

# NURS 3007 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 401196

**Coordinator** Peter Lewis ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Peter Lewis/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Peter%20Lewis/))

**Description** In Spring 2023, this subject replaced by NURS 5004 - Contemporary Issues in Child and Adolescent Health. This subject begins with a brief examination of socio-cultural theories of childhood and adolescence as a background for the critical analysis of current debates about the health and wellbeing of children and adolescents. Case studies will be used to explore contestable topics in child and youth health from an interdisciplinary perspective. The subject will address issues of child protection and parental responsibility in the mainstream community, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and refugee health care settings. Knowledge gained in this subject will assist beginning practitioners in a variety of disciplines to take informed positions on topics relevant to child and adolescent health.

**School** Nursing & Midwifery

**Discipline** Nursing

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 1 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 3 subject

**Restrictions**

Successful completion of 80 credit points.

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Discuss current socio-cultural meanings of childhood and adolescence.
2. Discuss the influence of context and culture on child and adolescent health.
3. Discuss and critically analyse why some public health initiatives are contestable.
4. Formulate and justify a personal position on current contestable topics in child and adolescent health.
5. Critically reflect on ethico-legal implications of public health policy as applied to children and adolescents.
6. Critically discuss how interagency collaboration is necessary for the effective promotion of child and adolescent health.

## Subject Content

Module 1 - Models of Child and Adolescent Development

1. Introduction to basic conceptualisations of childhood and adolescence

- Continuous Vs Discontinuous development
- Tabula Rasa Vs Noble Savage
- nature Vs nurture

2. Biopsychosocial Models of child and adolescent development

- physical growth

- cognitive and psychological growth
3. Models of Social and Moral Development
- Vygotsky's Sociocultural theory
  - Bronfenbrenner's ecological systems theory
  - Kohlberg's theory of moral development
4. Socio-cultural contextualisation of childhood and adolescence
- historical and evolving definitions of childhood and Adolescence
  - childhood and adolescence in different socio-cultural contexts; modern Western democracy, Islamic states, majority world
  - how variations shape The approach to Caring for children and adolescents
- Module 2 - Public Health from the Global to the Local
5. Principles of public health policy and their application to children and adolescents
- historical development of public health
  - The purpose of public health policy
  - major achievements of public health
  - critiques of public health
  - some useful public health frameworks for thinking about child and adolescent health
- Module 3 - Caring for marginalised children and adolescents
6. Social Justice
- mandatory Detention and its impact on The family unit
  - Caring for The health of children and adolescents during and after their Detention
  - Caring for The Australian Born offspring of Adult detainees
7. Equity of Access
- child and adolescent health in rural and Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations
  - child and adolescent health in Urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations
  - intervention in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and its impact on child and adolescent health
8. Intra session Break
9. Protecting Children and Adolescents in Institutional Care
- The Royal Commission into institutional responses to child sexual Abuse
- Module 4 - Balancing public good with personal choice
10. What to do with those who disagree with the "experts"
- The qualified success of population

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Mandatory Group Task
Asynchronous discussion board participation throughout semester (A minimum total of 4 posts throughout semester)	100 – 300 words per module	15	N	Individual
Critical reflection	1,500 words	50	N	Individual

Abstract 300 words 35 N Individual  
and online and 10  
presentation minutes