

'In my country nurses don't...' – Australian undergraduate nurse education and the international culturally and linguistically different student

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International students enrolling in undergraduate nursing courses in Australian universities are an increasing presence. The literature in regard to enhancing international student success has concentrated on theoretical, or class room learning. For nursing, and other practice based disciplines, success is also required in the practical learning experience. Clinical practice experience is recognised within the profession world wide as an essential element of nurse education for the development of competent and skilled registered nurses. For those international culturally and linguistically different students entering Australian programmes, this requirement is often difficult and challenging. This paper will discuss Australian nurse education which is grounded in western values and beliefs regarding health and illness and the role of the nurse, and highlight the student anecdotes that have led to the development of a doctoral research proposal asking the question: What is the nature of learning to nurse in Australia for international culturally and linguistically different students?