Greetings from the Dean of the Graduate School of Nursing

In Japan, the birthrate is extremely low and the population is aging rapidly. The conventional structure of diseases has changed, and measures are urgently needed to address chronic diseases, prevent illnesses, and prolong a healthy lifespan. Moreover, countermeasures and preparations against various calamities—including natural disasters and pandemics—have become increasingly important. Considering these changes, people's needs for nursing have become complex and diversified. Thus, there is a strong societal demand for training highly qualified nursing professionals who can adequately respond to these needs.

Kobe Women's University established its Faculty of Nursing in 2015 and introduced the Master's and Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Nursing in 2019. At our university, both undergraduate and graduate students receive education for cultivating self-reliance, communicative ability, and creativity. They are trained to understand patients' feelings and nursing needs through dialogues etc., think creatively on their own, and become responsible and independent nursing professionals with wide perspectives. In graduate education, we aim to train advanced practice nurses, researchers, and educators who are capable of creating care systems and high-value nursing services that are compatible with new health challenges and changing lifestyles, including the use of information-communication technology and social media.

Our university has also incorporated the "day and evening education" system, allowing working adults who are employed in the fields of healthcare, medical care, and welfare to attend classes. Let us combine nursing practice with nursing theory, learn together, explore nursing, and create new values.

Sincerely,
Tamaki Atsuko, 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 "specialist nurse courses" to train advanced nursing specialists as well as "research courses" to train educators and researchers in specialized fields as well as personnel who can act as a bridge between practice and research. The specialist nurse courses include areas of gerontological nursing, chronic care nursing, and child health nursing as advanced practice nursing fields. The research courses include areas of nursing care and education, nursing information, gerontological nursing, and community health nursing as community care system fields; areas of nursing practice design and management, adult nursing, and psychiatric mental health nursing as medical nursing fields; and areas of child health nursing and maternal health nursing as developmental nursing fields.

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.

Master's program

Course, fields, and major areas

Ⅰ. Research Courses

Community Care System Fields

Nursing Care and Education

The field of nursing care and education focuses on the development and fostering of nursing professionals. Educational principles, learning theories, and various theories regarding nursing education are studied. In addition, an educational method to improve practical nursing education competency in nursing professionals associated with nursing basic education and nursing continuing education is investigated. Efforts necessary to improve the quality of nursing care and educational environment for nursing teams are evaluated via literature survey on educational methods and educational practices that were recently developed.

Nursing Informatics

Today, as Japan promotes the application of information and communications technology (ICT) in health, medical, and care-giving fields, there is a need for a specialist nursing position to handle nursing information and for this specialist to perform the of a leader in the area of medical and nursing information. Therefore, students will deepen their understanding of useful information management methods to improve the quality of nursing care, the application of information systems in nursing care, and interdisciplinary cooperation and telenursing using ICT. They will also explore evidence-based practices suited to patients.

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 the field of community health nursing, students will deepen their understanding of important theories, concepts, and history of this field based on the fundamental principles of community health nursing to provide nursing care to support the daily lives of individuals living in communities. In addition, students will explore the Plan–Do–Check process for finalizing community health policies, useful models for community-based nursing activities, and diagnostic techniques. Furthermore, students will discuss methods to develop effective community-based nursing activities using data on community-based nursing, healthcare, and public health to cultivate advanced practical and analytical skills.

Medical Nursing

Nursing Practice Design and Management

In the field of nursing practice design and management, students will deepen their understanding of the management and coordination required in the development and cultivation of practice to develop effective healthcare, medical care, and nursing care. Students will also explore management strategies to provide effective and appropriate nursing services.

Adult Nursing Care

Students will explore strategies to provide support for adults who conduct important social and family roles and who led their normal lives while undergoing treatment for illness. Such support will help individuals live their life in their own ways while experiencing illness and undergoing treatment and help them find a way to manage disease and treatment as well as recover from illness and prevent exacerbation. Students will cultivate the ability to explore nursing care that is characteristic to the illness and treatment phase in patients such as those with chronic illness living with medical treatment, patients in the acute phase of disease including perioperative phase, and patients in the rehabilitation phase after recovery. Students will also explore nursing care for the treatment of patients as well as their life with medical treatment from a long-term perspective.

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.

Developmental Nursing Fields

Child Health Nursing

In the field of child health nursing, theories with regard to the development of children and their environment are deeply understood. In addition, challenges with child nursing in healthcare, welfare, and education that suit the needs of the society are explored in this field. Moreover, ethical attitude toward studies on children is fostered, and nursing care for children and their families that contributes to child nursing practice is examined.

Maternal Health Nursing

In the field of maternal health nursing, students will focus on the health problems that arise in each stage of women's lives and learn about nursing practices that contribute to the health of women throughout their lives from the perspective of reproductive health rights. Regarding supporting women and their families while giving birth and raising the next generation in particular, students will explore midwifery support for

better delivery and nursing support based on the current social background and ethical issues, such as effective implementation of childcare support from pregnancy.

Ⅱ. **Certified Nurse Specialist** (Certified Nurse Specialists [CNS], Certified Nursing 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.

Advanced Practice Nursing Fields

Gerontological nursing

As the number of the elderly and average life expectancy increase, advanced practical nursing skills for acute and chronic stages for disease prevention to the end-of-life care for the elderly are fostered. Various theories about the elderly deepen the nurses' insight regarding the experience of aging. The impact of illnesses and declining cognitive function in the elderly on daily life and support for the family and society are also learned while respecting their humanity as community-based integrated care systems. Pioneering educators for certified nurse specialists for elderly care support increases practical care for the elderly via lectures, exercises, and nursing practices.

