Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health

TE KURA TAPUHI HAUORA
Welcome

Tēnā koe, nau mai, haere mai. Welcome to the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health.

As you will see in the following pages, we offer a range of courses designed to help you build your career, from the time you register as a health professional to PhD study and beyond. Our programmes are built with a step on/step off approach, enabling you to achieve your academic aspirations alongside your work, family and other commitments.

As a student at the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health (GSNMH) you will study under the guidance of national and international expert practitioners and scholars with backgrounds in nursing, midwifery, pharmacology, physiology, sociology and medicine. In addition to our permanent staff, several adjunct staff from New Zealand and around the world contribute to our programmes through teaching, research and student supervision. Our location in Wellington brings a number of advantages in our having easy access to key people in health and the government sector.

We pride ourselves on our outstanding research activities and the excellent reputation of our student-centred learning and teaching approaches. One of the things for which we are best known is the individualised support we provide for students to help them succeed in their chosen fields.

Our research and scholarship programmes have multiple foci, including acute and emergency care; midwifery; end-of-life care, care of the older person and people with dementia; nursing theory; sociological aspects of health and illness; patient safety and quality; and health systems evaluation.

Visit www.victoria.ac.nz/nmh for more information. If you have any questions, contact us to discuss the next steps in your academic career at the GSNMH.

Dr Kay de Vries
Head of School

Take the next step on your professional journey

The GSNMH specialises in postgraduate qualifications for nurses, midwives and other health professionals. Whether you are new to postgraduate study, keen to advance to the next level, or considering a PhD, we have a programme that is designed for you. Our programmes are designed to meet the demands of today’s clinical and research environment.

Recognising the challenges of a busy lifestyle, we have developed full-time and part-time courses to make it easy for you to learn while you are working. You will be required to attend schools at our Wellington campus. These will provide you with invaluable opportunities to network with your peers and other health care experts.

You will benefit from the extensive knowledge and experience of our academic and administrative team. With a unique blend of research and teaching expertise and ‘real-world’ clinical experience, the academic team will support and work with you throughout your study, both face to face and via internet-based technology.

Our programmes have been developed through extensive consultation with clinicians, managers, current and potential students, and are internationally benchmarked. Through a ‘building blocks’ approach, our programmes will enable you to gain qualifications that enhance your knowledge, skills and clinical experience.

Choose a path that suits you best: from entry-level postgraduate certificate qualifications to postgraduate diplomas, coursework Master’s (Master of Nursing Science, Master of Health Care and Master of Health Care in Midwifery Practice) or a research Master’s programme (Master of Health Research).

Each programme has a combination of core and elective courses, with both coursework and thesis-based research options at Master’s level. The entry level at which you join the programme will depend on your previous academic achievements and chosen professional direction. Your options do not stop there. If you would like to apply your research skills to a PhD, we will be with you every step of the way.
Nursing Science programme

Our Nursing Science programme is designed for qualified and experienced registered nurses seeking to develop their theoretical knowledge and practical skills, both in general practice and in specialist areas of expertise. This programme includes pathophysiology, advanced assessment, diagnostics and therapeutics and pharmacology courses.

You will usually need a Bachelor’s degree in Nursing (or equivalent) to qualify for entry into this programme of study.

Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science

The Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science (PGCertNS) will provide you with an advanced understanding of pathophysiology relevant to your particular practice, as well as excellent skills in appraising research literature and relating it to your chosen discipline. In applying this knowledge to your workplace, you will be able to critically integrate theory, practice and research to improve nursing care and outcomes.

Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science

You will develop your knowledge, skills and professional confidence even further with the Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science (PGDipNS). In addition, you will gain a deeper understanding of pathophysiological concepts and current nursing practice issues; develop your ability to carry out advanced assessments on patients in order to improve your clinical reasoning; and enhance your skills in locating, analysing, evaluating and applying information and research to your everyday practice.

Master of Nursing Science

With the Master of Nursing Science (MNS) you will become an expert practitioner in your chosen area of practice, bringing new insights to clinical decision-making. You will also develop clinical leadership skills and be able to integrate potential solutions for improving health outcomes for your patient population.

Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science* Part One

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<td>HLTH 502 Applied Pathophysiology</td>
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Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science Part Two

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Master of Nursing Science Part Three

Coursework focus

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Research focus

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<td>HLTH 594 Thesis</td>
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*HLTH 550 Entry to Professional Nursing Practice may be credited to the PGCertNS
Corina Ngatai  
Master of Nursing Science student

*Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei*

Aim for the highest cloud so that if you miss it, you will hit a lofty mountain

Working in a small GP practice in the Wairarapa, Corina embarked on postgraduate studies in 2011 with a goal in mind: to achieve and obtain the qualifications to become a nurse practitioner with prescribing rights.

“Nursing requires both the art of caring and a passion for human science. A nurse advancing in education cultivates professional growth, competency and critical thinking,” Corina believes. Choosing to study with Victoria was easy for Corina. “The smaller campus and class numbers provide a more valuable and intimate learning environment.” Corina says that the passion and enthusiasm shown by the lecturers and staff at the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health really helps to promote student development and drives her to succeed.

*Ehara taku toa, he takitahi, he toa takitini*

My success should not be bestowed onto me alone, as it was not individual success but success of a collective

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### Nurse Practitioner pathway

Our Nurse Practitioner programme provides a distinctive pathway and structure, framed within the MNS. The recommended pathway has been internationally benchmarked and will provide you with the knowledge and skills of a nurse practitioner. You will need to complete seven core courses and one pre-approved elective.

The elective course must support your development as a nurse practitioner and be agreed on by the programme director. Your academic qualification will be a Master of Nursing Science, which meets the Nursing Council of New Zealand stipulated requirements for nurse practitioners.

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<td>HLTH 531</td>
<td>Nurse Practitioner Practicum</td>
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Health Care programme

Our Health Care programme has been developed for students with backgrounds in health-related disciplines, such as nursing, midwifery, medicine, allied health, health leadership, management, service development, quality assurance and education. Enrolling in this programme will allow you to develop your knowledge and skills in the health services sector.

You will usually need a Bachelor’s degree in a health-related discipline (or equivalent) to qualify for entry into this programme.

Postgraduate Certificate in Health Care

Through a Postgraduate Certificate in Health Care (PGCertHC) you will gain research skills that are relevant to your own workplace environment, as well as learning about the structure and complexities of the health environment, including how policies are set and decisions are made. This information will help you to improve health care outcomes in your chosen field, and is vital if you plan to proceed to a Master of Health Care.

Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care

The Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care (PGDipHC) takes your study to the next level—introducing you to a programme that will increase your knowledge and understanding of the evaluation and implementation of policy and practice innovation, enabling you to critique and apply relevant research in your everyday practice. This knowledge will equip you to become an effective agent of change working in today’s complex health care environments.

Master of Health Care

With the Master of Health Care (MHC) you will gain an advanced and sophisticated knowledge of complex health care systems that will enable you to manage change and improve outcomes in your chosen field. You will acquire research skills that will support you to take innovative approaches to address health service needs and position yourself as a leader in your workplace.
Research degree programme

With a strong team of academics to support you with excellent access to extensive online library resources, you have everything you need for your study—whether it is for a Master of Health Research (MHR), or a PhD. The MHR has specialisations in Nursing or Midwifery.

PhD study

While completing a PhD thesis you may study full time or part time and will be offered expert supervision on a diverse range of methodologies in nursing, midwifery and health care topics. During your PhD study you will be given support to engage in a range of scholarly activities such as presenting your research at twice-yearly research schools, at our seminar series, and at national and international conferences. We actively encourage students to publish during their research journey.

Master of Health Research

We offer a one-year full-time/two-year part-time MHR programme that develops in-depth understanding of research methods and techniques. This programme is available for any health care practitioner looking at developing a career in health research. The MHR will provide you with training for academic research when you undertake independent primary research in an area of interest to you. Health practitioners interested in this course are expected to have had exposure to research-methods training. While undertaking research studies at the GSNMH you will be supported by academic supervisors with expertise in a range of topic areas and research methods. During the programme you will also meet and network with other Master’s and PhD students at our twice-yearly research schools. These are unique opportunities for you to discuss research issues and work in progress with your peers and academic staff—as well as national and international visiting academics. You will also be welcome to attend a mid-year research writing week, where you can further develop your writing skills.

Verity O’Connor

Master of Health Research in Midwifery student

“I am only starting on this journey, but I know the support and advice I get from my supervisor and from all other staff at the GSNMH will hold me steady and encourage me as I navigate my way around becoming a researcher.”

Verity combines part-time study towards her Master of Health Research with a full-time lead maternity carer (LMC) caseload and caring for her four school-aged children. As a midwife for almost 10 years in the community and at Wellington Regional Hospital, Verity says, “The proximity of the School to my workplace has been a bonus.”

After completing her first course in 2009 and going on to complete a PGDipMid, the seed was planted in Verity’s mind that she wanted to go further. “After many in-depth conversations, and ongoing support from the academic staff, I was able to identify my passion of contributing to the midwifery body of knowledge and arming midwives and women with evidence-based research to support the use of water immersion during labour and birth.”

“The first research school was amazing and reassured me that I had made the right choice to embark on a Master’s by thesis.” Verity says the stimulation, enjoyment and inspiration she got from meeting other students and academic staff at her first research school was thrilling. “I feel very excited about embarking on a thesis with so much support in place.”

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Midwifery programmes

In 2013, we introduced a new clinical study pathway for midwives: the Master of Health Care in Midwifery Practice. This degree is a clinically based coursework Master’s degree in Midwifery.

Midwives can follow a clinical pathway (MHC in Midwifery Practice); a broader leadership pathway (MHC), each with exit points at postgraduate certificate and postgraduate diploma levels; or a research route (MHR with a Midwifery specialisation).

Contact us and we will work with you to design the programme best suited to your current needs and future career plans.

Eleanor Martin
Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care in Midwifery Practice student

“Victoria offers the ideal postgraduate education for me. I value the group discussions with diverse students and lecturers as this triggers my creativity, and I thrive on the flexible mode of education and the incidental learning.”

As a registered midwife for 33 years, currently working in an education post, Eleanor has worked consistently in the clinical area. Taking small steps towards postgraduate study over the years, Eleanor enjoys the challenge and says, “I wish I had done it earlier as I have developed and grown both professionally and personally.”

After attending national and international midwifery presentations and envying midwives’ ability to undertake research and lead changes in the profession, Eleanor decided to undertake postgraduate study. Victoria’s strong research reputation made Eleanor confident that by studying here she has chosen the best university to support her in achieving her goals.

Eleanor has found that through postgraduate study she has a deeper understanding and grasp of the complexities of the midwifery profession and can examine her knowledge and experience, and identify areas of practice to explore while being guided by the supportive staff at Victoria.
Tiana Wilson
Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science student

“The nursing profession is constantly evolving and it is a logical step to keep up with the changes through postgraduate education.”

After completing a Bachelor of Nursing Māori, Tiana always knew that she wanted to continue on to postgraduate study to attain her ultimate goal of being a primary health care nurse practitioner.

As a new nurse, Tiana was able to complete the HLTH 540 Special Topic NETP Professional Nursing* course at the GSNMH in 2013 and she is now continuing on to complete a Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science.

Tiana says, “I found the course really resonated with my own personal nursing philosophy. I was challenged to critically reflect on not only my own nursing practice but also the profession of nursing as a whole.” Tiana admires the knowledge, hard work and the ability of the Victoria staff to constantly make her “think outside the square”. In her current job Tiana relishes the opportunity to apply the concepts learned at Victoria in her own practice setting.

*HLTH 540 Special Topic NETP Professional Nursing is now HLTH 550 Entry to Professional Nursing Practice.
Courses and dates 2015

Here is an introduction to the individual courses we offer, along with the details of when you will need to visit us for schools and writing weeks (for Master’s and PhD students undertaking a thesis). Some courses also offer online learning, teleconferencing and tutorials; these dates will be advised by the course coordinator when you enrol. Attendance at the schools is part of your course requirements.

