

Greetings from the Dean of the Graduate School of Nursing

The Faculty of Nursing was established in April 2015, and the first graduates spread their wings to take their places in the society in March 2019. In April of the same year, the Graduate School of Nursing's day/evening master's program and doctoral program were established. The campus of the Faculty of Nursing and Graduate School of Nursing is located on Port Island in the city of Kobe, where a wide variety of projects in advanced healthcare are currently underway. Thus, our goal is to promote educational and research activities that take advantage of the area's unique characteristics.

The term "community of practice" refers to a group of individuals who share similar interests, issues, and enthusiasm about a particular topic and develop their knowledge and skills through continuous mutual exchange. On the basis of this concept, we believe that students from the Faculty and Graduate School will establish a learning community where students from all years and courses learn nursing skills from one another. The incorporation of the reciprocal teaching methods will enable us to maintain coherence, consistency, and effective continuity of the education that we offer.

By incorporating these educational methods, the Graduate School of Nursing aims to develop nursing models that support community health and medical care and to train specialized nurses, educators, and researchers for these models.

We encourage you to consider acquiring abilities that can be applied in practice, developing nursing skills to support people in the community, and working toward the advancement of nursing studies in the Graduate School of Nursing at Kobe Women's University.

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Sincerely,

Azuma Masumi, PhD

Dean, Kobe Women's University Graduate of School of Nursing

Graduate School of Nursing

Master's Program

Educational Philosophy

In accordance with the founding spirit of our university, the students in the master's program will develop a deeper understanding of the dignity of life and explore the essence of nursing as a practical science. The course will also further develop the practical and research skills of nurses as well as those of personnel who can contribute to society as highly specialized professionals.

Admissions Policy

Taking its educational and research objectives into account, the master's program requires that prospective students be equipped with the following skills, attitudes, and qualities:

1. Basic skills in each specialized field of nursing.
2. Eagerness to contribute to the advancement of society and the field of nursing as highly specialized professionals or educators.
3. Capacity to logically and flexibly explore nursing.
4. Ethical sensitivity and respect for life.

Curriculum Policy

The curriculum of the master's program aims to foster educators, researchers, and highly specialized professionals who can offer support to the people in the community, possess the required basic capability for nursing care development, and develop the capacity to cultivate a community of education and practice. More details regarding the curriculum policy are as follows:

1. Provide Certified Nurse Specialist Courses to train advanced nursing specialists as well as Research Courses to train specialized educators, researchers, and personnel who can serve as a "bridge" between practice and research. The Specialist Nursing Courses include the fields of chronic care nursing and child health nursing, whereas the Research Courses include the fields of gerontological nursing, community health nursing, nursing practice design and information management, psychiatric mental health nursing, and women's health nursing.
2. Offer a curriculum that consists of three types of subjects: 1) common subjects in which students acquire advanced nursing practice skills, advanced educational skills adapted to their clients, and basic research skills; 2) specialized subjects in which students develop their specialties and skills in particular fields; and 3) seminar and research subjects in which students acquire advanced nursing practice and research skills.
3. Provide subjects in which students acquire the abilities to provide advanced nursing practice in-keeping with the needs of their clients and the changing needs of society, to develop flexible nursing care, to develop effective care systems, and to become involved in management.

4. Offer a curriculum focused on nursing care development with respect to the abilities of students in exploring community issues in healthcare through nursing practice, applying the related evidence, and communicating the outcomes to support people in the community.

5. Develop students' ability to foster a community of education and practice as a basic function of the creation and development of their practical nursing knowledge.

Diploma Policy

Taking its educational and research objectives into account, the diploma policy of the master's program is to award master's degrees in nursing to students who obtain the necessary credits for completion, pass a master's thesis examination (including research on a particular subject), and acquire the following abilities:

1. Basic research abilities.
2. Advanced educational skills adapted to their clients.
3. Advanced nursing practice skills in a specialized field.
4. The attitude and sense of ethics of a highly specialized professional.
5. The ability to provide high-quality healthcare to people in the community.

Specialist Fields of Study

Certified Nurse Specialist Courses

The advanced practical education programs (certified nurse specialist courses) in chronic care nursing and child health nursing were certified on February 28, 2020.

Chronic Care Nursing

In this field, students will learn about the following through lectures and seminars: evidence on the prevention, treatment, and management of chronic illnesses; various concepts and theories regarding patient understanding; and advanced nursing skills for clients in the rehabilitation and recovery stage, the remission and relapse stage, and the terminal stage. Practical training in sub-specialties will also be planned under the supervision of certified nurse specialists and instructors. Students will cultivate their ability to work as certified nurse specialists in chronic care nursing by developing their roles and enhancing their understanding of the challenges of maintaining a high quality of life for chronically ill people in healthcare facilities and communities.

