



Trends and Issues Facing Healthcare

NURS427

Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

Learners study current political, economic, and social trends affecting nursing and the healthcare system. Learners will integrate knowledge from previous courses to further explore healthcare quality and safety, evidenced-based practice, informatics, and the nurse's role in today's healthcare system. *Prerequisite NURS309.*

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Huston, C.J. (2014). *Professional issues in nursing: Challenges & Opportunities*. (3rd Ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

Other Resources:

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. 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)
1. Review historical and current healthcare events, reports, political and technological factors influencing health care and the nursing profession – past, present and future	1, 6, 8
2. Examine the impact nursing theories have on the foundation and development of the nursing profession	1, 6, 8
3. Identify current issues in healthcare and the nursing profession, including current public perception	1, 3, 4, 6, 8
4. Examine the current climate and the future of nursing education - identify the meaning and importance of lifelong learning, including participation in professional, community, and political organizations	3, 4, 8
5. Explore the effects of information technology and innovation opportunities within healthcare and on nursing practice	5, 6
6. Articulate the influence of changes in health care delivery systems, healthcare policies, and global environmental issues on professional nursing practice	1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9
7. Reflect on one's beliefs and values as they relate to professional practice – plan for professional career development	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.

IV. Course Policies

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

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Introductions & Discussions	13	390	39%
Unit Assignments	5	250	25%
Nursing Issues Paper	1	200	20%
Nursing Issues PowerPoint Presentation	1	150	15%
Nursing Issues Draft	1	10	1%
Practice Experience Journal	1	Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail
Total Points		1000	100%

Practice Experience Requirements

For this course, there are a total of 7 practice learning experience hours required. Please refer to the Nursing Program Handbook for questions.

- Write a letter to your politician (select an action alert here: http://www.rnaction.org/site/PageServer?pagename=nstat_take_action_home) Then follow the directions to write a letter to your politician. You may actually send the letter but it is not a requirement. Attach the letter to your practice experience journal.

- Interview a nurse in a professional nursing organization (ask about the pros and cons of membership). Write about the interview in your journal.
- (IHI) TA 102: Improving Health Equity (2hrs)
- (IHI) TA 103: Quality, Cost, and Value in Health Care (45mins)

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Overview • Identify key driving and restraining forces for increasing the educational entry level for professional nursing • Explore current evidence-based research that explore the impact of registered nurses educational level on patient outcomes • Explore personal values, beliefs, and feelings regarding whether the educational entry level in nursing should be increased to a baccalaureate or higher degree • Explain why the identification and implementation of evidence-based practice is important both for assuring quality of care and in advancing the development of nursing science • Describe factors that are driving the need for innovative and transformational leaders in health care for the 21st century • Discuss the importance of teamwork, effective communication, and transdisciplinary/de-siloed work as they relate to health care outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the course syllabus • Read Huston, Chapters 1-3 • Read the book review summary of Benner, P, Sutphen, M., Leonard, V., & Day, L. (2009) "Educating Nurses: A Call for Radical Transformation" found at the Carnegie Foundation Website • Read A Policy Perspective on the Entry into Practice Issue • Watch Chasing Zero • Read and complete the Unit 1 Assignment • Review the Nursing Issues Paper & Presentation Guidelines • Select a topic for the Nursing Issues Paper/Presentation assignment and post it in the discussion board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Unit 1.1 Discussion • Unit 1.2 Discussion • Unit 1 Assignment 	1, 2, 3, 7

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore factors affecting the current supply of registered nurses (RNs) in the United States as well as the current and projected demand through 2020 • Discuss consequences of the current shortage on quality of health care, current working conditions for RNs, and RN retention rates • Examine how the scope of global nurse migration has changed over the last decade • Explore factors driving legislative mandates for minimum registered nurse (RN) representation in the staffing mix • Summarize current research findings regarding the effect of staffing ratios and staffing mix on patient outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Huston, Chapters 5,6,11 • Read Statewide and National Impact of California's Staffing Law on Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Outcomes by Hickey, et al • Read The Future of Nursing: IOM/RWJ Report • Read information on the AACN Website regarding the Nursing Shortage, its impact and implications • Read A Review of Evidence-Based Strategies to Retain Graduate Nurses in the Profession by McDonald & Ward-Smith • Read Emerging Nursing Regulation in Developing Countries by Hudspeth • Read and complete the Unit 2 Assignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 2.1 Discussion • Unit 2.2 Discussion • Unit 2 Assignment 	1, 2, 3, 4

