



Professional Nursing Practicum and Project

NURS435 [all sections]

Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

Learners explore and reflect upon the application of the program outcomes and the knowledge and skills gained from their coursework as they explore, observe, and further experience nursing leadership and mentorship in a healthcare setting (72 hours in one health care setting is required). While working with a nurse in a leadership role, the nursing learner identifies, assists in providing leadership to, and participates in a clinically focused project that will refine clinical, leadership, analytical, decision making, project and task management, interpersonal, communication, and presentation skills. A project plan with expected outcomes is developed by the learner, Program Director, Field Supervisor (Preceptor), and authorized representative from the healthcare setting, if different from the Field Supervisor. The plan is developed after the completion of 21 credit - hours of professional coursework and is approved by the Program Director and authorized representative before the project begins. The Program Director or designee serves as an advisor throughout the project.

The course will culminate in the preparation of two comprehensive projects: A scholarly, research - based, and comprehensive report on the outcome of the clinically focused project; and a detailed and substantiated presentation on how the learner has achieved the nursing program outcomes through his or her coursework, practicum, and professional nursing project. The presentation's audience is the Program Director and other program and academic staff. (3 credits, 18 week course)

Prerequisite: completion of all NURS courses (concurrent enrollment permitted for NURS427, only).

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). (2008). [The essentials of Baccalaureate education for professional nursing practice](#). Washington, DC: Author.

III. Course Delivery

All courses in the Nursing Program are delivered Online and typically contain a blend of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous (not real-time) material. Learners are also required to complete any practicum course requirements. Depending on the course, you may be required at times to interact "live," which might mean attending a scheduled Collaborate session. You may also be required to view or listen to a lecture or other video on a specific date and time. Of course, if there are circumstances that prohibit you from logging in to a scheduled synchronous activity, an alternate assignment will be provided. Please refer to the [Course at a Glance](#) section which will note any synchronous activities.

IV. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has [learning outcomes specific to the Nursing Program](#), as well as [institution-wide outcomes](#) related to the mission and vision of the college.

Outcomes can help learners and instructors focus on the big picture of the learning experience and can help inform potential employers about a graduate's knowledge and skills.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

Learning Outcome	Related Program Outcome(s)
------------------	--

Learning Outcome	Related Program Outcome(s)
1. Present evidence and artifacts from nursing courses to document achievement of the BSN program outcomes.	1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
2. Identify a healthcare issue and describe an evidence-based process for changing current practice.	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
3. Conduct a literature review to identify practice issues which help to guide the selection of a professional project.	3, 6
4. Identify effective time-management and budgeting skills related to the professional nurse leader role.	5, 6, 7, 8, 10
5. Use interpersonal communication and presentation skills to articulate the results of a clinically focused project.	1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10
6. Explain how the BSN program outcomes can be applied to nursing leadership roles.	4, 6, 8, 10

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

V. **Expectations**

Learners can expect the instructor to:

- Respond to e-mail and phone contact attempts promptly (if you do not receive a response after 48 hours please follow-up as a technology glitch may have occurred)
- Substantially participate in weekly discussions/lecture
- Employ impartial and consistent grading practices
- Provide assignment grades and feedback in one week or less

Instructors can expect the learner to:

- Review the syllabus in its entirety requesting clarification prior to beginning week 1 coursework
- Obtain access to the required course materials prior to the class start date or notify the instructor of any delay no later than Tuesday of week 1 of the course
- Submit course assignment questions with enough notice to receive and incorporate feedback prior to the assignment due date (see [course late policy](#))
- Possess basic skills in Microsoft Office, and have the ability to access Blackboard
- Include the [course ID](#) (Ex: CORE101) on all e-mail correspondence
- Check Blackboard course announcements often during the course
- Communicate with instructors and classmates in a professional and respectful manner
- Substantially participate in weekly discussion/lecture (it is strongly suggested that Bb posts be prepared in a word processing software application then checked for grammar errors prior to submission)
- Submit assignments via the appropriate avenue (e.g. discussion board, Bb assignment link, etc.)
- Adhere to the Southwestern College [Student Code of Conduct](#) and [Standards of Academic Integrity](#)
- Create and submit original work