For course pre-requisites, co-requisites and restrictions see the course list on our website www.victoria.ac.nz/professional-programmes or search using the course finder at www.victoria.ac.nz

Note: All courses are run subject to numbers.

HLTH 501 Principles of Research
Focuses on the research process, concepts and designs. The implementation and critique of research in practice underpins this course.

This course will run twice in 2015.

1/3 30 pts
First school Wed 11–Fri 13 March
Second school Mon 4–Wed 6 May

2/3 30 pts
First school Wed 15–Fri 17 July
Second school Wed 16–Fri 18 September

HLTH 502 Applied Pathophysiology
Pathophysiology is explored in relation to clinical practice and emerging evidence. This course provides a foundation for clinical decisions related to interventions, management and expected health outcomes across the lifespan.

This course will run twice in 2015.

1/3 30 pts
First school Mon 9 and Tue 10 March
Second school Mon 20 and Tue 21 April
Third school Mon 25 May

2/3 30 pts
First school Mon 13 and Tue 14 July
Second school Thu 20 and Fri 21 August
Third school Mon 28 September

HLTH 505 Specialist Practice: Critical Care
This course will develop knowledge of specialist practice at an advanced level in the context of international developments in patient care. Innovations in practice and challenges facing specific specialty practice areas are key content areas in this course. Students must be in direct patient contact.

1/3 30 pts
First school Mon 20 and Tue 21 July
Second school Mon 7 and Tue 8 September

HLTH 509 Specialist Practice: Aged Care
This course will challenge nurses and other health care professionals to consider the experiences of older people, from healthy retirement to death, through aspects within their ‘life stories’. Life events will be explored in the context of existing theory and contemporary research. Students must be in direct client contact.

2/3 30 pts
First school Thu 30 and Fri 31 July
Second school Thu 10 and Fri 11 September

HLTH 513 Real World Midwifery: Sustaining Clinical Practice
This course explores the role and the place of the midwife. In particular, it examines the central theme of ‘keeping birth normal’ and analyses this in light of contemporary issues faced in maternity care nationally and internationally.

2/3 30 pts
First school Thu 23 and Fri 24 July
Second school Thu 24 and Fri 25 September

HLTH 514 Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning
This course is designed to develop the skills of systematic history taking, clinical examination and diagnostic reasoning, with a focus on the respiratory, cardiovascular, abdominal, and neurological systems. Students work alongside mentors in their clinical practice to develop these skills. Students must be in direct patient contact.

1/3 30 pts
First school Wed 4–Fri 6 March
Second school Wed 22–Fri 24 April
Third school Mon 8 June

HLTH 516 Health, Illness and Disease
This course focuses on sociological and anthropological literature about the experience of being healthy and being sick, as it relates to institutional recognition of disease.

This course is delivered online (six seminars in total) on the following dates:

1/3 30 pts
Seminar 1 Mon 2 March
Seminar 2 Mon 16 March
Seminar 3 Mon 30 March
Seminar 4 Mon 20 April
Seminar 5 Mon 11 May
Seminar 6 Mon 25 May

8 - Victoria University of Wellington
HLTH 517 Diagnostics and Therapeutics

This course examines the sensitivity, specificity and utility of commonly used diagnostic testing methods (including the FBC, 12-lead ECG and telemetry monitoring, radiological imaging and cardio-pulmonary diagnostics). In addition, course modules will explore the assessments of nutrition, infection and anaemia alongside their associated common therapies. Students must be in direct patient contact.

2/3 30 pts
First school Thu 23 and Fri 24 July
Second school Mon 14 and Tue 15 September

HLTH 518 Clinical Pharmacology

This course examines principles of clinical pharmacology and therapeutics in the context of safe and quality use of medicines.

1/3 30 pts
First school Mon 2 and Tue 3 March
Second school Wed 1 and Thu 2 April
Third school Thu 7 and Fri 8 May

HLTH 519 Research Review

In developing a review relevant to your area of practice this course will examine the practices of scholarly writing and publishing practices to assist students in preparing manuscripts for publication in the appropriate scholarly or professional forum.

