



Quality Improvement through Information Technology

NURS328 [all sections]
Southwestern College Professional Studies
Nursing Program

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

Used appropriately, technology can improve quality, reduce cost, eliminate waste, augment access, increase efficiency and productivity, and improve patient safety and health outcomes. Learners will develop leadership and management competencies related to health informatics and the use of information for quality assessment, evaluating performance, decision-making, and other related purposes. Learners will explore effective and ethical information management practices that help to ensure patient confidentiality, information security and integrity, and information accessibility.

Prerequisite NURS309.

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Hebda, T., & Czar, P. (2013). *Handbook of informatics for nurses & healthcare professionals* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education.

Hughes, R. G. (Ed.). (2008). Patient safety and quality: An evidence-based handbook for nurses. Retrieved from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK2651/>

American Psychological Association. (2010). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association. (6th ed.). 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)
Integrate nursing science, computer science, and information science to manage and communicate data, information, knowledge, and wisdom in nursing practice.	1, 3, 5, 6, 8
Examine theories and frameworks for inter-professional healthcare informatics.	1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9
Describe the role of standards in electronic health records.	5, 6, 8
Relate informatics to evidence-based practice, decision support, and quality improvement.	4, 5, 6, 8, 9

Learning Outcome	Related Program Outcome(s)
Analyze benefits and issues related to electronic health records.	5, 6, 8,
Discuss the process and requirements involved in the gathering, compliance, integrity and reporting of healthcare quality measures	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Define quality and safety measures necessary for high functioning organizations and optimal patient outcomes	4, 5, 6

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 [Learner Code of Conduct](#) and [Standards of Academic Integrity](#)
- Create and submit original work

VI. Grading Scale and Criteria

Grade	Quality Points	Course Scale
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%
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%

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Quality Points</u>	<u>Course Scale</u>
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. 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](#)

[Learner Code of Conduct](#)

[Academic Integrity Policy](#)

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

[Incomplete Policy](#)

[Withdraw Policy](#)

VIII. 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.

IX. Course Policies

Learners are expected to read and abide by the course policies found in the instructor-specific syllabus located in the Blackboard course.

X. [Technology Requirements](#)

XI. APA Citation

Southwestern College Professional Studies utilizes the guidelines prescribed by the American Psychological Association (APA), sixth edition (2009) for formatting manuscripts and documenting various kinds of sources when submitting written work. APA resources are provided in the Online Writing Center (see [College Resources](#)).

XII. 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.

XIII. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussion Assignments	6	240	24%
Unit Assignments	5	250	25%
Quizzes	6	240	24%
Quality Improvement Issue Discussion	1	20	2%
Quality Improvement Plan	1	250	25%
Total Points		1000	100%

XIV. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebda & Czar: Chapters 1-5 • Unit 1 QSEN PowerPoint • Unit 1 Roles, Competencies, Skills document • Review the AHRQ document 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 Discussion • Unit 1 Assignment • Unit 1 Quiz 	1, 2, 3
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebda & Czar: Chapters 6-10 • Hughes: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 • QSEN PowerPoint on Quality Improvement Content • QSEN PowerPoint on Safety Content • IHI Defining Quality video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 2 Discussion • Unit 2 Assignment • Unit 2 Quiz 	1, 2, 3, 7
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebda & Czar: Chapters 11-15 • Hughes: Chapters 44, 47 & 49 • QSEN PowerPoint on Health Informatics • PDSA Samples 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 3 Discussion • Unit 3 Assignment • Unit 3 Quiz • Quality Improvement Issue Discussion 	1, 3, 5, 6
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebda & Czar: Chapters 16-20 • Hughes: Chapter 45 • Lewis Blackman Story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 4 Discussion • Unit 4 Assignment • Unit 4 Quiz 	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebda & Czar: Chapters 21-25 • Hughes: Chapters 14, 16, 48 & 50 • Wireless Future of Medicine video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 5 Discussion • Unit 5 Assignment • Unit 5 Quiz 	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebda & Czar: Chapters 26-27 • Hughes: Chapters 7, 8, 9 & 46 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 6 Discussion • Quality Improvement Plan • Unit 6 Quiz 	1, 4, 6, 7

XV. 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

XVI. 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.