

NUR 18200 Conceptual and Theoretical Thinking in Nursing

Course Information & Objectives

[College of Nursing \(CON\) Contact Information](#)

Course 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.

Course Pattern:

Lecture 02 Lab 00 Credit 02

Prerequisites/Co-requisites:

None

Course Objectives (Student Learning Outcomes):

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. Discuss the characteristics of nursing as a discipline and profession. (Aligns with End of Program Outcome #3 and #7)
2. Explore the development of nursing knowledge in the context of nursing science. (Aligns with End of Program Outcome #4 and #7)
3. Discuss the components of the nursing metaparadigm. (Aligns with End of Program Outcome #4)
4. Explore selected concepts, models, and theories that underlie nursing knowledge. (Aligns with End of Program Outcome #1 and #4)
5. Critique and evaluate nursing theories/models within a selected framework. (Aligns with End of Program Outcome #1 and #6)
6. Apply selected nursing theories/models to professional practice situations. (Aligns with End of Program Outcome #1 and #7)

Students will meet the objectives listed above through a combination of activities in this course:

Student Learning Outcomes of Undergraduate Degree Nursing Program Options

1. Utilize the nursing process to implement principles of person centered care within the framework of basic human needs and life span development.
2. Demonstrate effective communication while collaborating therapeutically and effectively with healthcare system stakeholders.

3. Demonstrate professional leadership in the coordination of healthcare that minimizes risk, promotes safety, and manages resources by creating a culture of continuous quality improvement.
4. Implement the principles of evidence based nursing practice in policy development and the provision of person centered care in an evolving healthcare environment.
5. Utilize information technology to coordinate and support decision-making in the provision of person centered care.
6. Implement critical thinking strategies in the context of health promotion, health maintenance, health restoration and palliation to maximize optimal person centered health outcomes.
7. Exemplify professional values to include accountability for practice, and principles of altruism, human dignity, integrity, social justice and ethics.

Assignments & Determination of Course Grade:

Week 2 Assignment–Paper

For this assignment, consider Carper's Ways of Knowing: empirical, personal, ethical, and aesthetic. For each way of knowing, describe a clinical situation including a nursing intervention you implemented while caring for a patient, family, group, or community. In your description, explain how the particular way of knowing informed the decision to implement the intervention.

Week 3 Assignment–Poem

Nurses are privileged to care for and be present with clients and families during times of need. Regardless of emotion or circumstance, nurses demonstrate the art of nursing. For example, science informs nurses what intervention to apply, but there is always an art to how that intervention is applied, which is often informed by tacit knowledge. In this assignment you will write an “I AM” poem reflecting the art of being a nurse.

Week 4 Group Assignment–Critique: Conceptual Nursing Framework

Complete all sections of the assignment individually, noting challenging areas and questions you have along the way. Meet as a group to discuss the work completed individually, including any challenging parts. Come to an agreement on the content of answers, compose a final product, and submit one product per group.

Week 5 Assignment– Paper: Concept Analysis

A concept is the glue that ties conceptual frameworks, models, and theories together. The concepts in a framework or theory relate to each other in some way. This is what gives them meaning. A concept analysis is an exploration of how a concept ties a framework together:

- Select one of the four concepts: trust, hope, suffering, or uncertainty.
- Determine the aim or purpose of your analysis: what do you want to accomplish by conducting this concept analysis? Answer the questions “Why am I doing this?” and “Why is this relevant to nursing knowledge and nursing science?”
- Conduct your literature review by identifying all uses of the term that you can discover. Answer “What are the known conceptualizations?”

- Determine the critical or defining attributes of the concept, define the 4 cases using critical attributes
- Identify related concepts
- Identify an inaccurate use of the concept
- Identify concept antecedents and consequences

The paper should be written in a professional, scholarly manner (i.e., no errors in APA formatting, spelling, or grammar). As a guideline, the body of the paper (excluding title page and reference list) should be about 6 pages in length.

Course Calendar:

Week	Topic	Readings and Graded Activities/Assignments
1	Introduction to Nursing as a Scientific Discipline	Textbook: Alligood, M. R. – Chapters 1 - 3 Additional Articles linked in course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions 1 & 2
2	Knowledge Development in Nursing	Digital Textbook and articles linked in course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion • Paper: Ways of Knowing
3	Theory Development and Evaluation	Textbook: Alligood, M. R. – Chapter 4 Digital Textbook and article linked in course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion • Poem: Expressing the Art of Nursing
4	Theoretical Bases for Advancing the Nursing Discipline: Selected Conceptual Frameworks, Part I	Textbook: Alligood, M. R. Chapters 6 - 9 Digital Textbooks and articles linked in course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion • Critique: Conceptual Nursing Framework
5	Theoretical Bases for Advancing the Nursing Discipline: Selected Conceptual Frameworks, Part II	Textbooks: Alligood, M. R. – Chapter 37 Hopp & Rittenmeyer – Chapters 1– 3 Digital Textbook and articles linked in course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion • Self and Peer Evaluation • Paper: Concept Analysis

Graded Course Activities:

Points	Description
40	Discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Week 1 Discussion 1 (5 pts)• Week 1 Discussion 2 (7 pts)• Week 2 Discussion (7 pts)• Week 3 Discussion (7 pts)• Week 4 Discussion (7 pts)• Week 5 Discussion (7 pts)
10	Paper: Ways of Knowing
5	Poem: Expressing the Art of Nursing
17	Critique: Nursing Conceptual Framework
8	Self and Peer Evaluation
20	Paper: Concept Analysis
100	Total Points Possible

Minimum Passing Standard

Upon completion of all required methods of evaluation, the student must have achieved an average score of 78% in the course.