1+ 2/3 30 pts
First school Thu 19 and Fri 20 March
Second school Tue 28 and Wed 29 July

HLTH 520 Practice Placement

This course entails an intensive clinical or other workplace experience based on a learning contract developed between students, their mentors and academics at Victoria University of Wellington.

1+2/3 30 pts
First school Wed 18 March
Second school Mon 27 July
Third school Wed 30 September

HLTH 521 Research Methods

This course will focus on modes and methods of scholarly inquiry in health research. The development of skills in formulating questions, research design, research interviewing, questionnaire design and analysis will be included. The course provides a platform for the completion of a research project.

1/3 30 pts
First school Wed 11–Fri 13 March
Second school Tue 19 and Wed 20 May

Andrews Druye
PhD in Nursing student

“The high level of analytical ability and capacity for rigorous research in my PhD will enable me to contribute meaningfully to bettering the lives of people with sickle cell disease within the health sector in Ghana and the international scientific community. My research will be focused on self-management strategies for sickle cell disease.”

A registered nurse and public health specialist from Ghana, West Africa, Andrews has over 10 years’ experience in clinical and public health practices. Before coming to New Zealand to pursue his PhD at Victoria University, Andrews worked as a university lecturer in Nursing at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana.

Andrews says, “The reputation that Victoria University has with international students and the support offered will not only help me achieve a PhD but also make a difference to Ghana.” Andrews has felt supported and welcomed since his arrival and has enjoyed meeting and connecting with other international PhD students.
HLTH 522 Health Systems, Policy and Practice
This course explores health care policy and service delivery in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally. The structural, political, professional and ethical dimensions of health service delivery are examined.

2/3 30 pts
First school Mon 20–Wed 22 July
Second school Mon 21–Wed 23 September

HLTH 524 Leadership in Health Care
This course explores current theories of leadership in relation to today’s complex and dynamic health care environment. Topical issues in health care are used as cases for critique and discussion. Leadership qualities and efficient working relationships in the health care setting are addressed.

2/3 30 pts
School Mon 27–Thu 30 July

HLTH 525 Diversity in Health Care
This course explores health from a cultural, ethnic and population perspective. Differences in health and illness patterns amongst groups are examined. The potential development of more appropriate services to address diversity is assessed.

3/3 30 pts
School Mon 23–Thu 26 November

HLTH 528 Evaluating Practice
This course focuses on the evaluation of practice at an individual, service and systems level. A programme approach is taken to evaluate practice and to design, implement and report a formal evaluation. Considerations in working with stakeholders are included. Key skills such as audit and focus groups are practised.

1/3 30 pts
First school Wed 11–Fri 13 March
Second school Tue 19 and Wed 20 May

HLTH 521 Nurse Practitioner Practicum
This course provides an opportunity for Nurse Practitioner students to synthesise and apply all previous Master’s course learning.

Note: Students must have identified suitable mentor/s before commencing this course.

1+2/3 30 pts
First school Fri 20 March
Second school Fri 22 May
Third school Fri 31 July
Fourth school Fri 2 October

HLTH 532 Midwifery Assessment and Clinical Reasoning
This clinically oriented course develops in-depth midwifery knowledge and skills across the full scope of midwifery practice, wherever midwives work. Skills of systematic history-taking, clinical examination and diagnostic reasoning are enhanced and developed. Clinical contact with childbearing women is required.

1/3 30 pts
First school Wed 4–Fri 6 March
Second school Wed 22–Fri 24 April

HLTH 533 Midwifery Practicum in Complex Care
This course entails an intensive clinical experience in secondary/tertiary hospitals and maternity units in New Zealand, based on a learning contract developed between students, their preceptors and academics at Victoria University of Wellington. Current practice issues in complex maternity care are explored, with students reflecting on actual events from clinical practice.