Child Health Nursing

In this field, students will deepen their understanding of child development and surrounding environments. They will also explore advanced nursing practice skills for children (as well as their families) dealing with complex mental and/or physical challenges, regardless of health status or context. In addition, students will develop their ability to work with a wide variety of occupations and related organizations while exploring the latest educational and practical challenges in the field. Kobe Women's University is making efforts to enhance the training of specialist nurses working in the community and in healthcare facilities. Learning support will be provided by faculties who are certified as certified nurse specialists in child health nursing.

* We are currently applying for accreditation as an advanced nursing practitioner program.

Research Courses

Gerontological Nursing

In this field, students will cover a review of theories on the elderly as well as learn about nursing for the elderly (and their families) in hospitals, facilities, and communities. In addition, students will learn about various health issues among the elderly, nursing interventions for people with dementia, and community interventions for preventing frailty, exploring the nursing care for the elderly and their families that is called for in Japan (where a rapidly aging population has become a major public policy concern), from health extension through terminal care.

Community Health Nursing

In this field, students will develop their understanding of important concepts behind community nursing, including the fundamental principles of the field. In addition, students will learn about the history and policies of community nursing and explore the phenomena of community-based nursing activities. Students will also cultivate advanced practical and analytical skills by developing an understanding of the community-as-partner model, the Plan-Do-Check-Adjust cycle, community diagnoses, and innovative methods for the effective implementation of community-based nursing activities.

Nursing Practice Design and Information Management

In this field, students will develop their understanding of the management and coordination required to provide high-quality nursing services as “community of practice”. Students will also explore strategies for their applications to management and policy to put such activities into place effectively and appropriately. In addition, the students will learn how to utilize and manage diverse nursing information and explore how information management and the application of information systems can help improve the overall quality of nursing.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

In this field, students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the trends and status quo in mental healthcare in Japan as well as abroad, from a psychological, social, and physiological perspective. Further, students will learn more about preventative intervention in mental health issues and nursing care for the mentally ill and their families. The students will also explore various methods to enhance mental health, provide recovery from mental health issues, and offer nursing care that improves the quality of life for people suffering from such issues.

Women’s Health Nursing

In this field, students will examine the health problems that arise during women’s lives and the nursing support thereby required, deepen their understanding of the trends and status quo in reproductive health rights in Japan as well as abroad, and focus on issues related to sexuality. Students will also examine the nursing care required for women in order for them to lead full and healthy lives. In addition, students will explore nursing and midwifery, taking into account the processes through which women in the perinatal period become parents, the development of relationships between children and caregivers, and the connections between mothers and their children as well as those between mothers and society.

The master’s program (research course) in nursing care and education and the advanced practical education program (certified nurse specialist course) in gerontological nursing will be available from April 2021.

Research Supervisors and Supervision Content

Gerontological Nursing

FUJITA FUYUKO f-fujita@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on effective interventions regarding “the elderly and their families” in the handling of health problems
- ② Research on approaches to frailty prevention in various communities such as regions and hospitals

Community Health Nursing

UOZATO AKIKO a-uozato@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on regional nursing with reference to health-building activities in the community targeting people of various ages and health levels
- ② Research on the development of effective healthcare and welfare guidance programs for the prevention of lifestyle diseases

Nursing Practice Design and Information Management

KO AIKO a-kou@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on methods of evaluating the outcomes of nursing services provided by certified nurses and certified nurse specialists in their roles as specialists
- ② Research on communities of practice that bind regions together and mutually deepen and develop knowledge
- ③ Research on new value development and management through the visualization of nursing services and effective use of resources

YOKOUCHI MITSUKO m-yokouchi@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on nursing management using system simulations
- ② Research on nursing outcome evaluation
- ③ Research on health crisis management for individuals

AZUMA MASUMI m-azuma@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on telenursing for patients with chronic diseases through effective intervention programs and system development
- ② Research on the use of information and communications technology in nursing

- ③ Research on the effective use of nursing information to improve nursing quality

Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

TAMAKI ATSUKO a-tamaki@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on nursing intervention in the mental health and welfare of pregnant women and people with physical health issues
- ② Research on effective nursing intervention for the mentally ill and their families
- ③ Research on preventative methods of support for various mental health problems

