

# **Common Course Outline**

**NURN 129**

**Professional Nursing Role**

**1 Credit**

## **The Community College of Baltimore County**

### **Description**

**NURN 129 – Professional Nursing Role** examines knowledge, skills and attitudes associated with registered nursing practice within the United States health care system. The learning experience is based on the CCBC concept based curriculum, and the concepts of professionalism, advocacy, ethics, health law, and teamwork and collaboration will be explored. Learning opportunities are designed for students to gain the cognitive and interpersonal skills necessary to provide safe, effective, and professional nursing care. Participatory discussions and learning activities will promote integration of concepts into the practice of registered nursing.

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite: admission to the nursing program. Co-requisite: NURN 153**

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. identify the professional role of the nurse within the context of the U.S. health care system;
2. describe key components of professionalism in nursing practice;
3. formulate a preliminary personal professional career management plan;
4. identify ethical principles and theories used by professional nurses;
5. describe common ethical dilemmas found in the delivery of contemporary health care;
6. describe legal accountability of professional nursing practice;
7. explain strategies used by professional nurses to reduce liability in practice;
8. explain the role of communication in promoting effective intra- and interprofessional teamwork and collaboration; and
9. examine personal progress toward incorporating essential elements of professionalism while providing patient care in simulation lab or in clinical settings.

### **Major Topics**

- I. Health Care System (HCS) Overview
  - A. Overview of health care delivery system
  - B. Current issues in health care delivery
  - C. Nursing's role in the HCS

- II. Professionalism
  - A. Professionalism defined
  - B. Nursing's image
  - C. Trends in nursing education/research
  - D. Developing the professional self
    - 1. Reflective practice
    - 2. Career management
  - E. Advocacy
- III. Ethics
  - A. Ethics defined/ principles and theories
  - B. American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics
  - C. Contemporary issues in health care ethics
- IV. Health Law
  - A. Sources of health law
  - B. The law and patient rights
  - C. Professional accountability and delegation
  - D. Reducing legal liability
- V. Teamwork and Collaboration
  - A. Teamwork and collaboration defined
  - B. Roles of the members of the health care team
  - C. Intra- and interprofessional communication and conflict management
  - D. Error reduction
  - E. Failure to rescue

### **Course Requirements**

An overall theory grade of C (75.00%) or higher is required for satisfactory completion of the course.

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the course faculty members but will include the following:

1. A minimum of two theory examinations. The exam average must equal 75.00% or higher to pass the course;
2. A minimum of three quizzes;
3. A minimum of two short reflection assignments.

Written Assignments: Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.