Course Sample Syllabus

NUR 18200 Conceptual and Theoretical Thinking in Nursing

Texts and Materials:

The list of required and recommended textbooks can be found online on the RN to BSN web page.

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.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity
Honor Code

Please note that all references to credit sources, online or otherwise, must be in the format recommended by the American Psychological Association (6th Edition). The copying and pasting of any published or unpublished text, including information from websites and other online sources, without proper authorship credit (e.g., quotation marks, in-text citation, and full reference) is a form of plagiarism. Please refer to the Purdue University Northwest Student Handbook and the Online RN to BSN Student Handbook for further details.
Withdrawal Policy:
If you choose to withdraw from the course for any reason, please review the Online RN to BSN Student Handbook for details. It is your responsibility to execute these procedures correctly and within the deadlines. The deadline to drop a course without receipt of a grade for the course is the Wednesday of the fourth week of the class at 4 p.m. Central Standard Time. An email request to drop the course must be sent BEFORE this deadline.

Grading Scale:
Successful completion of the course requires you to complete mandatory assignments and participate in course activities. You must earn a grade of at least “C” in all nursing courses to receive credit toward the BSN degree. A grade of less than C will require you to repeat the nursing course. A minimum of 78% must be obtained to pass the course. Any grade on a nursing course that is less than 78% is considered failing.

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<tr>
<th>NUMBER GRADE</th>
<th>LETTER GRADE</th>
<th>QUALITY POINT</th>
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<tr>
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<td>70 - 77</td>
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<td>F</td>
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Writing Guidelines:
It is expected that all students write using APA format. If you are not familiar with APA format, then you are responsible for learning it. The APA Publication Manual (6th Edition) is the guide used in the College of Nursing. We recommend purchasing a copy of the Publication Manual. The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) has more information about writing services, including one-to-one consultations, English as a Second Language conversation groups and workshops, and APA information/formatting help.

Course Policies:
1. All policies stated in the PNW Student Handbook and the Online RN to BSN Student Handbook will be adhered to.
2. Active participation in class discussions is integral to optimal learning and success in the course. Since this course is heavily weighted in discussion and debate, weekly participation online is mandatory.
3. Missing one week or more of discussion during the semester will result in being administratively dropped from the course and/or course failure. Posting after due dates constitutes class and discussion absence.
4. It is your responsibility to seek help from the instructor if needed. All communication to faculty should be done in writing using faculty email addresses listed in the syllabus.

5. You are responsible for all material presented—PowerPoint presentations, faculty- or student-led discussions, virtual assignments, and postings on Blackboard. Students are expected to check Blackboard for course mail or announcements, assignments, and grade postings on a regular basis.

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