

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DIVISION OF NURSING

I. Course Title: N115 Introduction to Nursing

II. Course Description:

Introduction to Nursing stresses the fundamentals of nursing principles and practice related to basic health needs of individuals. Emphasis is placed on the use of Nursing Process, critical thinking, development of beginning skills in nursing practice, and their application to simple health care needs. Concepts of mental and physical health, interpersonal relationships, pharmacology, and nutrition are integrated throughout. Clinical laboratory experience is provided in community health care agencies. Four and one half lecture hours, ten and one half laboratory hours. Prerequisite: Successful admission to the nursing program.

Co-requisites: BIO 211, ENG 101, PSY 101.

III. Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course:

I. As a **PROVIDER OF CARE**, the learner will be able to:

- A) Identify principles of social, physical, and biological sciences in providing care to clients with simple health care needs.
- B) Define and describe the nursing process in identifying health needs of the client.
- C) Explain how client stressors and coping mechanisms interact during adaptation to changes in health status.

II. As a **MANAGER OF CARE**, the learner will be able to:

- A) Outline steps needed to organize basic care for individual clients.
- B) Define the roles of nursing and other disciplines in providing health care to individual clients.
- C) Define the independent, dependent and interdependent components of nursing practice.

III. As a **MEMBER WITHIN THE DISCIPLINE OF NURSING**, the learner will be able to:

- A) Identify own responsibility for personal and professional growth and practice.
- B) Describe the roles of nursing within the health care delivery system.
- C) Describe components of safe nursing practice within nursing's legal and ethical framework.

IV. Course Components: Special Course Information

Credits: 8

Lecture: 4.5 hours per week = 4.5 credits

Classroom/Clinical Laboratory/Independent Study: 10.5 hours per week = 3.5 credits

A. Classroom Lectures:

Two 2-hour 20-minute sessions weekly, Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. in the Modular Classrooms.

B. Clinical Laboratory Practice:

Ten 7.5-hour sessions per semester at W.W. Backus, Lawrence and Memorial, Windham, Middlesex, St. Francis, or Day Kimball Hospitals, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday sections, 6:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. or Thursday, 2:00 - 10:00 p.m. Students will be required to pick up their clinical assignment from the hospital the night before starting at week 10 of the semester.

C. College Nursing Laboratory:

During the first month, there are four 7.5-hours all day labs from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. These are held on your assigned clinical day. Throughout the semester each week there are also two hour labs in the Nursing Lab as assigned.

D. Independent Study:

Each week students will have assigned independent study modules.

V. Faculty: (voicemail) (E-mail) (Vista email)

Full-Time

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Part-Time

Jill Blain, M.S.N., R.N., adjunct clinical faculty

Judith Dollard, M.S.N., R.N., adjunct clinical faculty

Christine Kirk, M.S.N., CEN, RN adjunct clinical faculty

Martha Healy, M.Ed., R.N., adjunct clinical faculty

Pat Niewinski, M.S.N., R.N., adjunct faculty

Susan Rosa, M.S.N., R.N., adjunct clinical faculty

Eddie Ouellett, B.S.N., R.N., adjunct clinical faculty

Karyn Therrien, M.S.N., R.N., adjunct clinical faculty

VI. Instructional Methods:

Lecture, discussion, small group activities, guest speakers, experiential exercises, videos, labs and clinical. Computerized programmed instruction and interactive video and simulations are also used. WebCT Vista and ePortfolio are also used as learning management tools.

VII. Textbooks: (All textbooks are used in subsequent courses)

1. Kozier & Erb, Fundamentals of Nursing, Concepts, Process and Practice (8th edition) Prentice Hall, 2007.
2. Kozier & Erb Techniques in Clinical Nursing (5th edition).
3. Ackley, Nursing Diagnosis Handbook (8th edition) Saunders, 2007.
4. Wilkinson, Nursing Process and Critical thinking (4th edition) Pearson Education, 2007.
5. Deglin, Davis Drug Guide for Nurses (10th edition) F.A. Davis, 2006.
6. Pickar, Dosage Calculations, with CD, (7th edition) Delmar Publications, 2005
7. Ebersole, Toward Health Aging “ Human Needs and Nursing Response (6th edition) Mosby.
8. Lehne, Pharmacology for Nursing Care, with CD (6th edition) Saunders, 2006.
9. Whitney, Nutrition for Health and Health Care, (3rd edition) Thompson Publications, 2006.
10. Varcarolis, Foundations of Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing, with CD, (5th edition) Saunders, 2005.
11. Pagana, Mosby’s Manual of Diagnostic and Lab Tests (3rd edition) Mosby, 2006.
12. London, Maternal – Newborn & Child Health Nursing, with CD, (2nd edition) Prentice Hall, 2005.
13. Lewis, Medical Surgical Nursing, with CD, (7th edition) Elsevier, 2007.
14. Dillon, Nursing Health Assessment: Clinical Pocket Guide F. A. Davis, 2005.