Women's Health Nursing

SHIMOSHIKIRYO SUMIKO s-shimoshikiryo@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on health support for various health problems and issues at each stage of women's life stages
- ② Research on nursing and midwifery care during the maternity period
- ③ Research on international support for maternity health care

Chronic Care Nursing

YOKOUCHI MITSUKO m-yokouchi@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on nursing for the prevention of acute exacerbation in patients with chronic illnesses
- ② Research on certified nurse specialists and external consultation
- ③ Research on nursing outcome evaluation

Child Health Nursing

UCHI MASAKO m-uchi@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on self-care for children with chronic illnesses
- ② Research on family support for children that require medical care
- ③ Research on medical care support systems in special education schools
- ④ Research on child-raising support in the community

Graduate School of Nursing

Doctoral Program

Educational Philosophy

In accordance with the founding spirit of the university and the philosophy of the master's program, the doctoral program will equip students with a strong sense of ethics as well as advanced education and research skills, with a focus on training personnel who contribute to society as researchers and educators at nursing educational institutions that promote the development of nursing through research activities or as practitioners and administrators in healthcare and welfare facilities.

Admissions Policy

Based on its educational and research objectives, the doctoral program requires applicants with the skills, attitudes, and qualities described below.

1. Individuals who understand the characteristics and processes of nursing research and have basic skills in relation to the overall research methodology required to conduct nursing research.
2. Individuals who understand the primary educational and learning theories and concepts used in nursing education and nursing practice and have an advanced educational capacity that is appropriate for the subject.
3. Individuals who maintain a global perspective and a proactive awareness of and interest in current world events and who are eager to contribute to the development of society and nursing with high ethical standards as a nursing researcher, nursing educator, or highly specialized professional.

Curriculum Policy

The doctoral program comprises an educational curriculum that furthers the innovative research skills of educators and researchers to develop and apply nursing care for the purpose of supporting members of the community as well as superior educational skills to conduct joint development with other individuals and organizations while maintaining an interdisciplinary and global perspective. The specific policies for the composition of the curriculum are given below.

1. Establish seven specialist fields: Nursing Care and Education, Nursing Information Systems, Nursing Policy and Management, Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing, Advanced Practical Geriatric Nursing, Nursing Pathophysiology, and International Health Science.
2. Compose a curriculum of "common subjects" that develop the basic skills required to take on the academic development of nursing, "specialized subjects" to enhance students' learning in each field of specialization, and "seminar and research subjects" that include special research in nursing to acquire advanced research skills that enable the production of new evidence.

3. Using the concept of a community of practice, form a community of researchers who produce knowledge concerning nursing practice as well as foster the ability to solve a wide range of nursing problems and health problems in Japan and abroad.
4. Develop the research skills necessary for developing community care systems to support the healthy lives of community members and produce innovative nursing care.
5. Establish courses that foster the ability to develop high-value nursing services by connecting the outcomes of nursing to education, policy, and institutions.
6. Establish courses that equip students with the educational skills required to nurture the next generation toward contributions to the academic development of nursing.

Diploma Policy

Based on its educational and research objectives, the diploma policy of the doctoral program is to award doctoral degrees (nursing) to students who earn the necessary credits for completion of the course, pass an examination on their doctoral thesis, and acquire the following abilities.

1. Advanced research skills that enable the creation of innovative nursing care and community care systems that anticipate changes in the social situation surrounding nursing and medical care.
2. Outstanding educational skills that enable the cultivation of the next generation of nursing.
3. Advanced problem-solving skills that enable the exploration of various problems in nursing and the use of comprehensive thinking and judgment to resolve them.
4. The ability to approach issues and phenomena as an educator and researcher in nursing from an interdisciplinary and international perspective with a strong sense of ethics.

Specialist Fields of Study

Nursing Care and Education

Based on the characteristics of nursing as a practical science, students will examine theories, concepts, educational methods, and outcomes related to nursing education and nursing practice as well as explore strategies for developing practical models and educational programs. Students will learn about the production of clinical knowledge and the training of practitioners based on Orem's self-care nursing model and Benner's concept of caring, considering the development of nursing specialist communities in the field of practice as a means to sustain these aspects.

Nursing Policy and Administration

Students reexamine nursing management from a comprehensive service theory perspective and explore the development of nursing services of high value to users, of delivery systems, and of strategies and techniques for initiatives aimed to optimize systematization and dissemination. Students will learn the basic theories of service management, policy, and politics. They will also develop the skills necessary to set development tasks based on analyses of the demands and needs for nursing services and to make plans and policy recommendations to resolve problems.

