

Dementia: a person-centred approach

NURS63570

Overview

You may undertake this course unit as part of your diploma/degree pathway, or you may undertake the unit as a 'stand-alone' course unit.

This online unit is aimed at a wide range of staff who are engaged in the support and care of people who are living with dementia and their supporters/carers. It is suitable for people working across a range of services and settings in health and social care and also in wider community initiatives.

The unit will critically explore best practice, informed by a person-centred perspective. It will examine current research evidence, theory and first-person experiences of people who are living with dementia. Students will use this understanding to critically reflect and plan where changes can be made to enhance the care, support and well-being of people who are living with dementia within the student's particular area of practice/interest.

Online teaching utilises both asynchronous (study at your own pace) and synchronous (live) methods. Teaching has been developed by experts in the field including practitioners and people who are living with dementia. It employs a variety of creative approaches. There will be the option of face-face seminars on campus as an alternative to live online seminars depending on demand.

Aims

The unit will critically explore best practice, informed by a person-centred perspective. It will examine current research evidence, theory and first-person experiences of people who are living with dementia. Students will use this understanding to critically reflect and plan where changes can be made to enhance the care, support and well-being of people who are living with dementia within the student's particular area of practice/interest.

Teaching and learning methods:

- Teaching and learning will be via online asynchronous material and weekly (live) synchronous sessions
- There will be the option of face-face seminars on campus as an alternative to online seminars depending on demand
- Guest speakers with lived experience of dementia will contribute to teaching
- The online Black Board learning environment will be utilised for learning, including discussion groups, access to resources and submission of formative and summative work.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding - by the end of the unit students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an informed understanding of holistic, person-centred explanations of dementia and factors that influence individual experience

- Critically apply a person-centred understanding of factors that can positively or negatively impact on the well-being of people living with dementia
- Explore first-person accounts of living with dementia and reflect on the implications of these with regard to their own area of practice/interest

Intellectual skills - by the end of the unit students should be able to:

- Critically apply research, theory and policy specifically relevant to dementia in their own area of practice/interest
- Critically reflect on assessments, interventions and/or practices relevant to dementia in their own area of practice/interest
- Apply a critical understanding of evidence to explore person-centred changes to their own area of practice/interest.

Practical skills - by the end of the unit students should be able to:

- Demonstrate how practice will be influenced by consideration of first-person perspectives, theoretical dimensions, research evidence base and personal reflection.
- Demonstrate skills in partnership working via discussion, debate and shared learning
- Demonstrate skills in communication specific to people living with dementia

Transferable skills and personal qualities - by the end of the unit students should be able to:

- Communicate effectively and sensitively (verbal, non-verbal, written).
- Develop and utilise IT skills.
- Demonstrate research and enquiry skills by accessing and analysing literature in order to inform practice.
- Work co-operatively and effectively with others as a member of a team.
- Reflect on own academic and clinical performance and utilise strategies to improve these.

Assessment methods

Written assignment (essay) 100%

Unit Lead and further information

Dr Simon Burrow

Please contact Simon at simon.burrow@manchester.ac.uk