Optional:

15. Kozier & Erb Study Guide, (8th edition), Prentice Hall, 2008.
16. Dillon, Nursing Health Assessment, with CD, (2nd edition) F.A. Davis, 2007.
17. Myers, RN Notes, Davis, 2006.
18. Pernell & Paulanka, Guide to Culturally Competent Health Care F.A. Davis, 2005.
19. Summers, Diseases & Disorders (3rd edition) F.A. Davis, 2007.
20. Mosby, Medical, Nursing and Allied Health Dictionary, with CD, (7th edition) Elsevier, 2006.

VIII. Course Requirements:

A) In order to pass this course, the student must complete 1, 2, and 3:

- 1) The classroom theory requirements at a C level or better. Test items are drawn from **ALL** learning activities, i.e., lectures, readings, audiovisual aids, labs and independent learning modules. (In order to graduate with a major in nursing, a student must have averaged a C (2.0) or better in all nursing and co-requisite courses),

AND
- 2) The clinical objectives in a satisfactory manner.

From clinical, students will begin a Student Learning Portfolio: documentation of progress in critical thinking and theory application: components include, but are not limited to:

- process recording
- pain assessment
- nutrition assessment
- inflammation/wound assessment
- 2 representative examples of clinical data collection forms

3) Students must complete the math ProCalc test with a score of 80 or better by the third testing. See additional description below.

4) Students who are readmitted to N115 must maintain a 75 or C+ average.

B) Evaluation activities

Clinical: A conference will be scheduled **by the learner** with his/her clinical instructor for discussion and evaluation of the student's progress at approximately halfway through and after the last week of clinical. A clinical evaluation form will be completed by the student and instructor at these times. Clinical performance is evaluated on the basis of how well the learner meets the objectives and achievements identified on the evaluation form. Students must successfully meet the clinical objectives in order to pass the course. Students are responsible for self-evaluation and documentation on the student's copy of the N-115 clinical evaluation form. Students will submit their clinical data form in the computerized format required.

Theory: There will be six 45 minute quizzes and one two hour final examination in Nursing 115. Students requiring more time may work an additional 15 minutes through the class break. Class will resume at 9:00 a.m.

Weight: 6 quizzes, each worth 12.5% = 75% of total grade. Final examination = 25% of total grade. The six quizzes plus the final = the letter grade in the course.

The final course grade also requires a satisfactory evaluation for clinical performance and successful completion of the Med Math test.

The grading criteria are:

- A 92-100
- A- 89-91
- B+ 85-88
- B 82-84
- B- 79-81
- C+ 75-78
- C 70-74

D+ 65-69
D 60-64
F 0-59

The ProCalc/Metrology quiz is scheduled for Lab 8 (10/15 and 10/17).

Quiz dates are: Monday 9/10, 10/1, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, Wednesday 12/5.

The Final Exam is on Friday, December 14, 8:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Students will also be expected to complete the Fundamentals of Nursing Exam on Wednesday, December 12th, 2007.

C) Assignments:

The student must achieve a score of 80% or better on a paper and pencil Metrology test and 80% on a computerized ProCalc test. Use of a calculator **is not** permitted for this test. Students are not allowed to administer medications to clients in the hospital setting before successful completion of the Metrology and ProCalc quizzes. Medication administration is an expected critical element in the clinical portion of N115. Students may test a maximum of three times per course. Successful retesting must be complete by October 31, 2007.

Students are expected to prepare for clinical experience by reading appropriate material and studying audiovisual materials, self-study materials, and procedures before coming to the clinical area for practice. Students will make arrangements with their clinical instructor to receive the assignment the night before clinical. From week 10 on, students will be expected to go to the hospital to get their assignments.

Selected clinical skills must be satisfactorily validated in the College laboratory by dates specified on the pertinent lab skills checklists. These include: blood pressure/vital signs, hand washing, complete bed bath and occupied bed, IV pumps by 9/25; intramuscular injections by 11/19; and clinical site blood glucose monitoring by 10/31.

The instructor assumes the responsibility for assessing the student's ability to safely practice on a given clinical day, including the decision for dismissal from the clinical unit. Please refer to the Nursing Program Student Handbook for further clarification.

Written assignments: Students must satisfactorily complete all written assignments in computerized format. These papers will be graded "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory". All written assignments must be handed in to your clinical instructor on or before the due date. Assignments include clinical data collection forms, a nutrition assessment, a process

recording, a pain assessment, and an inflammation/wound assessment.

D) Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend each lecture, classroom laboratory and clinical experience. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor if absence is necessary and to fulfill objectives of the experience. All clinical absences are to be made up at the instructor's discretion.

E) Test Make-Up Policy

If you must be absent from a scheduled test due to illness or other emergency, contact the course coordinator by 8 a.m. on the morning of the test (383-5257). Failure to do so will result in a zero grade for that test.

