

Common Course Outline

NURN 228

Issues and Trends in Nursing

2 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Course Description:

Issues and Trends in Nursing

Explores the responsibilities, challenges and accountability of the graduate nurse; facilitates an effective transition from student to practitioner. Emphasizes current trends in health care, history, credentialing, advanced practice, professional organizations, and pertinent ethical and legal issues; focuses on leadership, management and delegation for the beginning practitioner. Offered: Summer, Fall or Spring.

Prerequisite or co-requisite NURN 220 or NURN 226. Limited to students who are in their second year preferably the last semester of the nursing program.

2 credits: 2 hours of class x 14 weeks

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Evaluate the accountability of the nurse in the constantly changing state of physiological and psychological well being of individuals, families, and groups. (Health Continuum-Arm)
2. Analyze the roles of the members of the health care system in the delivery of comprehensive client care. (Health Care System-Arm)
3. Compare the use of the nursing process as a systematic problem solving method in the various advanced practice nursing roles. (Nursing Process-Arm)
4. Evaluate the characteristics of a profession as they relate to nursing both presently and historically. (Professionalism- Arm)
5. Analyze diverse types of information in order to determine quality assurance in client care. (Critical Thinking- Arm)
6. Evaluate the use of effective communication methods in the management of client care. (Communication- Thread)
7. Correlate the ethical, legal and regulatory codes that govern society and the health care system. (Ethical/ Legal Aspects- Thread)
8. Describe how collaborative practice varies according to the particular health care setting.

(Health Promotion, Maintenance and Restoration- Thread)

9. Explain ways that the nursing profession meets the multi-dimensional needs of clients throughout the life cycle. (Human Needs, Life Cycle, Stress/ Stressors- Thread)
10. Compare and contrast various principles and styles utilized in the management of clients and / or personnel in health care settings. (Management and Delegation- Thread)
11. Compare and contrast diverse skills used by the RN in practice setting and determine which could be appropriately delegated. (Delegation and Skills- Thread)
12. Utilize nursing theory to explain how care can be adapted in consideration of client ' s values, customs, cultures and / or habits. (Socio-Economic-Cultural- Thread)
13. Specify ways that telecommunication and technology may be used by the RN to assure optimal practice. (Technology- Thread)
14. Describe how managed care and regulatory measures have affected client education and nursing practice. (Teaching/learning- Thread)
15. Explain how changes in society and the health care system have impacted on the practice of nursing (Trends- Thread)

Major Topics

1. History of Nursing
2. Description of nursing educational programs
3. Entry into Practice
4. Nurse Practice Act
5. The NCLEX-RN
6. Professional organizations
7. Quality Assurance
8. Risk Management
9. Health Care Systems
10. Resume writing
11. Interviewing
12. Employment opportunities
13. Ethical issues
14. Legal issues
15. Transition to employment issues
16. Leadership theory
17. Management Issues
18. Delegation in Practice

Course Requirements: This course is taken in the second year of the nursing program. A grade of "C" (72%) or better is required for satisfactory completion of

the course.

Attendance: Per college policy, all students are expected to attend class experiences regularly and punctually to derive maximum benefit from instruction and to contribute to the learning process in each educational experience.

Learning Activities: Assigned reading, films, CAI's, Interactive Videos, participation, group work, discussion, oral presentations, and written projects, listening, and assessment. Leadership and Management style assessment.

Theory Requirements:

1. Two Exams. The second will include a comprehensive component. The average of the three exams must equal 72% or better to pass the course.
2. Announced Quiz
3. Formal writing assignment that demonstrates critical thinking/analysis component.
4. Research Project/Presentation that includes collaboration, journal/internet research.

Grading Requirements: Students must achieve a 72% or better average. Grades from other course requirements will only be considered into the student's overall course grade after the 72% or better exam average has been achieved.

1. Exam I – 30%
2. Exam II – 35%
3. Quiz - 5%
4. Research Paper – 20%
5. Resume and Cover Letter – 10%

Required Texts: Nursing Today-Transition and Trends