

Three Rivers Community College
Division of Nursing
Nursing 228 - Trends and Issues in Nursing, Spring 2006

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Trends and Issues in Nursing utilizes a variety of learning activities such as lecture-discussion, seminars, guest panels, independent study, and other selected experiences. Students explore the history, trends, and current issues related to the role and function of the nurse, nursing education, nursing practice, professional organizations, and the health care system. This course must be taken in the final semester. Prerequisites: NURS 115, NURS 116, NURS 226. Corequisite: NURS 227.

COURSE COMPONENTS:

2 credits

Class lecture: Wednesday 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Room: 304

FACULTY:

Nancy G. Rymut, RN, MS, CEN

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students must complete all assignments in order to receive a course grade. In order to pass the course, students must earn a grade of C or higher. The grade will be based on written assignments and one examination. Written assignments will be graded using the applicable guidelines. The instructor retains the right to return written assignments that are unsatisfactory. The student has the right to resubmit that assignment once in order to receive a grade, from which 10 points would be deducted. Written assignments with unsatisfactory grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation will have points deducted. All assignments are due at class time on the specified date. Late assignments will **not** be accepted and will result in loss of points. One cumulative final exam will be administered. No make up exams can be administered. Late exams will not be accepted and will result in a grade of 0. It is expected that students will complete the final exam without the assistance of others. Violations of ethical behavior will result in a grade of 0 and possible disciplinary action as described in the college catalog under academic dishonesty. Failure to submit the final exam will result in a grade of 0.

* It is mandatory that all students will be present on days when there is a guest speaker. Failure to attend for any reason on the specified days will result in a deduction of 5 points per day from student's final grade.

Graded Assignments:

Required Written assignments:

Resume, cover letter, interview follow up letter 33%

Examination:

Final	33%
Term Paper	34%

Letter grades will be based on college and department policy. See student handbook.

TEXT:

Zerwekh, J. and Claburn, J., NURSING TODAY: TRANSITION AND TRENDS, fifth edition, W.B. Saunders. Co. 2006.

In addition, students are expected to utilize current professional periodicals and professional web sites.

WITHDRAWAL STATEMENT:

If withdrawal occurs during the semester, the grade assigned for the course will be based on the College's Withdrawal Policy as described in the College Catalog and the Nursing Division Student Handbook.

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

If you have a hidden or visible disability that may require classroom modifications, please see course coordinator as soon as possible. If you have not already done so, please be sure to register with the Dean of Students or with the Disabled Student Counselor.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

Trends and Issues in Nursing, which is placed in the final semester, is designed to prepare the student for entrance into the social system of nursing as a profession.

The student is helped to sense his or her emerging place as an individual nurse within the employing agency, the health care system, the profession, and the nursing organizations.

Since stress is anticipated in the adaptive process ahead, the student is, to the extent possible alerted to the realities and how to deal with them through understanding the profession's history, the present bureaucratic structures in which nursing operates, the present issues facing nursing and the options for action open to its practitioners.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:**As a PROVIDER OF CARE:**

1. Explore issues related to nursing and/or the health care system and utilize the nursing process as the framework for approaching nursing issues.
2. Analyze stress-producing factors of the health care system that impact the client or nurse and develop coping strategies.

As a MANAGER OF CARE:

3. Utilize a variety of techniques to communicate views on nursing issues with individuals and groups, and bring about change in the system and the work setting.
4. Suggest techniques for communicating with fellow workers for improving client care.

As a **MEMBER WITHIN THE DISCIPLINE OF NURSING:**

5. Relate the activity of the nurse in the major professional organizations to the impact of organized nursing on nurses and the profession.
6. Apply knowledge of past major developments in nursing and society to the emerging trends and issues in the role and function of the nurse and nursing.
7. Select an appropriate place within the health care system in which to practice nursing.
8. Analyze factors impacting the health care system.
9. Analyze the nurse's legal, ethical, and professional role in assuring rights of clients and recipients of nursing care.
10. Suggest techniques for communicating with an employer to define the rights, responsibilities and expectations of the employer and employee.
11. Plan for future learning and professional development.