Nursing Pathophysiology

A deep understanding of patients' disease status is essential for proper medical intervention. Students will learn how to understand, use, and think, from a critical perspective, about knowledge and techniques related to exponentially developing disease states. In particular, students will focus on metabolic nutritional disorders such as diabetes, dyslipidemia, obesity, and hypertension, all of which are background risks for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, and the endocrine disorders that cause them. Students will learn about new methods of care and cures to prevent the progression of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and explore relevant intervention methods.

Advanced Practical Gerontological Nursing

Today's "super-aging" society has inspired interest in everything from healthy lifespan extension to care for the terminally ill. In the field of advanced practical geriatric nursing, students will review various theories and activities that underlie the development of the advanced practical nursing that can cope with these challenges and explore advanced practical geriatric nursing in Japan. Students will also investigate, in accordance with their interests, intervention methods that constitute advanced geriatric nursing practice, such as frailty and active aging, and develop the abilities of family members who care for elderly individuals.

Nursing Information Systems

The establishment of nursing assistance technology through “telenursing,” namely, nursing practice utilizing information and communication technology, is vital for the promotion of at-home healthcare. In the field of nursing information systems, students will develop basic skills for the deployment of remote nursing and enhance their understanding of concepts and theories relevant to nursing informatics. In addition, within the diversifying field of nursing practice, students will explore how to support patients, families, and communities by using information technology that can contribute to improvements in quality of life.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

The field of psychiatric health nursing aims to improve individuals’ mental health and promote the recovery of individuals with mental health problems by developing effective nursing intervention methods for various mental health problems, mainly from a preventative perspective. In accordance with each student’s interests, such as perinatal mental health, students will enhance their knowledge of a wide range of concepts, theories, historical contexts, and associated measures related to mental health topics that are covered in the literature. Students will also explore new nursing assistance methods that improve quality of life and self-actualization.

Global-Health Science

In the field of international health science, students will study topics such as cross-cultural understanding and exchange, poverty reduction, and health improvement as well as measures to improve these problems through international health cooperation. International health science is characterized by multifaceted, comprehensive epidemiological research, covering both macro-perspective field research and laboratory research. In addition, we recognize that one of the missions demanded of this field is the training of international health cooperation personnel to provide guidance and assistance in disease control. Students are trained to become nursing professionals who possess an international perspective and play an active role in comprehensive health and medical care.

Research Supervisors and Supervision Content

Nursing Care and Education

NONAMI YOKO y-nonami@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

NAKAOKA AKIKO a-nakaoka@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on the development of nursing care using Patricia Benner's caring theory
- ② Research on the practical abilities of nurses and the development of communities of practice
- ③ Research on the use of communities of practice in basic nursing education
- ④ Research on the creation of systems to improve cooperation between nurses and nurses' aides
- ⑤ Research on the development of leadership skills for clinical training instructors and the educators of novice and advanced beginner nurses
- ⑥ Research on educational methods to improve nursing practice ability in basic nursing education

Nursing Information Systems

AZUMA MASUMI m-azuma@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on the development of support methods using information technology that contributes to the improvement of quality of life
- ② Research on the verification of evidence regarding the construction of telenursing systems for at-home care support
- ③ Research on patient assessment using telecommunications

Nursing Policy and Management

YOKOUCHI MITSUKO m-yokouchi@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

KO AIKO a-kou@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on the development of nursing service management based on service theory
- ② Research on the improvement of nursing service provision processes through the use of system simulations
- ③ Research on the development of nursing assessment indicators and analysis methodology
- ④ Research on the development and systematization of healthcare services
- ⑤ Research on the evaluation of interdisciplinary and local collaboration

- ⑥ Research on the design of nursing policy
- ⑦ Research on nursing professionals' participation in the policy process

Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

TAMAKI ATSUKO a-tamaki@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on the development of preventative nursing intervention methods in perinatal mental health
- ② Research on the development of preventative nursing intervention methods for mental health problems
- ③ Research on the development of nursing assistance methods that contribute to the recovery, quality of life improvement, and self-realization of individuals with mental health problems and their families

Nursing Pathophysiology

KAJI HIDESUKE h-kaji@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on lifestyle and the prevention of atherosclerosis
- ② Research on precision medicine for dyslipidemia
- ③ Research on the prevention of motor dysfunction due to aging

International Health Science

UGA SHOJI s-uga@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

- ① Research on the current status of and preventative measures for noninfectious diseases overseas
- ② Epidemiological research on infectious diseases in developing countries
- ③ Research on sustainable development goals in developing countries