VI. **Grading Scale and Criteria**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Quality Points</u>	<u>Course Scale</u>
A+	4.00	100%
A	4.00	94.0-99.9%
A-	3.67	90.0-93.9%
B+	3.33	87.0-89.9%
B	3.00	84.0-86.9%

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Quality Points</u>	<u>Course Scale</u>
B-	2.67	80.0-83.9%
C+	2.33	77.0-79.9%
C	2.00	74.0-76.9%
C-	1.67	70.0-73.9%
D+	1.33	67.0-69.9%
D	1.00	64.0-66.9%
D-	0.67	60.0-63.9%
F	0.00	< 60.0%

<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Criteria and Guidelines:</u>
A+	The grade of A+ is reserved for a perfect score (100%) of all work in a course.
A	Superior work: Superior performance that far exceeds the minimum expectations and demonstrates an excellent understanding of the concepts addressed in the course.
B	Above average work: Good performance that exceeds the minimum expectations and demonstrates a higher than average understanding of the concepts addressed in the course.
C	Average Work: Adequate performance that meets the minimal expectations and demonstrates a basic understanding of the concepts addressed in the course.
D	Minimally acceptable work for receiving credit: Below average performance that does not meet the minimum expectations and/or does not demonstrate a basic understanding of the concepts addressed in the course.
F	Failure: Unacceptable performance (in a professional context, this means “you’re fired.”)
WF	Withdraw/Fail: A final grade of WF will be recorded for learners who either never access/attend or submit any assignments for courses.
WD, AW, I, S, W, WM	Please refer to the Grading System section of the appropriate catalog.

VII. The Mission of Southwestern College

Southwestern College provides a values-based learning experience that emphasizes intellectual, personal, and spiritual growth. Founded in 1885 by Kansas Methodists and now related to the Kansas West Conference of the United Methodist Church, the college offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees on-ground and online.

VIII. College Policies

Learners are expected to read and abide by the college policies as listed in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#) and the [Nursing Handbook](#).

[Non-Discrimination Policy](#)

[Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Academic Integrity Policy](#)

[Policies for Dealing with Violations of Academic Integrity](#)

[Incomplete Policy](#)

[Withdraw Policy](#)

IX. Nursing Program Policies

In order to pass a course **ALL** key assignments must be complete. Failure to complete and submit any key assignment may result in a failing grade for the course.

X. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies listed in the instructor-specific syllabus located in the Bb course.

XI. [Technology Requirements](#)

XII. APA Citation

Check the Academic Resources link in the course menu of your Blackboard course to find the specific requirements and resources for formatting manuscripts and documenting various kinds of sources when submitting written work.

XIII. SafeAssign®

This instructor may use SafeAssign®, which is a system that allows for checking the originality of writing and proper APA citing. Your assignments may be run through this software.

XIV. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Completes all required pre-practicum paperwork	1	50	5%
Annotated Bibliography	2	150	55%
Reflective Journaling	4	200	20%
Professional Nursing Project Final Paper	1	200	20%
Professional Nursing Project Final Project	1	200	20%
Reflective paper on Nursing Program Outcomes	1	200	20%
Total Points		1000	100%

XV. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct preliminary research to identify a problem area in healthcare. Formulate research questions and problem statements to identify solutions for the healthcare problem. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read through the syllabus thoroughly Identify nurse leader (preceptor) for practicum and practice agency Begin to identify a problem area that could be a focus for Final Practicum Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preceptor Information Form 	2, 3
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze literature for evidence-based practice related to project topic. Recognize the leadership and management skills of effective nurse leaders. Examine leadership concepts, skills, and decision-making needed by members of the inter-professional team to create a culture of safety and high quality nursing care. Identify knowledge and tools available for effective time-management and budgeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin working on practicum hours. Begin gathering research articles for Final Practicum Project Begin working on your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	2, 3, 4