1+2/3 30 pts
First school Tue 3 March
Second school Tue 21 April
Fourth school Fri 11 September

HLTH 550 Entry to Professional Nursing Practice
This blended learning, practice- and research-oriented course facilitates the integration of newly graduated nurses into the nursing profession. The course explores how newly graduated nurses become professionally self-confident; how they respond to, and meet the needs of, patients, family, whanau and communities; and how they navigate workplace practices.

Full year 30 pts
School dates To be advised

Note: this course runs outside the standard university trimesters.

HLTH 594 Thesis for Master of Nursing Science (90 pts)
A research project is undertaken. Emphasis is placed on the practice of research and theory development in relation to nursing practice and/or health outcomes. The thesis report demonstrates generation and synthesis of knowledge and makes a contribution to nursing knowledge.

First school Tue 28 April–Fri 1 May
Second school Mon 3–Wed 5 August
Research writing week Tue 2–Fri 5 June

HLTH 596 Thesis for Master of Health Care (90 pts)
A research project is undertaken. Emphasis is placed on the practice of research and theory development in relation to nursing practice and/or health outcomes. The thesis report demonstrates generation and synthesis of knowledge and makes a contribution to nursing knowledge.

First school Tue 28 April–Fri 1 May
Second school Mon 3–Wed 5 August
Research writing week Tue 2–Fri 5 June
Research school dates 2015

HLTH 591 Master of Health Research—Thesis (MHR)
HLTH 592 Master of Health Research—Thesis in Nursing
HLTH 593 Master of Health Research—Thesis in Midwifery
HLTH 594 Thesis for Master of Nursing Science
HLTH 596 Thesis for Master of Health Care

First school  Tue 28 April–Fri 1 May
Second school  Mon 3–Wed 5 August
Research writing week  Tue 2–Fri 5 June

NURS 690 Nursing for PhD
MIDW 690 Midwifery for PhD
HEAL 690 Health for PhD

First school  Tue 28 April–Fri 1 May
Second school  Wed 5–Fri 7 August
Research writing week  Tue 2–Fri 5 June

Angelo Briones
Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science student

“I envisage leading the transition towards a holistic, functional health care systems model with a preventative focus.”

Angelo trained in the Philippines and has a background in nursing management. He is currently working as a registered nurse on the acute medical ward at Hutt Valley District Health Board. Angelo says studying at Victoria University “has elevated my whole mindset. It has made me aware of the way I think and has inspired me to learn more.” Angelo says the support and advice offered by the lecturers, and the support of other students and mentors has been invaluable to help him towards completing the Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science and is a fantastic step on the journey towards becoming a nurse practitioner.
More information

This booklet offers just a glimpse into the study opportunities offered by the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health. If you are interested in finding out more, contact us:

Phone 04-463 6647 or 0800 108 005
Email nmh@vuw.ac.nz
Website www.victoria.ac.nz/nmh

Programmes offered in 2015

PGCertHC Postgraduate Certificate in Health Care
PGDipHC Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care
MHC Master of Health Care

The above qualifications are also offered with a specialisation in Midwifery Practice.

PGCertNS Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Science
PGDipNS Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science
MNS Master of Nursing Science
MHR Master of Health Research
(offered in Nursing, Midwifery or Health)

PhD Doctor of Philosophy
(offered in Nursing, Midwifery or Health)

How to apply

Enrol online at www.victoria.ac.nz

Enrolment dates for 2015
1 October 2014—enrolment opens for 2015
10 January 2015—enrolment application deadline
10 February 2015—late enrolment application deadline

Choose your pathway

Important notice: Victoria University uses all reasonable skill and care to ensure the information contained in this document is accurate at the time of being made available. However, matters covered by this document are subject to change due to a continuous process of review, and to unanticipated circumstances. The University therefore reserves the right to make changes without notice. So far as the law permits, the University accepts no responsibility for any loss suffered by any person due to reliance (either whole or in part) on the information contained in this document, whether direct or indirect, and whether foreseeable or not.
KNOW WHAT YOU STAND FOR.
KNOW WHERE YOUR PASSIONS LIE.
KNOW YOUR NEXT MOVE.

KNOW YOUR MIND