

The Community College of Baltimore County

Common Course Outline

NURN 115
Trends in Practical Nursing
2 Semester Hours

Description: Assists the student in transitioning from the role of student to that of entry-level practitioner. Emphasis is placed on responsibilities associated with licensure, ethical and legal issues, employment strategies, continuing professional growth, and leadership and management principles for the health care environment. **Prerequisites:** Successful completion of NURN 103, NURN 110, NURN 111, NURN 113, ENGL 101, PSYC 101 or SOCL 101, BIOL 110, and BIOL 220 with a grade of "C" or better.

Overall Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will demonstrate satisfactory knowledge of critical issues, principles and strategies for effective transition from the role of student to that of entry-level practitioner. The student will be able to:

1. Practice within ethical, legal and regulatory statutes, codes and standards for licensed practical nurses;
2. Discuss current trends and issues in health care delivery;
3. Value membership in professional organizations;
4. Provide leadership for unlicensed healthcare personnel;
5. Utilize fiscal responsibility in managing resources in the healthcare environment; and
6. Select appropriate professional development activities.

Major Topics:

- I. Evolution of Nursing
- II. Nursing in the 21st Century
- III. Legal and Ethical Issues
- IV. Major Nursing Organizations
- V. The Health Care Delivery System
- VI. Trends Affecting Health Care Issues
- VII. Resource Management
- VIII. Task/Duty Delegation
- IX. Leadership
- X. Transition to the Work Environment
- XI. Employment Issues

Recommended Texts:

Recommended texts are listed in the current course syllabus.

Course Information:

This course is required for the 46-credit certificate in Practical Nursing. Satisfactory completion of this course is required to progress to the next sequential level in the nursing program.

Methodologies used to teach and learn in this course include: lectures, individual and cooperative group learning projects, skill demonstrations, computerized self-study, and videos.

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, the Practical Nursing Program maintains high academic standards and expects students to be partners in the learning process and accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes, and skills appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many different forms such as surveys, standardized or faculty-developed tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvement of CCBC's courses and programs.

Assessment of Learning:

Theory

- Three tests will be administered and graded. These grades will then be averaged. The average represents 75% of the total course grade. An average of, at least, 70% on these tests is required prior to the addition of any other graded assignments. Students may not keep testing materials. Failure to return these to the instructor upon completion of the testing process will result in a grade of zero (0) for that particular exam.
- Three unannounced quizzes will be administered and graded and each will receive a numerical grade. A grade less than 70% is unsatisfactory. These three grades will then be averaged and may be included in the calculation of the course grade. If they are included, that average represents 10% of the total course grade.

- Homework and classroom assignments will be graded and each will receive a numerical grade. These grades may be included in the calculation of the course grade and represents 5% of the total course grade.
- Classroom participation is expected and will be graded. These grades may be included in the calculation of the course grade and represents 5% of the total course grade.

Grading Policy:

The Practical Nursing Program requires each student to maintain an average of C or better in all nursing and non-nursing courses in the curriculum. Students in academic jeopardy will be formally notified by the instructor on or before the midterm. It is the responsibility of each student to monitor his/her ongoing academic progress.

The Practical Nursing Program uses the following grading scale, based on 100%, to assign grades:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
F = 69 and below

Dosage and Solution Calculation Exams:

Students must complete a Dosage and Solution Calculations Exam each semester to validate their proficiency in preparing and administering medications. Students will not be able to administer medications in a clinical setting without successful completion of the exam. In the first semester, this exam will be administered in NURN 110. In subsequent semesters, it will be administered in the first week of the semester.

Medication errors have serious legal consequences and the Practical Nursing Program wants to insure your competence in the preparation and administration of medication. Therefore, each student must achieve 90% accuracy on each exam. Each exam may be retaken once. The Dosage and Solution Calculation Exams will not be averaged with any other scores.

Attendance:

Classroom: Students are expected to attend every scheduled class session. Any student who anticipates being absent is required to notify the instructor as soon as possible. The uniqueness of the Practical Nursing Program requires that each student participate in the planned learning activities to meet the course objectives. Any student who must be absent from any lecture will be responsible for securing notes and announcements from a classmate and for securing supplementary makeup assignments and class handouts from the instructor, where appropriate.

Lateness:

Students should make every effort to be on time for class in order to get the full benefit of the lesson. Students more than 10 minutes late for class may be marked absent. Any student who anticipates being more than 10 minutes late is required to notify the instructor at least one hour prior to the class. The individual instructor will review special circumstances resulting in lateness beyond this time frame. Any student who is habitually late will be referred to the Practical Nursing Program Administrator.

Readmission:

Requests for readmission must be accompanied by a faculty recommendation and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Students will be notified of their acceptance for readmission prior to the start of the first semester.