.

Knowledge and understanding
- The student will be able to:
  - Demonstrate a critical understanding of the principal theories, concepts, policies and practices that influence delivery of health and social care for the older person
  - Critically apply new knowledge and skills to support collaborative working with other professionals that enables practice improvement in older persons care

Subject-specific skills and other attributes
- The student will:
  - Demonstrate a critical knowledge and understanding of the complexity of contemporary health and social care issues that impact on the care of the older person
  - Evaluate models of practice development and service delivery in all settings where the older person lives or is cared for
  - Develop original and creative responses to problems and issues that arise in practice
  - Plan and execute a significant practice project which focuses on improvement of care for the older person
  - Critically understand and explore the context of collaborative working with health, social and third sector agencies, and with patients and carers

Generic skills (e.g. information skills, communication skills, critical, analytical and problem solving abilities) and other attributes
- The student will:
  - Deal with complex issues and make informed judgements in practice situations
  - Demonstrate advanced oral and written communication skills
  - Demonstrate attributes of personal organisation, planning and evaluation skills that support effective academic and clinical work
- Demonstrate the ability to discriminate, analyse and synthesise evidence and to communicate this ability in course work
- Demonstrate development of attributes and skills commensurate with clinical leadership that will contribute to the delivery of high quality care for older people

**Learning, teaching and assessment strategies:**
Outline (e.g. one or two paragraphs) on overall approach taken to develop and assess learning outcomes, including any distinctive features

- The learning outcomes for the programme will be achieved by student engagement with academic course content and practice placement relating to the health and wellbeing of the older person. The programme will utilise a blended approach to learning. Blackboard Collaborate™ will be used as a platform for synchronised e-learning. Most of the module content will be supported by Web based materials; including podcasts. Campus days will be facilitated by face to face contact and use of video-conferencing where appropriate.

- The programme assessment strategy will centre on student acquisition of the necessary theoretical knowledge and access to expert practice required to meet the learning outcomes. The student will be encouraged to engage in a reflective and critical review of their Knowledge and practice through the use of a competency framework, case studies and project report.

**Professional/statutory body accreditation or recognition:**
N/A

**Further details:**
Entry requirements: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate/how-to-apply](http://www.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate/how-to-apply)

Programme structure: [http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/](http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/)

Relevant Subject Benchmark statement (if applicable): [http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/subject-guidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statements.aspx](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/subject-guidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statements.aspx)


Introduction/revision date: