



University of
South Australia

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY POSTGRADUATE STUDY GUIDE





WHY CHOOSE UNI

**WORLD
TOP 100
FOR NURSING**

2020 QS Subject Rankings

**No. 1
IN AUSTRALIA
FOR QUALITY EDUCATION**

2020 THE University Impact Rankings

**WORLD-CLASS
RESEARCH**

**LEARN FROM RESEARCHERS
WHO ARE RECOGNISED AS
PERFORMING WELL ABOVE
WORLD-CLASS IN NURSING
AND MIDWIFERY**

*Results in Nursing - 2018 Excellence in
Research for Australia (ERA)*

**TEACHING
QUALITY**

**RANKED No.1 IN
SA FOR NURSING**

*ComparED (QILT) Course Experience
Questionnaire 2018-19 (Postgraduate).
Public SA-founded universities only.*

**STUDENT
SATISFACTION**

**RANKED No.1 IN AUSTRALIA
FOR NURSING**

*ComparED (QILT) Course Experience Questionnaire
2018-19 – Overall Satisfaction Indicator
(Postgraduate). Public universities only.*

SA?

WELCOME

The nursing profession is the largest single health profession in Australia, with demand for nurses set to significantly exceed supply by 2025¹. Our ageing population and the rising prevalence of chronic disease means that nursing skills are becoming increasingly important. It's anticipated that nurses will be required to accept more complex and specialised roles to manage patient care across hospital and community settings².

I'm passionate about preparing exceptional, postgraduate qualified nurses and midwives to meet the health needs of individuals and communities. Further study in your discipline not only increases your career opportunities and earning potential, but further enables you to have a positive impact on health outcomes through advancing your leadership qualities to influence clinical practice and policy. In the current context of health care in Australia, there are increasing opportunities for nurses and midwives to influence practice change through leadership and advanced practice roles. By enrolling in postgraduate studies, you are taking a positive step toward developing the capabilities to be an inspirational and transformative health professional.

Undertaking postgraduate study with the University of South Australia will see you studying at a university that is ranked in the World Top 100 for Nursing³, learning from well above world-class researchers⁴, outstanding academics and industry-experienced clinicians who strive to provide the highest quality education. We're also home to the Rosemary Bryant AO Research Centre, where leading researchers are working to translate evidence into education and practice.

You will enjoy specialised and innovative curricula, with a focus on flexibility to suit your career interests and needs as a working professional, as well as employer requirements in delivering postgraduate training to staff. A wide range of specialisations and qualification levels are available, as well as research programs undertaken in conjunction with highly respected industry partners and a multidisciplinary group of research collaborators.

Upon graduation, you will join a respected group of postgraduate alumni practising across the spectrum of the profession, including clinicians, educators, administrators, researchers and leaders – nationally and internationally.

If you would like to explore valuable opportunities for collaboration, or furthering your qualifications, please contact us or visit us online.

I look forward to welcoming you.

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RACHAEL VERNON /
DEAN OF PROGRAMS (NURSING & MIDWIFERY)**



¹ Health Workforce Australia 2014: Australia's Future Health Workforce - Nurses Overview

² Deloitte Access Economics, *The future of work: Occupational and education trends in nursing in Australia*, 2018

³ 2020 QS Subject Rankings

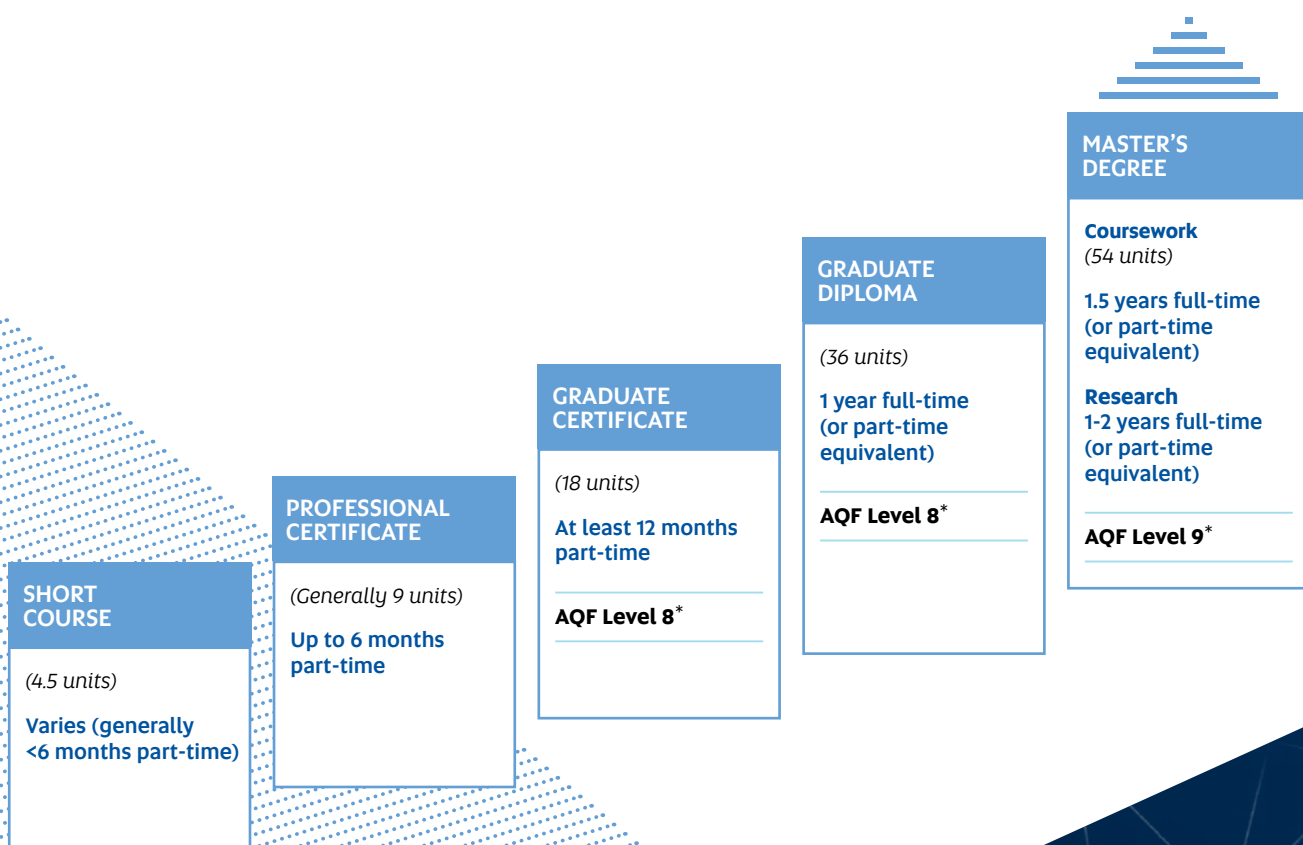
⁴ 2018 Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) in Nursing

ENHANCE YOUR CAREER IN NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Our flexible suite of postgraduate nursing and midwifery qualifications are designed to recognise your prior learning and staircase your career.

You can select from a wide range of specialisations and qualification levels to best suit your needs and professional interests.

Upon successful completion, you may then be eligible to gain credit into higher level qualifications and reduce the overall duration of your study so you can fast-track your career.



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

4 years full-time (or part-time equivalent)

Successful completion of a Masters degree may lead to a PhD.

AQF Level 10*

MASTER'S DEGREE

Coursework (54 units)

1.5 years full-time (or part-time equivalent)

Research 1-2 years full-time (or part-time equivalent)

AQF Level 9*

GRADUATE DIPLOMA

(36 units)

1 year full-time (or part-time equivalent)

AQF Level 8*

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

(18 units)

At least 12 months part-time

AQF Level 8*

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE

(Generally 9 units)

Up to 6 months part-time

SHORT COURSE

(4.5 units)

Varies (generally <6 months part-time)

CUTTING EDGE TEACHING & RESEARCH

QUALITY TEACHING

Our specialty postgraduate programs meet industry needs head-on, equipping you with the knowledge and skills to achieve your career goals. As the number one university in Australia for student satisfaction in Nursing*, you will learn from experienced researchers and specialist postgraduate teaching staff.

Every qualification is designed to suit working professionals. Through flexible delivery modes and online study you can:

- access videos and course resources
- participate in an interactive online learning environment
- submit your assignments and get feedback online
- use discussion forums for team work and communication.

Your learning will be further enhanced by a range of digital learning technologies, and access to our extensive range of online library and support services. On campus, you will enjoy first-class teaching and research facilities.

On campus workshop attendance may be required for some qualifications.

WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

Your postgraduate studies in nursing and midwifery will be supported by internationally-renowned researchers. Our well above world-class research in Nursing and Midwifery[†] focuses on outcomes relevant to the clinical translation of national health priorities, where we can demonstrate improved health outcomes, consumer satisfaction and economic savings.

We are home to the Rosemary Bryant AO Research Centre, a partnership between the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation's South Australian branch (ANMFSA) and the University of South Australia. The Centre aims to strengthen the role of the nursing and midwifery professions across the health system through the development of a research-driven, evidence-based platform of health care. To achieve this, the Centre is focused on advancing the disciplines of nursing and midwifery, and patient care, in the domains of population and public health, workforce reform, safety and quality, clinical practice, patient outcomes, and integration into education.

We're also home to the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Research Group, established in partnership with government and non-government agencies. Our mental health researchers are recognised for undertaking research to improve mental health service delivery, inform policy and improve health outcomes. The research outcomes of the Group showcase what can be achieved when consumers, clinicians, policy makers and academic faculty work in partnership. Staff within the Group contribute directly to the teaching of our postgraduate programs, equipping students and health professionals with the skills and knowledge required to effectively help people experiencing mental illness and at risk of suicide.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES

CREDIT

9 units

DURATION

Usually one study period, between eight and 15 weeks

DELIVERY MODE

Usually external and online, some courses also require attendance at on-campus workshops

ASSESSMENT

May include quizzes, assignments, case studies and clinical examinations

FURTHER STUDY

The 9 units completed in a professional certificate can be used as credit towards further study reducing the time needed to achieve a higher qualification

ALLERGY NURSING

Offered with the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy Incorporated, you will gain an understanding of the role of the allergy nurse, the allergic process and allergic disease, and the varying manifestations in children and adults.

PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING

Designed for registered nurses working in any health care setting who may be involved in the provision of palliative care to adult clients and their families. You will develop advanced theoretical and practical knowledge to provide competent, evidence-informed, holistic palliative care.



“

After seeing an increase in clients presenting with allergic or intolerance-type symptoms and skin issues, Tarnya, a nurse consultant with Child and Family Health Services, decided to apply for the Professional Certificate in Allergy Nursing.

“I felt I needed to further my learning,” Tarnya says. “I wanted to build my knowledge so that I could better support my clients.”

And the course delivered what Tarnya was looking for.

“The pace of learning was flexible and extremely interesting, and it increased my knowledge and understanding of allergies and intolerances.

“I feel confident educating my clients about their babies’ skin care, and allaying fears about when to offer solids. I also have a greater understanding of the allergy referral process for my clients.”

”

**TARNYA EGGLETON / PROFESSIONAL
CERTIFICATE IN ALLERGY NURSING**

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

CREDIT

18 units

AQF LEVEL

8

DURATION

12 months part-time or six months full-time for Nursing (Bridging and Re-entry)

DELIVERY MODE

Primarily external and online, on-campus attendance for workshops may also be required

ASSESSMENT

May include quizzes, assignments, case studies, clinical examinations and theoretical examinations

FURTHER STUDY

The 18 units completed in a graduate certificate may be used as credit towards further study, reducing the time needed to achieve a higher qualification

NURSING

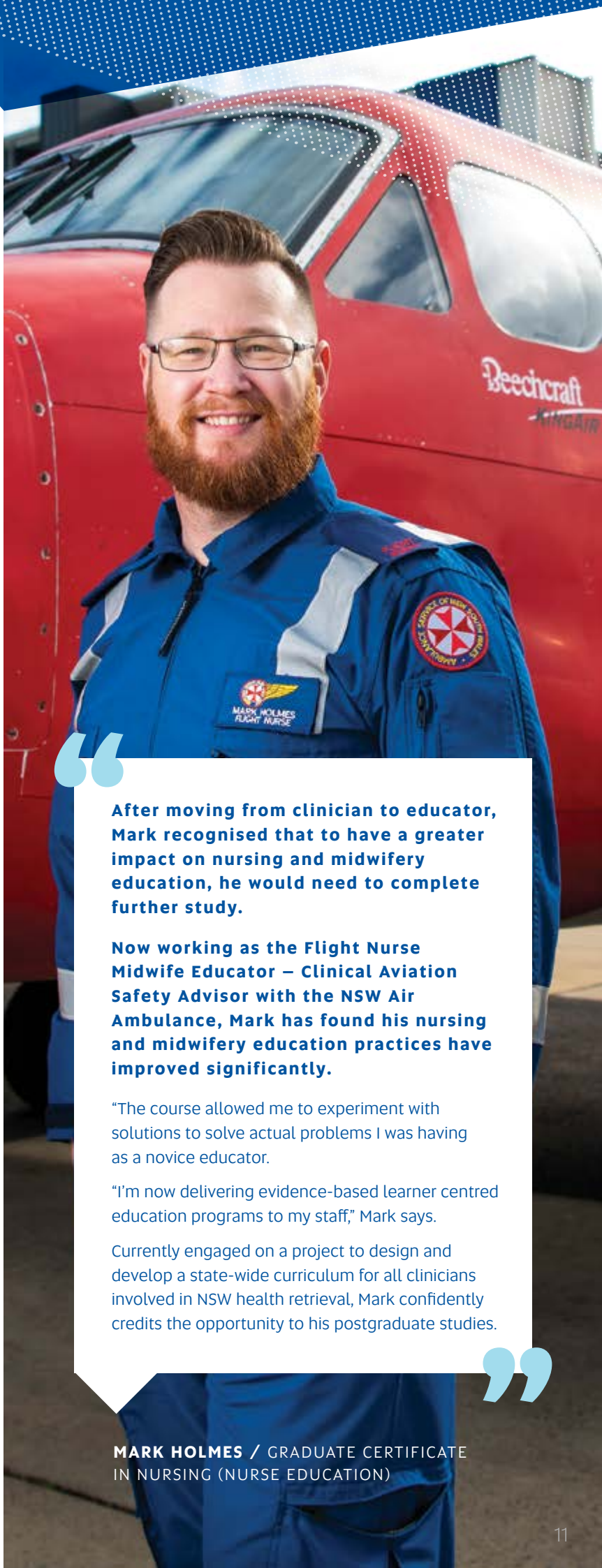
Build your understanding of leadership, management and health care governance with our Graduate Certificate in Nursing. Designed to further your career as a Registered Nurse, this qualification will equip you with advanced knowledge of the Australian health care system and progress your understanding of the social, political and economic factors that affect nursing and health services. You will also develop sought after skills in policy analysis, and change and resource management.

NURSING (RE-ENTRY)

Re-enter the workforce with our Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Re-Entry), designed for nurses previously registered in Australia who wish to re-enter the workforce. You will learn in our clinician-led, authentic, simulated hospital and health service, and undertake clinical placement, preparing you for a rewarding career in one of the most important sectors of health care.

CARDIOVASCULAR NURSING

Progress your career in the specialty field of cardiovascular nursing with our Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Cardiovascular Nursing). This qualification will develop advanced skills in acute cardiac care, heart failure management and primary and secondary prevention of cardiovascular health. You will need to have current experience with, or access to, clients with cardiovascular health problems.



CRITICAL CARE NURSING

Develop expertise in nursing critically ill patients to further your career in a critical or intensive care unit which you will be employed in during your studies. The Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Critical Care Nursing) will progress your knowledge in the advanced clinical competencies for critical care nursing, including management of clients experiencing acute health crises. You will have the opportunity to learn in our clinician-led, authentic, simulated hospital and health service during an on-campus workshop.

HEALTH AND AGEING

Advance your skills in the expanding aged care sector with our Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Health and Ageing). The needs of Australia's ageing population are at the forefront of the health care agenda, with graduates well placed to secure employment in a variety of aged care settings. This qualification focuses on multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary care, rehabilitative care, communication and counselling, and the support of consumer directed care.

NURSE EDUCATION

Broaden your career prospects and learn to teach others in the field of nursing with our Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Nurse Education). You will gain specialist skills in health professional education, with a focus on the concepts and theories surrounding education and learning approaches, teaching strategies for use in clinical and tertiary settings, and educational assessment.

PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH

Provide specialised care, supervision and advice to women prenatally, during pregnancy and postnatally with the Graduate Certificate in Perinatal Mental Health. You will gain the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to support perinatal women experiencing psychological distress, and develop a deeper understanding of postnatal depression and the impact it has on mothers and their families.



After moving from clinician to educator, Mark recognised that to have a greater impact on nursing and midwifery education, he would need to complete further study.

Now working as the Flight Nurse Midwife Educator – Clinical Aviation Safety Advisor with the NSW Air Ambulance, Mark has found his nursing and midwifery education practices have improved significantly.

“The course allowed me to experiment with solutions to solve actual problems I was having as a novice educator.

“I’m now delivering evidence-based learner centred education programs to my staff,” Mark says.

Currently engaged on a project to design and develop a state-wide curriculum for all clinicians involved in NSW health retrieval, Mark confidently credits the opportunity to his postgraduate studies.



**MARK HOLMES / GRADUATE CERTIFICATE
IN NURSING (NURSE EDUCATION)**

GRADUATE DIPLOMA

CREDIT

36 units

AQF LEVEL

8

DURATION

Two years part-time (or full-time equivalent)

DELIVERY MODE

External and online, will also require on-campus attendance for workshops

ASSESSMENT

May include quizzes, assignments, case studies, clinical examinations and exams

FURTHER STUDY

This qualification may be used as credit towards further study, reducing the time needed to achieve a higher qualification

MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

Specialise in the progressive field of mental health nursing to develop the knowledge and practical skills needed to assess and deliver care to people experiencing mental health problems and mental illness. You will explore the psychosocial and behavioural sciences, the legal and ethical aspects of practice and gain valuable practical experience with an industry placement, preparing you to provide mental health care in a variety of health care settings.



When Beata decided to specialise in mental health, she used the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing to pursue a career in the field, first gaining employment in a hospital setting, before moving into a care coordinator role with Eastern Community Mental Health.

“The Graduate Diploma has given me the skills to be a proficient mental health practitioner in a range of settings,” Beata says.

“I found the group work to be particularly beneficial, as it’s important to have the ability to communicate within a multi-disciplinary team.”

For Beata, the decision to pursue mental health nursing has been immensely satisfying.

“I enjoy talking to people,” she says. “I like that in mental health we consider the person as a whole – including their psychological health.”



BEATA MITCHELL / GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

MASTER DEGREES

CREDIT

54 units

AQF LEVEL

9

DURATION

Three years part-time (or full-time equivalent)

DELIVERY MODE

Usually external and online, some master degrees also require on-campus attendance for workshops

ASSESSMENT

Can include quizzes, assignments, case studies, clinical examinations and exams

NURSING

Expand your career opportunities and pursue senior leadership and governance roles in clinical practice, policy, research, education or management with the Master of Nursing. Designed to develop your ability to expertly inform and improve health care practice, knowledge and research, you will develop advanced research skills, and become conversant in the global issues, trends and practices that impact the effective delivery of nursing and health services.

NURSING (NURSE PRACTITIONER)

Extend your nursing qualifications to the advanced level required for endorsement as a nurse practitioner with the Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner). You will examine the role in the delivery of health care, including the legal, ethical and professional issues relating to autonomous and multi-disciplinary practice. Gain advanced knowledge and skills in health assessment, diagnosis, investigative procedures, and prescribing and evaluating treatments and medications, and also build competencies in designing research relevant to the role, context and client populations.



Master of Nursing (Leadership and Management) graduate Julie Brown, works passionately behind the scenes of the health industry, providing nursing and midwifery strategic advice.

Julie secured a role as Senior Nursing and Midwifery Policy Advisor while undertaking her postgraduate qualification.

“The master studies further developed my confidence in my ability to think critically and to conceptualise at a strategic level,” Julie says.

“It was directly applicable to my work, especially in the areas of operational nursing leadership, management and leading state-wide projects.

“In my role I feel very privileged to provide advice and to have the opportunity to influence on matters related to nursing and midwifery at a state and national level.”

JULIE BROWN / MASTER OF NURSING (LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT)*

*Now Master of Nursing

MIDWIFERY

Gain an advanced qualification in perinatal mental health to advance your career in midwifery practice, policy, leadership, research or education. The Master of Midwifery will give you the knowledge and skills essential to undertake assessment and screening of pregnant women, and identify and refer mental health issues, such as postnatal depression. This qualification will also equip you with the ability to complete independent research, and identify and investigate issues or problems to inform practice and research.

MEANINGFUL PARTNERSHIPS WITH INDUSTRY & EMPLOYERS

We are committed to practical engagement with industry and the professions, partnering regularly with employers to deliver high quality, relevant postgraduate qualifications for their staff that suit their workplace needs.

We also have clinical agreements with all local and rural health networks, major hospitals, private health providers, aged care services and mental health services, including the not-for-profit sector.



UniSA has a long-standing partnership with aged care provider Southern Cross Care, working together to increase the number of undergraduate placements and career outcomes in aged care.

Jo Boylan, Director of Operations with Southern Cross Care, says that in addition to rising demand for undergraduate-qualified workers, there are growing opportunities for those with postgraduate qualifications.

“Staff who have upskilled with postgraduate study really shine through as motivated workers,” Jo says.

“We often employ people with postgraduate qualifications in our managerial positions as they have equipped themselves with those extra specialised skills.”



JO BOYLAN / DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, SOUTHERN CROSS CARE



Executive Director Nursing and Midwifery at the Women's and Children's Health Network, Chairperson of UniSA's External Nursing Advisory Group and UniSA Alumnus, Dr Jennifer Fereday, is passionate about lifelong learning and the value of high quality, contemporary qualifications in nursing and midwifery.

"The University of South Australia understands that quality teaching in nursing and midwifery goes hand-in-hand with industry partnerships. They work collaboratively across all health care services to design industry-informed curriculum," Jennifer says.

"Nursing and midwifery are wonderful professions with many career opportunities, particularly for those prepared to study and challenge themselves academically in speciality areas of advanced practice, management and leadership, and education and research."

DR JENNIFER FEREDAY / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NURSING AND MIDWIFERY, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH NETWORK

FIND OUT MORE

For more information about the postgraduate qualifications on offer, entry requirements and how to apply visit unisa.edu.au/study

CONTACT US

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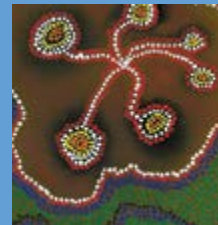
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MAKE AN ENQUIRY

unisa.edu.au/enquiry



Artist: Rikurani

Acknowledgement of Country

UniSA respects the Kaurna, Boandik and Barngarla peoples' spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the diversity of Aboriginal peoples, past and present.

Find out more about the University's commitment to reconciliation at unisa.edu.au/RAP



University of South Australia

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