What is interprofessional education?
Interprofessional education is defined by the World Health Organisation as occurring “when students from two or more professions learn about, from and with each other to improve health outcomes”.

Why does the Faculty have a strong focus on interprofessional education?
Many recent reviews of the health care system in Australia (Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing [2011], Garling [2008], Government of Western Australia [2009]) point to the need for new models of health care. These reports closely align with those of the World Health Organization (2008, 2010), which state that both an integrated and interprofessional service is required if we are to meet the challenges of health care into the future. In response, interprofessional education (IPE), interprofessional learning (IPL) and interprofessional practice (IPP) have emerged in recent years. To be competitive in the employment market, future health graduates need to demonstrate an understanding of both the theory and application of interprofessional practice:

“Interprofessional practice (IPP) capabilities have been identified as essential for delivering health services that are safer, more effective, more patient centred and more sustainable. They are the building blocks of effective team-based practice and assist health professionals to make the best use of their professional knowledge and skills in a team environment and to understand and work with other health professionals to deliver better care. Accordingly, the graduation of health professional students who have well developed IPP and interprofessional learning (IPL) capabilities is now identified as an urgent national workforce development task to be addressed by the higher education sector.”

(Interprofessional Health Education: The way forward, 2009, p7)

What happens in an IPE Workshop?
An IPE Workshop requires students to work in interprofessional groups through a case-based learning scenario. The expectation is that you will spend approximately 2.5 hours per week on each module for workshops running over 3 weeks. Online activities involve reading articles and other online material related to the case study, watching videos etc. then completing all required discussion board and other activities. This can sometimes mean 8-10 short but meaningful discussion board entries per week. Workshop facilitators will direct your groups’ discussions as required, and monitor and record your contribution to the workshop. As the modules require group work, it is important to remember that all group members’ contributions are valuable and that nonparticipation in workshop activities can significantly impact upon the learning of others.

How do I know what IPE Workshops are available this semester?
Please refer to Workshops on Offer which provides details of each IPE Workshop and the dates that they will be run.

What is the format of an IPE workshop?
Workshops are either ‘fully online’ or ‘blended’. Blended workshops have both an online component and a face to face session. The majority of workshops are run over a period of 3 weeks, with the exception of the Working in Partnership with Indigenous Australians to Achieve Better Health Outcomes Workshop, which consists of an online component over one week and a half day face to face session.

Which workshop do I choose?
Your Unit Coordinator will advise whether you need to register in a specific workshop or if you can choose any of the workshops that are available. You must choose an IPE Workshop that you are able to fully commit to i.e. complete all of the online activities. For many senior students this will involve evenings and weekends. Remember though, an IPE Workshop runs only for a total of approximately 7.5 hours over a 3 week period. When selecting your workshop, you also need to make sure that you can attend the compulsory face to face session. If you are on clinical placement within the metropolitan area you will need to either select a workshop that has a face to face session that does NOT clash with your placement hours, or contact your supervisor well before this session to inform them that you have a
university commitment that day. To reduce the impost on your placement, most face to face session are run late in the day, usually 5.00-7.00pm.

What do I do if I need to change workshops?
It is your responsibility to notify the IPE Workshop Coordinator via HlthSci-IPE@curtin.edu.au as soon as possible if you need to change workshops. You will then be placed in a workshop that has spaces available.

How do I register?
You need to login to the IPE workshop students booking form via the Health Sciences Interprofessional Education>Education page or http://healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/studying-health-sciences/interprofessional-education/education/

Please ensure that all your details are correct when completing the registration form.

When I register, why am I being asked to choose more than one workshop?
You are asked to choose your first three preferences of the workshops that you can and are able to attend. This is due to the fact that occasionally, low registration numbers mean that a workshop is not viable to be delivered and it will be cancelled – so we need to know what other workshop you can attend.

Please note - If you are instructed by your Unit Coordinator that you are to register in a specific workshop, you will still need to enter a second and third preference. Please be assured though that you will be allocated to your first preference in this situation.

How do I know if my registration is successful?
When you submit your registration, a message on your screen will indicate that your workshop registration has been successful.

Workshop CONFIRMATION: When will I know what workshop I have been allocated to?
Every effort will be made to place you into your first workshop of choice. You will be notified of your allocated workshop along with additional information via your Curtin email no earlier than 2 weeks after all registrations have closed. Please be aware that this notification may take up to 3 weeks (for later workshops) as we endeavour to ensure that students are allocated evenly into IPE groups of an equal number of participants and a diverse range of disciplines. Students allocated to earlier scheduled workshops will be notified first.

When and where do I find the workshop material?
The workshop material is only made available on the date that the workshop commences. The workshop material is found in Oasis via Blackboard as a NEW, separate unit under the title of the workshop that you have been enrolled in. The new unit will not appear on your Blackboard until the opening date of your workshop.

What are the assessment requirements for the workshops?
Workshops are graded pass/fail only, based on each student’s contribution to the online and face to face activities. This information is collated by the IPE Workshop Coordinator and then fed back to your Unit Coordinator. Assessment requirements for the IPE workshops are specific to and differ for each discipline. You will need to refer to your Unit Outline and or Unit Coordinator for your unit requirements. Any associated assessment tasks such as reflections or other written tasks are submitted and graded via your own discipline specific unit.

References