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.

Ⅰ.Research course

Community Care System Fields

Nursing Care and Education

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

① Research on effective educational methods in nursing skills education.

② Research on the current situation and structure of teamwork between nurses and assistant nurses.

③ Research on mentoring competency for clinical/practicum instructors and nursing educators.

Nursing Informatics

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

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

SASATANI MAYUMI   m-sasatani@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

① Research on the development of educational programs for nursing positions in facilities for the elderly

② Construction of a nursing care-giving cooperation model for care at facilities for the elderly

③ Research regarding nursing care for elderly with dementia and their families

Community Health Nursing

KATOU KENJI   k-katou@suma.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

③ Data science research applying mathematical statistics methods to data on community and public health

SYOUJI HIROKO   h-syouji@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

① Research on nurses' formation of occupational identity

② Research on public health nurse personnel training

KOSAKA MOTOKO   m-kosaka@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

① Research on childcare support

② Research on support for children receiving medical care while living at home and for their families

③ Research on community care systems to support individuals with various health problems

Medical Nursing

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 duty management using computer simulations

② Research on the evaluation of nursing services

③ Research on disaster mitigation measures in hospitals

Adult Nursing

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

① Research on perioperative nursing

② Research on critical care

③ Research on health crisis management for individuals

FUJIWARA YOSHIKO   y-fujiwara@yg.kobe-wu.ac.jp

① Research on the experiences of patients with chronic illness

② Research on symptom management and treatment support for chronic illness

③ Research on medical treatment methods and intervention for medical treatment life

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

Developmental Nursing Fields

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

Maternal Health Nursing

HATTORI RITSUKO   r-hattori@suma.kobe-wu.ac.jp

① Research on nursing practices for health problems of women in each stage of life

② Research on improving the quality of nursing practices from pregnancy to childcare

③ Research on the development of nursing methods for high-risk pregnant women and their families

Ⅱ.Certified Nursing Specialist Courses

Advanced Practice Nursing Fields

Gerontological nursing

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

① Advanced practical nursing for the elderly and their families considering recovery/maintenance to the end-of-life care for acute and chronic treatment and convalescence.

② Advanced practical nursing for declining cognitive functions among the elderly.

③ Frailty prevention and community building for the elderly living in a regional community.

Chronic Care Nursing

FUJIWARA YOSHIKO　y-fujiwara@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. Nursing care and education, nursing information, gerontological advanced practice nursing, and community health nursing are included under community care system fields; nursing policy and management and psychiatric mental health nursing are included under medical nursing fields; and child health nursing and maternal health nursing are included under developmental nursing fields.

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.

Doctoral program

Fields and major areas

Community Care System Fields

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. Students will also explore strategies for developing practical models and educational programs. Students will acquire the research skills to be able to solve problems based on their interests in nursing education and nursing practice and develop the ability to be able to contribute to the cultivation of those who practice in educational and clinical settings to improve the quality of care.

Nursing Informatics

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.

Community Health Nursing

By aiming to elucidate the mechanisms underlying health-related phenomena that occur in communities, as well as factors that affect such phenomena, and exploring strategies such as systemization and policy creation to prevent and control health issues in groups, promote the health of community-dwelling residents, empower leaders in community health, develop social resources and capital related to health, and implement community healthcare, we will train nursing specialists and excellent nursing researchers who can serve as leaders who will contribute to local society.

Medical Nursing

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.

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.

Developmental Nursing Fields

Child Health Nursing

Students will deepen their knowledge of the theories required for child health nursing based on the social environment surrounding children and explore issues in child health nursing. In particular, students will explore the development of support methods suited to the developmental stage of children with chronic illness, family support of children who receive treatment at home, and issues involving multidisciplinary cooperation. Human resources will be trained to implement, research, and teach child health nursing.

Maternal Health Nursing

In the field of maternal health nursing, students will undertake research on improving the quality of nursing practices to solve female health problems that arise throughout life based on the concept of reproductive health rights. In particular, students will elucidate the roles that nurses carry out in society to realize continuous support from pregnancy to child-rearing and explore the development of nursing methods to promote the health and welfare of mothers, their children, and their families

Community Care System Fields

Nursing Care and Education

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

① Research on developing mentoring competency improvement programs for clinical/practicum instructors and educators of new nurses.

② Research on building a system through improved cooperation between nurses and assistant nurses.

③ Research on developing educational methods for improving nursing practical competency in nursing basic education.

Nursing Informatics

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

Gerontological Advanced Practice Nursing

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

① Research on the development of advanced practice nursing for elderly and the family members of elderly

② Research on preventive support for elderly in local communities

③ Research on gerontological nursing policies for the end-of-life of elderly

Community Health Nursing

KATOU KENJI   k-katou@suma.kobe-wu.ac.jp

① Nursing epidemiological research to elucidate the mechanisms underlying health-related phenomena that occur in community groups and factors that affect such phenomena

② Research on local communities to contribute such as to the development of preventive, controlling, and empowering social resources for health issues in populations.

③ Data science research applying data to implement community healthcare and to create local systems

Medical Nursing

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

Developmental Nursing Fields

Child Health Nursing

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

① Research on self-care in children with chronic illness

② Research on the support for the family of children who require medical treatment at home

③ Research on support systems in communities for children who require medical care

Maternal Health Nursing

HATTORI RITSUKO   r-hattori@suma.kobe-wu.ac.jp

① Research on improving the quality of nursing practices from pregnancy through to child-rearing

② Research on community-based childcare support methods implemented by midwives

③ Research on the development of a nursing support system based on multidisciplinary cooperation and collaboration for high-risk pregnant women and their families