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify common terms used to describe workplace violence, including horizontal violence, bullying, and mobbing • Analyze common reasons that nurses are reluctant to report workplace violence • Delineate specific strategies that can be undertaken by individuals, employers, organizations, and government to reduce workplace violence • Identify the meaning of a six-sigma error failure rate and determine how error rates in health care compare with other industries such as banking and the airlines • Define whistle-blowing and differentiate between internal and external whistle-blowing • Examine the prevalence of substance abuse in the nursing profession and compare this prevalence with that in the other health care professions • Identify State Board of Nursing reporting requirements for nurses suspected of chemical dependency or of diverting drugs for personal use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cowen & Moorhead, Chs 36- 45 • Read Huston, Chapters 13, 15, 16, 17 • Read the article Horizontal Violence Survey Report • Read the article The Ethical Leadership Challenge to Do No Harm • Read and complete the Unit 3 Assignment • Read and complete the Nursing Issues Draft assignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 3.1 Discussion • Unit 3.2 Discussion • Unit 3 Assignment 	2, 3, 4, 6

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate strategies to assist new graduate nurses with socialization to the professional nursing role • Describe characteristics of classic mentoring relationships, as well as stages common to most mentoring relationships • Understand the historical gap between academic and service, and the role that transition to practice programs play in bridging that gap. • List the Institute of Medicine's Initiative on the Future of Nursing's four key messages and eight recommendations, and explain how the findings of the IOM report relate to transition to practice programs • Identify the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) competencies and explain their relevance to a new nurse's preparation for clinical practice • Examine the relationship between health disparities and a lack of diversity in the health care workforce • Explore factors leading to the lack of ethnic and gender diversity in nursing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Huston, Chapters 8-10 • Read <u>Changing Tides: Improving Outcomes Through Mentorship on All Levels of Nursing</u> • Read <u>Enhancing Diversity in Nursing</u> • Read <u>Impact of Healthy Work Environments and Multistage Nurse Residency Programs on Retention of Newly Licensed RNs</u> • Review the <u>QSEN Competencies</u> • Read and complete the <u>Unit 4 Assignment</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 4.1 Discussion • Unit 4.2 Discussion • Unit 4 Assignment 	3, 4, 5, 6

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify major U.S. legislation that has affected the ability of nurses to unionize over time • Explore possible motivations behind nurses' decision to join or not join unions • Describe the driving and restraining forces for increasing the entry educational level for advanced practice nursing to that of a practice doctorate • Reflect on his or her interest in exploring advanced practice nursing as a career choice • Define the terms politics and policy and explore their relationship • Explore the relationships among social inequity, health disparities, and access to health care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Huston, Chapters 18, 22, & 23 • Read <u>The Effect of a Nursing Labor Management Partnership on Nurse Turnover and Satisfaction</u> • Read <u>Understanding the DNP</u> • Read <u>The Evolving Healthcare Landscape: Nurses Cultivating the Profession of Nursing, Healthcare Reform, and Health Policy Advocacy</u> • View the <u>Nursing in Politics</u> video • Read and complete the <u>Unit 5 Assignment</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 5.1 Discussion • Unit 5.2 Discussion • Unit 5 Assignment 	3, 4, 6

Unit	Unit Learning Objectives	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due	Related Learning Outcomes
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify arguments for and against mandated continuing education for license renewal • Describe personal and professional benefits of professional certification • Identify potential partners/external stakeholders//alliances which could strengthen the nursing profession's power in national and global policy arenas • Identify current issues being debated in the legislature that affect nursing and health care • Explore the roles and responsibilities that individual nurses, employers, professional associations, and the media have to see that nurse are portrayed accurately and positively to the public • Explore the role professional associations can assume in shaping the future culture of professional nursing • Complete a self-evaluation regarding professional association involvement and reflect on whether greater involvement is desired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Huston, Chapters 19-21, & 24 • Read Factors Affecting the Value of Professional Association Affiliation • Read TV Nurses: Promoting a Positive Image of Nursing? • Browse the Welcome to the Profession Kit offered by the ANA • Read and complete the Nursing Issue Paper and Presentation assignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 6.1 Discussion • Unit 6.2 Discussion • Nursing Issues Paper • Nursing Issues Presentation • Practice Experience Journal 	4, 5, 6, 7

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.