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# **The Good Nurse**

**Discourse and power in nursing and nurse  
education 1945 -1955**

**Janet Hargreaves**

**A dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the  
requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Education at the  
University of Huddersfield**

**September 2005**

## **Appendix document V and VI**

### **Appendix V: GNC Syllabus 1952**

**GENERAL NURSING  
COUNCIL  
FOR  
ENGLAND & WALES**

**Syllabus of Subjects for Examination for the Certificate of  
GENERAL NURSING**

*For the Council*

**Printed and Published  
By AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL  
Obtainable at the Offices of the Council  
23 PORTLAND PLACE, LONDON, W.1  
1952**

General Nursing Council for England and Wales

SYLLABUS

OF

SUBJECTS for EXAMINATION

FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF

GENERAL NURSING

## PREFACE

The Examinations for admission to the Register consist of (a) the Preliminary Examination and (b) the Final Examination :—

### **Preliminary Examination.**

The Preliminary Examination must be taken by all nurses whether training for the General or for any other Part of the Register. This Examination is in two Parts. Part I (Sections I and II of this Syllabus) :—Elementary Anatomy and Physiology, Personal and Communal Health. Part II (Sections III—V) :—First Aid, Bacteriology and Principles of Asepsis, Principles and Practice of Nursing, with the exception of that part of the Section Principles and Practice of Nursing relating to Human Behaviour in Illness (see footnote, page 10).

Part I may be taken :—

(a) before entry to a Training School, on completion of an approved Course of Instruction as prescribed in the Rules, or

(b) after entry to a Training School on completion of not less than six months' training, or

(c) together with Part II.

Part II may be taken at any time after completion of not less than one year's training, provided that Part I has been passed, or is taken at the same time.

### *The Public Health Services*

Maternity and Child Welfare.  
School Health Service and care of handicapped child  
Mental deficiency.  
Care of the aged.  
Tuberculosis—care and after care.  
Venereal diseases.  
Health education.

### *Domiciliary services provided*

Midwifery.  
Home Nursing.  
Health visiting.  
Home helps.  
Sanitary inspection.

Outline of other social services and public agencies.

**Regional  
Surgery and  
Surgical  
Nursing.**

Preparation of the patient for examination, investigation and operation and post-operative nursing care in surgical conditions affecting :—

- Nervous system.
- Alimentary tract.
- Organs of thoracic and abdominal cavities.
- Genito-urinary system.
- Endocrine glands.
- Breast.
- Bones and joints.
- Eye and related structures.
- Ear, Nose and Throat and related structures.

**XI. Gynaecology and Gynaecological Nursing  
and Introduction to Obstetrics**

Structure and functions of the female generative organs. Functions of the ovarian hormones ; puberty, ovulation, menstruation, fertilisation, menopause

Disorders of menstruation.

Displacements and disorders of the genital tract.

Pregnancy and principles of ante-natal care.

Complications of pregnancy : abortion, ectopic gestation, toxæmia.

Stages of normal labour.

Care of the infant at birth.

The puerperium.

**XII. Paediatrics and the Nursing of  
Sick Children**

Development of the normal child.

Variations from the normal.

Observation and handling of infants and children.

Feeding of infants and children in health and disease. (See *also* Section VIII. 2.)

Common diseases of infancy and childhood.

Common surgical conditions of infancy and childhood.

**XIII. The Social Aspects of Disease**

*Introduction*

Co-operation between Almoner, Sister in Out-Patients' and other departments of the hospital and the local Health Department.

Factors contributing to breakdown in health.

The patient's home and economic background.

**Final  
Examination.**

For the General Part of the Register the Final Examination for female nurses includes the remaining subjects of this Syllabus (Sections VII—XIII) :—Principles and Practice of Nursing (continued), Therapeutics, Principles of Medicine and Medical Nursing, Principles of Surgery and Surgical Nursing, Gynaecology and Gynaecological Nursing and Introduction to Obstetrics, Paediatrics and the Nursing of Sick Children, and the Social Aspects of Disease, and those items included in the Student Nurse's Record of Practical Instruction and Experience.

A candidate presenting herself for the Final Examination may be questioned on the subjects contained in any Section of the Syllabus (Preliminary and Final).

This Examination may be taken at any time after the completion of the prescribed years of training, provided that the Preliminary Examination has been already passed.

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