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze and critique evidence-based research related to practicum topic. • Recognize the leadership and management skills of effective nurse leaders. • Examine leadership concepts, skills, and decision-making needed by members of the inter-professional team to create a culture of safety and high quality nursing care. • Identify knowledge and tools available for effective time-management and budgeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on practicum hours • Complete your first Annotated Bibliography on 5 research articles related to Professional Project • Continue working on your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotated Bibliography 	2, 3, 4
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect on specific experiences that demonstrate effective nurse leadership. • Discuss practicum experiences that can be incorporated into advanced nursing leadership roles. • Reflect on the knowledge gained in previous nursing courses that provided insight into the practicum experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on practicum hours • Complete your first Annotated Bibliography on 5 research articles related to Professional Project • Continue working on your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflective Journaling 	1, 4, 6
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze and critique evidence-based research related to practicum topic. • Recognize the leadership and management skills of effective nurse leaders. • Examine leadership concepts, skills, and decision-making needed by members of the inter-professional team to create a culture of safety and high quality nursing care. • Identify knowledge and tools available for effective time-management and budgeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on practicum hours • Complete your first Annotated Bibliography on 5 research articles related to Professional Project • Continue working on your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotated Bibliography 	2, 3, 4

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect on specific experiences that demonstrate effective nurse leadership. • Discuss practicum experiences that can be incorporated into advanced nursing leadership roles. • Reflect on the knowledge gained in previous nursing courses that provided insight into the practicum experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on practicum hours • Complete your Reflective Journaling Assignment • Continue working on your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper and your Professional Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflective Journaling 	1, 4, 6
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize the leadership and management skills of effective nurse leaders. • Examine leadership concepts, skills, and decision-making needed by members of the inter-professional team to create a culture of safety and high quality nursing care. • Identify knowledge and tools available for effective time-management and budgeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on practicum hours • Continue working on your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper and your Professional Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	4
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect on specific experiences that demonstrate effective nurse leadership. • Discuss practicum experiences that can be incorporated into advanced nursing leadership roles. • Reflect on the knowledge gained in previous nursing courses that provided insight into the practicum experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on practicum hours • Complete your Reflective Journaling Assignment • Continue working on your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper and your Professional Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflective Journaling 	1, 4, 6
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize the leadership and management skills of effective nurse leaders. • Examine leadership concepts, skills, and decision-making needed by members of the inter-professional team to create a culture of safety and high quality nursing care. • Identify knowledge and tools available for effective time-management and budgeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working on practicum hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	4

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss specific experiences related to the skills and attributes that an effective nursing leader exhibits. Discuss practicum experiences that can be incorporated into advanced nursing leadership roles. Reflect on the knowledge gained in previous nursing courses that provided insight into the practicum experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working on practicum hours Complete your Reflective Journaling Assignment Complete your Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper Continue working on your Professional Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflective Journaling Nursing Program Outcomes Reflective Paper 	1, 4, 6
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate concepts of theory and practice into practicum project. Communicate findings of practicum project in a scholarly paper that is based on evidence-based clinical practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete practicum hours Submit completed Practicum Hours Documentation Form Complete Professional Project Final Paper Assignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Project Final Paper 	2, 5
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify personal and professional goals for a future in nursing as they relate to the BSN outcomes. Use effective communication skills to articulate findings of practicum project to nursing faculty and students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Professional Project Final Presentation Submit completed Preceptor Evaluation of Student Form (student may submit below or preceptor may email to instructor) Complete and submit Student Evaluation of Preceptor Form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Project Presentation 	1, 2, 5, 6

XVI. College Resources

[Advising](#)

[Self-Service](#)

[Withdraw Form](#)

[Blackboard Learn](#)

[SCPS Bookstore](#)

[Deets Library](#)

[Online Writing Center](#): View this brief [video tutorial](#) that explains how to enroll

IT Support: Marilyn.clements@sckans.edu or 888-684-5335 x.121

XVII. ADA Compliance Statement

Southwestern College Professional Studies is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified learners with documented disabilities. If you have a disability that may impact your learning and for which you may need accommodations, please notify the Director of Learner Support and Academic Success, at 888.684.5335.