



香港學術及職業資歷評審局
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT

CARITAS INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

PROGRAMME VALIDATION

BACHELOR OF NURSING (HONOURS)

APRIL 2014

This accreditation report is issued by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) in its capacity as the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) (AAVQO). This report outlines the HKCAAVQ's determination, the validity period of the determination as well as any conditions or restrictions on the determination.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Formerly known as Caritas Francis Hsu College, the Institute commenced operation in 1985 and was approved to provide post-secondary education in 1990. The Institute underwent two Institutional Reviews by the-then HKCAA in 2001 and the HKCAAVQ in 2010 respectively, and subsequently developed into a post-secondary college registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap 320) with degree-conferring status. Since then, the Institute has offered self-financed degree programmes in the disciplines of Business Administration, Arts and Social Sciences.
- 1.2 The HKCAAVQ was commissioned by the Institute to conduct a programme validation for the proposed Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) Programme hosted by the Department of Health Sciences (the Department).
- 1.3 Based on the Service Agreement, the HKCAAVQ was commissioned by the Institute to conduct a programme validation exercise with the following Terms of Reference:
 - (a) To determine whether the Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) Programme offered by the Institute meets the stated objectives and Qualifications Framework (QF) standard and can be offered as an accredited programme from the 2014/15 academic year; and
 - (b) To submit to the Institute an accreditation report setting out the HKCAAVQ's determination in relation to (a) above.
- 1.4 An on-site visit took place on 19-20 February 2014.

2. HKCAAVQ's Accreditation Determination

Having due consideration of the accreditation panel's observations and comments as presented in this Report, the HKCAAVQ makes the following accreditation determination:

2.1 Programme Validation

Approval

Name of Operator	Caritas Institute of Higher Education 明愛專上學院
Name of Award Granting Body	Caritas Institute of Higher Education 明愛專上學院
Title of Learning Programme	Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) 護理學榮譽學士
Title of Qualification (Exit Award)	Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) 護理學榮譽學士
Primary Area of Study / Training	Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
Other Area of Study / Training	Nil
QF Level	Level 5
QF Credit	Not applicable
Mode of Delivery and Programme Length	Full-time, 5 years
Start date of Validity Period	1 September 2014
End date of Validity Period	31 August 2020
Number of Enrolments	One enrolment per year
Maximum Number of New Students	Year 1 Entry – 120 per year
Specification of Competency Standards Based Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Address of Teaching Venue	18 Chui Ling Road, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories

2.1.1 Recommendations

- (a) The Institute should introduce more topics on social and psychological sciences to the Year 3 and Year 4 curriculum.
- (b) The Institute should arrange continuous professional education on community health nursing and primary health care for teaching staff.
- (c) The Institute should develop guidelines on implementing specific credit transfer before student admission commences.
- (d) The Institute should provide a preparatory science course for the students concerned who have not undertaken a science subject in HKDSE.
- (e) The Institute should refine the procedures and criteria for selection, with a view to enhancing the reliability of group admission interviews.
- (f) The Institute should develop plans for enhancing the integration of academic delivery and clinical practicum.
- (g) The Institute should provide clear assessment guidelines to demonstrate how the “total patient care” assessment can assess students’ “professional nursing competencies” as partial fulfilment of the Nursing Council of Hong Kong’s eligibility requirements for Nurse Registration.
- (h) The Institute should exclude assessment results of the “Clinical Practicum” from the calculation of overall Grade Point Average.
- (i) The Institute should devise procedures which are specific to appeals made against clinical assessments.
- (j) The Institute should clearly differentiate the information between its sub-degree and bachelor degree programmes.
- (k) The Institute should develop performance indicators of professional development and incorporate them into the annual staff appraisal.
- (l) The Institute should extend the role of the Centre for Excellence to include the provision of pedagogical training for clinical teaching staff.

- (m) The Institute should develop further quality assurance measures for clinical practicum at both department and institute levels.
- (n) The Institute should set up an ethics committee at the institute level.
- (o) The Institute should closely monitor the adequacy of the biology-chemistry laboratory and implement the contingency plan as soon as any inadequacy is identified.
- (p) The Institute should revise the student personal record form to require only relevant information.