Students with an approved absence from scheduled tests will be given an alternate form of the examination at a time and date toward the later part of the semester.

The make-up can be a cumulative make-up.

F) Statement on Penalty for Academic Dishonesty or Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the **unacknowledged** use of another person's words or ideas in your writing. Whether conscious or not, plagiarism is a serious offense. Evidence that you did not write material that you submit under your name can result in failure for the entire course. Refer to 2007-2008 College Catalog for policy. Students are expected to: "Demonstrate academic integrity by not engaging in conduct that has as its intent or effect the false representation of a student's academic performance, including but not limited to: (a) cheating on an examination; (b) collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; (c) plagiarizing, including the submission of others' ideas or papers (whether purchased, borrowed or otherwise obtained) as one's own; (d) stealing or having unauthorized access to examination or course materials; (e) falsifying records or laboratory or other data; (f) submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; and (g) knowingly assisting another student in any of the above, including an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination, or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed." Consequences are delineated in the College Catalog.

G) Additional Expected Activity Requirements

Students are expected to participate in class discussions, role-play, material review and lab practice. Participation enhances the learning experience and allows students and instructors the opportunity to learn from each other.

Students are reminded that classroom demeanor is a vital part of participation.

Students should behave appropriately at all times and are asked to practice common courtesy, recognizing each person's right to learn in an atmosphere conducive to the learning experience. Students who violate the rules of courtesy and/or professional demeanor will be asked to leave.

Students are required to attend all class meetings. Tardiness and early leaves as well as absences have a direct impact on student learning.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY:

Students may withdraw, in writing, at the Registrar's Office for any reason until the end of the 10th week of classes. From the 11th week through the end of the 13th week, a student may withdraw with the signature of the instructor or advisor. Refer to the Nursing and College Student Handbooks and College Catalog. Students who receive an overall unsatisfactory clinical grade at any time in the rotation will fail this course and receive a grade of F. This course does not offer midterm theoretical warning grades. Students with concerns about their course average are encouraged to contact the course coordinator.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT:

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require classroom or test-taking modifications, please see the course coordinator as soon as possible. If you have not already done so, please be sure to register with Chris Scarborough if you have a learning disability, ADD or ADHD, or Gayla Holmes in Student Services. Also see the Three Rivers Community College Catalog for additional policies and information.

INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING NEEDS:

All students will complete individual NET testing and review learning approaches most appropriate for them. The learner has the option of choosing which method of studying or combination of methods is most suitable for his/her learning needs. Faculty may request completion of additional learning activities as indicated by student needs. At the discretion of the faculty team, individual student clinical rotations may be resequenced to facilitate student learning. **Extra practice and tutoring sessions can be planned in the Nursing Laboratory at the request of the student or faculty** - see lab referral, tutoring referral and clinical occurrence forms. Study groups can be formed. Additional reading materials can be suggested. Audio, videotapes, and computer programs, including patient simulations are available. All of these methods enhance learning for the nursing student and are there for each student to increase their success and feelings of satisfaction in attaining their goal of becoming a safe practitioner. The Helene Fuld Nursing Lab and Nursing Tutors are in place to promote success and retention. Students are encouraged to utilize these independent opportunities weekly.

CLINICAL CANCELLATION DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER:

When the college is closed for reasons of inclement weather, clinical experiences will also be canceled. When the college delays opening, clinical experiences will begin one hour later. However, students should use discretion in traveling in poor weather conditions. If you are unable to report to scheduled clinical experiences, be sure to notify your clinical instructor. Preplanning and communication with your clinical instructor and course coordinator is important. (The College Student Handbook and Catalog lists radio stations announcing cancellations.) There also will be a notice of delays or cancellation on a recording at 886-0177. Postings may also be seen on the Three Rivers Web Page: www.trcc.commnet.edu

COURSE OVERVIEW:

Introduction to Nursing serves as a baseline to the curriculum by emphasizing health and its promotion, basic human needs and basic nursing actions. Beginning concepts of community and mental health are also introduced. As the course progresses the learner is introduced to some deviations from wellness in order to recognize different levels of health. Critical thinking and a

problem solving approach is applied in meeting basic human needs and alleviating common health problems. Students begin to use reflective thinking through the use of ePortfolio and assigned activities.

Nursing care focuses on meeting basic human needs through the use of therapeutic measures and nursing actions. A learning laboratory for the purposes of demonstration, self-study, tutoring, and practice helps the learner to acquire beginning skills. Clinical experience is provided in community facilities and general hospitals with appropriate faculty instruction.

To assist the learner in understanding physiological patient needs, Anatomy and Physiology I is a co-requisite course to Introduction to Nursing. English 101 is also a co-requisite, to enable learners to achieve proficiency in written expression. Psychology 101, the third co-requisite, provides learners with knowledge of basic psychosocial principles supporting nursing practice.

LAR/mc 8/07