



## Course Sample Syllabus

### NUR 18200 Conceptual and Theoretical Thinking in Nursing

#### Course Catalogue Description:

This course examines concepts that form the philosophical and theoretical basis of nursing science and patient centered care. The content is leveled to provide undergraduate students a foundational understanding of nursing as a discipline and profession. The conceptual framework and philosophy of the school of nursing will be studied. Special emphasis will be placed on the relationship between nursing philosophy, knowledge, research and practice.

#### Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course it is expected that the learner will be able to:

1. Discuss the characteristics of nursing as a discipline and profession
2. Explore the development of nursing knowledge in the context of nursing science
3. Discuss the components of the nursing metaparadigm
4. Explore selected concepts, models and theories that underlie nursing knowledge
5. Critique and evaluate nursing theories/models within a selected framework
6. Apply selected nursing theories/models to professional practice situations

#### Teaching/Learning Methodologies:

- Online Readings
- Guided Learning
- Individual Assignments
- Group Work: Via the Discussion Board
- Writing Assignments

#### Texts and Materials:

The list of required and recommended [textbooks](#) can be found online in the RNBSN Student Handbook. Additional readings and resources will be assigned throughout the modules. Some of these resources will be available through the Purdue University Northwest library's electronic database. Others will be internet resources available through links in the course.

**NOTE:** The required book for this course will be used throughout the program in preparation for the evidence-based practice Capstone project. Please purchase and keep this book.

## Sample of Course Assignments:

**Discussions and Reflections:** Discussions amongst and between classmates are a major component of this course. At several points in this course, you will be asked to respond to or reflect upon a provocation from the instructor. Your response should consist of complete sentences and should meet the requirements listed in the discussion assignment instructions. Additionally, you are required to post thoughtful and scholarly responses to other student postings each week.

**Ways of Knowing:** In this short writing assignment, you will consider each of Barbara Carper's "Fundamental Patterns of Knowing in Nursing": empirical, personal, ethical and aesthetic. For each "way" of knowing, describe a particular clinical intervention that you employed for a patient, family, group or community. In your description, explain how the intervention was informed by that particular way of nursing knowledge.

**Concept Analysis Paper:** Throughout modules 2, 3 and 4 of this course, you will write a Concept Analysis paper. The end result of this project will be a 6-8 page paper written in APA format that includes a cover sheet and reference page.

**Expressing the Art of Nursing Poem:** Nurses are privileged to be present with patients and families at vulnerable times. Some of those times are happy, and some are sad. However, it is those times that nurses often demonstrate the art of nursing at its best. In this discussion-based assignment, you are to write an "I AM" poem. You will select one of four images and then, from the perspective of the nurse, complete a poem that reflects the art of being a nurse.

## Theory Application and Evaluation Final Exam

## Course Organization:

There are five modules in this course. Each module represents one week of activity.

- Introduction to Nursing as a Scientific Discipline
- Knowledge Development in Nursing
- Theory Development and Evaluation
- Theoretical Bases for Practice – Selected Theories, Part 1
- Theoretical Bases for Practice, Part 2