
Palliative Care Certificate Program

THE PROGRAM

Palliative and end-of-life care is a growing area of health care. Intended for regulated health care professionals this program will use the norms and guidelines for palliative care, the 'square of care', as the basis for discussion. Students will be encouraged to reflect on their own values and beliefs and the various issues that surround palliative and end-of-life care.

To receive the Certificate, you must successfully complete six required courses and the field placement. To register for field placement, you require permission from the Program Manager, medical clearance and between October and April a mandatory flu shot.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

To obtain the Certificate, participants must successfully complete 6 mandatory courses plus one 30 hour or field placement.

HSCIHA69 Introduction to Palliative Care

Examine the principles of care and support for the terminally ill and their families.

Theory - 30 hours

COMM 10084 Communication and Informed Decision Making

This course reaches beyond simply teaching techniques to assist the health care professional in understanding the complexities and dynamics of the care setting at the end of life. The unique patient-care provider relationship and the family-care provider partnership call for enhanced interpersonal and counseling skills. Communication is essential in facilitating informed decision making and critical to empowering or enabling patient, family and loved ones to exercise a measure of control over a situation that often seems out of control. **Theory - 30 hours**

HMNS 10016 Loss, Grief and End of Life Issues

The concepts of loss, grief and bereavement will be discussed as end of life planning is examined. Ethical and legal issues and considerations include advance directives, teaching and support of the family, spiritual and cultural influences. Dying and death management are also discussed.

Theory - 30 hours

HMNS 10017 Professional Issues and Advocacy

Interdisciplinary and collaborative practice between the palliative care team and the family is the focus. Discussion of ethical issues and ethical decision making, as well as legal issues, will continue in this course. Advocacy for the rights of the person with advanced illness and their family will be discussed. Professional development, research and education for the palliative care professional will be examined.

Theory - 30 hours

HSCI 10082 Pain Management

The Square of Care, as outlined in *A model to guide hospice palliative care* (2002) identifies pain as a major physical issue faced by the palliative patient and family. Regulated health care professionals, such as nurses, need to understand the concept of total pain, the physiology of pain, the assessment of pain and how to manage the pain. The focus during discussion will be that of interdisciplinary collaboration, communication and education.

Theory - 30 hours

HSCI 10083 Symptom Management

Managing the multitude of symptoms experienced by the palliative patient can be overwhelming for care providers. Assessment of symptoms by body systems, with appropriate and flexible care plan development, will be a large focus of this course. Communication, education and collaboration are threads integrated into discussion.

Theory - 30 hours

CLIN 10033 Field Practicum

This practicum provides students with the opportunity to apply theory to practice in a hospice palliative care setting. Each placement is based on the identified learning needs of the individual student.

Theory - 30 hours

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

The College recognizes that many adult students bring work or other life experiences to their studies that is comparable to what is taught in the classroom.

The Prior Learning Assessment process allows eligible students to obtain academic credit for prior learning that matches the outcomes of college courses.

In order to qualify, students must be able to demonstrate that their learning is at the college-level and contains the appropriate balance of theory and practice. The fee and method of assessment is determined on a per course basis. For more information on prior learning assessment procedure, the Program Manager or call the PLA Office refer to the Continuing Education Calendar, at (905) 575-2395 or (519) 759-7200 ext. 2395.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

You must be a regulated health professional (e.g. RN, RRN, OT/PT, Social Worker, Dietician, Physician)

For further information, please contact:

Program Secretary

Telephone: (905) 540-4247, ext. 26258

Fax: (905) 528-7706

Website: www.mohawkcollege.ca

Mohawk College reserves the right to limit, cancel, or adjust admission requirements, programs, campus locations, courses or classes without notice, should circumstances so require.

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Continuing Education Health Sciences

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