

UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA
SCHOOL OF NURSING
BSN PROGRAM
Nursing 3355 Junior Practicum
Summer 2009

Credit: 0-4-2

Prerequisites: All 3200 level nursing courses

Course Description: An intensive clinical practice course offered during May short session. Students will have the opportunity to apply theory to actual clinical experiences with clients in the acute care setting and in the community.

Learning Goals:

1. Demonstrate beginning skill and knowledge in providing nursing care to 1-2 adult clients in acute care settings. (1) *
2. Demonstrate caring with peers, adult clients and their families and other health care workers. (3)
3. Demonstrate use of effective personal coping skills to control anxiety in the clinical setting. (2)
4. Recognize legal and ethical issues that may arise in the clinical setting. (4)
5. Consider the holistic nature of self and others when providing care. (5)
6. Demonstrate beginning ability to effectively communicate with adult clients in the acute care setting. (9)
7. Use scientific and humanistic concepts, nursing theory, and research findings within a critical thinking framework to provide care for adult clients. (6)
8. Demonstrate use of the nursing process in assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating client care. (1)
9. Considering legal implications, document nursing care according to agency policy. (4)
10. Work collaboratively with interdisciplinary health care team members. (8)

* Numbers in parentheses after the course learning goals refer to program objectives

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Course content:

Content will be determined by the clinical situations in which individual students participate. Students will have clinical experiences in the acute care setting. Learning activities will be selected and based on individual learning needs of students.

Required Books

- Medical-Surgical Nursing: Critical Thinking for Collaborative Care ISBN 978-0-7216-0446-6
- Mosby's Diagnostic and Laboratory Test Reference ISBN 978-0-323-04634-3
- Saunders Nursing Drug Handbook 2008 ISBN 978-1-4160-4063-7
- Nursing Diagnosis Handbook: An Evidence-Based Guide to Planning Care ISBN 978-0-323-04826-2
- Kozier & Erb's Fundamentals of Nursing ISBN 978-0-13-171468-7
- ATI Fundamentals of Nursing Text and DVD (provided by the ATI company during class)

Optional Books

- Study Guide for Kozier and Erb's Fundamentals of Nursing: Concepts, Process, and Practice 8th Edition ISBN 978-0-13-188938-5
- Clinical Handbook for Kozier & Erb's Fundamentals of Nursing: Concepts, Process, and Practice 8th Edition ISBN 978-0-13-188933-0
- Critical Thinking Guide to Accompany Medical-Surgical Nursing: Critical Thinking for Collaborative Care ISBN 978-0-7216-0614-9
- Clinical Companion for Ignatavicius/Workman Medical-Surgical Nursing: Critical Thinking for Collaborative Care ISBN 978-0-7216-0551-7
- Pharmacological Aspects of Nursing Care 7th edition 2007 ISBN 978-1401-8888-62
- Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary 20th Rev. edition 2005 ISBN 978-0-8036-1208-2
- Nursing Fundamentals Reviews & Rationales 2nd edition ISBN 978-0-13-224078-9

Learning Activities:

Client care
Journal entries (see separate guidelines)
Simulation and Laboratory Experiences
Client Presentation

Course evaluation methods:

This clinical course will be graded with a satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) rating. Students will earn a satisfactory grade based on the following criteria:

1. Written individual measurable goals that identify specific learning needs.
2. Satisfactory completion of 4 hours of orientation and 48 hours of client care with assigned preceptor in an acute care setting.
3. Satisfactory completion of individual goals and clinical objectives for the course. Consistent unsatisfactory evaluations, violation of patient safety and confidentiality, or consistent lack of progress in meeting individual pre-clinical goals may result in an unsatisfactory practicum grade. See Clinical Evaluation Guide.
4. Written Final Clinical Self Evaluation of clinical goals and individual pre-clinical goals.
5. Satisfactory completion of one nursing care plan. Care plans will be revised until satisfactory. (See separate guidelines)
6. Journal entry for each clinical day. (See separate guideline.)
7. Active participation in all scheduled activities in the course.
8. Completion of all written assignments on time and at a satisfactory level. (Turning in assignments late or failure to complete at a satisfactory level may result in an unsatisfactory (U) grade for the course).
9. Attendance and participation in scheduled simulation exercise experience (see separate guidelines).

BSN Student Handbook Students are to consult the *BSN Student Handbook* to obtain departmental policies, which are not listed on the syllabus.

Classroom Policies:

Absences – Students are responsible for their own learning and must accept individual accountability for their behavior. Attendance is required at all clinical activities and clinical conferences. Students have the responsibility for making arrangements for any missed activities. Arrangements regarding absences should be made prior to the absence except in emergencies when arrangements should be made as quickly as possible following the absence. Absences from clinical experiences must be completed prior to the end of the semester. It is the responsibility of **the student** to contact the assigned preceptor and faculty regarding absences prior to the scheduled clinical experience.

Health and Professional Requirements for Clinical– Students may not attend class or begin clinical until all health and professional requirements are met. Please refer to the *BSN Student Handbook*. Any loss of clinical time as a result of not meeting expectations as delineated in the *BSN Student Handbook* will be considered an un-excused absence, which may seriously jeopardize passing the course.

Tardiness – Every effort will be made to begin and end clinical and class on time. Students are expected to cooperate by arriving to class and clinical experiences in a timely manner. Consistently tardy behavior does not convey professionalism, commitment or caring for self and others.

Cheating, Plagiarism, Dishonesty and Other Unprofessional Behavior – Cheating or other forms of dishonesty cannot be tolerated and is considered a serious offence. Because students are ultimately responsible for their own behavior, students should be cautious about becoming involved in any situation in which their integrity and honesty could be questioned. A student found cheating on any exam, quiz, or written assignment will receive a grade of zero for that assignment. Students are not to share information regarding any exam with other students at any time. Violation of this policy will result in failure of the class. In addition, students displaying questionable behavior regarding actions will be taken. Students who are found to be involved in questionable behavior outside the academic area, i.e. any involvement in the Student Judicial system, will find their standing in the program in jeopardy pending the outcome of such activity. For definitions of academic irregularity (dishonesty), penalties, and appeals process, students should consult the Student Conduct Code Appendix A I and A II, [University of West Georgia Student Handbook](#).

Pagers and Mobile Phones – Pagers and mobile phones are to be set as to not distract other members of the class.