3. Programme Details

The following programme information is provided by the operator.

3.1 Programme Objectives

- Develop students' abilities to demonstrate their mastery of the fundamental knowledge and skills required for the delivery of holistic care in various levels and settings;
- Cultivate students' critical and creative thinking as well as their abilities to integrate theory and practice for promoting evidence-based practice and research;
- Enhance students' communication and interpersonal skills to facilitate them in their collaboration with other professionals and their patients, and in their promotion of the nursing profession and health awareness in the community; and
- Provide students with different learning opportunities to facilitate their development into professionals who care for their patients and serve others in an ethical, safe and effective manner.

3.2 Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate sound contemporary knowledge in biological, social and psychological sciences to facilitate the provision of nursing care;
- Implement safe and effective nursing care;
- Formulate care plans to promote and enhance individual and community health and well-being;

- Assess clients' health conditions to determine appropriate holistic care;
- Integrate knowledge from evidence-based / academic research to improve nursing practice;
- Demonstrate managerial and leadership skills in the provision of quality patient care;
- Uphold the ethical standards of care whilst advocating the professionalism of a nurse;
- Use information technology as a supporting tool in the daily work environment;
- Communicate and collaborate effectively with clients and other professionals in formal and informal settings; and
- Possess attributes to facilitate lifelong personal and professional development.

3.3 Programme Structure

- The Programme is made up of seven components. The table below shows the distribution of credits and contact hours across the seven components.

	<i>Number of Courses</i>	<i>Number of Credits (%)</i>	<i>Number of Contact hours</i>
Behavioural and Social Sciences	2	6 (3.64%)	90
Basic Sciences	5	15 (9.09%)	225
General Education	6	15 (9.09%)	225
Language and Communication	6	18 (10.91%)	270
Professional Development	6	21 (12.73%)	315
Nursing Study	20	60 (36.36%)	900
Clinical Practice	4	30 (18.18%)	1480
Total	49	165 (100%)	3505

3.4 Graduation Requirements

- In each academic year, students are required to complete 33 credits while the number of contact hours, relating primarily to “*Clinical Practicum*”, increases progressively along the five years of studies. The total number of contact hours is 3,505.
- The courses are allocated 3 credits each, except (a) “*Integrated Seminar and Community Involvement*” which is non-credit bearing; (b) “*Honours Project*” which is allocated 6 credits; and (c) “*Clinical Practicum II, III and IV*” which are allocated 6, 9 and 12 credits respectively. Students are required to undertake two 3-credit elective courses.

- Students are required to complete 49 courses amounting to 165 credits for graduation.

3.5 Admission Requirements

- The minimum admission requirements of the Programme are summarised as follows:

HKDSE Entry	HKALE (and HKCEE) Entry	Equivalent Qualification
Level 3 in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese Language • English Language Level 2 in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics • Liberal Studies • 1 Elective Subject from Category A preferably Biology and Combined Science with Biology 	<u>HKALE</u> Grade E in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS Chinese Language & Culture • AS Use of English, and • 1 AL or 2 AS subjects And <u>HKCEE</u> Grade D or Level 3 in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese Language • English Language (Syllabus B) or Grade B in English Language (Syllabus A); and Grade E or Level 2 in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 of the following subjects: - Biology - Human Biology - Chemistry - Mathematics - Physics 	Qualification that meets the minimum education standard stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong

- The Institute is required to formally inform the applicants that the completion of the accredited Programme does not automatically lead to the award of the practicing certificate issued by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong, which has its own registration requirements.

4. Substantial Change

- 4.1 Maintenance of the HKCAAVQ accreditation status during the validity period is subject to no substantial change being made without prior approval from the HKCAAVQ.

5. Qualifications Register

- 5.1 Qualifications accredited by the HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the Qualifications Register (QR) at <http://www.hkqr.gov.hk> for recognition under the Qualifications Framework (QF). The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.
- 5.2 Only learners who are admitted to the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification uploaded in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

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