

## **NURS 225 Syllabus - Fall 2012**

**COURSE:** NURS 225: Alterations in Health I

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3 semester hours

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces concepts related to the nursing care of individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in health that build on concepts, knowledge and skills introduced in practical nursing programs and the supporting sciences. Emphasis is placed on utilizing scientific principles and the nursing process as a framework for providing and managing nursing care to individuals along the health-illness continuum. Upon completion, students will incorporate basic decision-making skills and therapeutic communication to meet basic human needs for individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in health across the lifespan including end-of-life issues.

**MEETING TIME:** **Section I** 9:00-11:50 AM on Monday

BSC, LRSC, WSC, WSC-Minot

**Section II** 1:00-3:50 PM on Monday

DCB-Bottineau, DCB-Valley City, FBCC, LRSC-Mayville

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**PREREQUISITES:** Admission to Dakota Associate Degree Nursing Program

**COREQUISITES:** NURS 224, Professional Role Development

NURS 226, Maternal Child Nursing

NURS 227, Clinical Applications I

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

1. Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Review Package, Skills Modules, and Virtual Review for RN students.
  2. LaCharity, L., Kumagai, C., Bartz, B., (2011). *Prioritization, Delegation, & Assignment, Practice Exercises for Medical-Surgical Nursing*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Elsevier/Mosby St. Louis
  3. Lewis (2011) *Medical-surgical Nursing: Assessment and management of clinical problems*. (8<sup>th</sup> ed.) St. Louis: Mosby. Text and/or eBook
  4. Lewis (2011) *Study guide for medical-surgical nursing: Assessment and management of clinical problems*. (8<sup>th</sup> ed.) St. Louis: Mosby.
  5. Lewis (2011) *Virtual Clinical Excursions (VCE) for medical-surgical nursing: Assessment and management of clinical problems*. (8<sup>th</sup> ed.) St. Louis: Mosby.
  6. Silvestri (2011). *Saunders Comprehensive Review for the NCLEX-RN*. (5<sup>th</sup> ed.) St. Louis: Saunders/Mosby.
- \*Students must have reliable high speed internet which is required to access online books and resources.***

#### **GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS:**

1. Communication- includes listening, reading, writing, and use of verbal and nonverbal communication
2. Survival Skills- time management, study skills, stress management, and wellness concepts
3. Critical Thinking- the ability to identify and define criteria understand biases, and construct objective judgments
4. Problem Solving- ability to analyze situations and synthesize solutions

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

***Upon completion of the course the learner will be able to:***

1. Utilize the nursing process as a framework to prioritize nursing care for unique individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in healthcare.
2. Build on previously-learned principles of medical surgical nursing including concepts of pharmacology and nutrition.
3. Explain the pathophysiology and diagnostic measures for unique individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in health care.
4. Plan therapeutic measures and nursing interventions for unique individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in health care.
5. Analyze therapeutic communication, safety, infection control, and basic decision-making skills in the management of nursing care to unique individuals along the health-illness continuum.
6. Support the use of evidence-based practice and teaching-learning principles that promote self care as they relate to unique individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in health care across the lifespan including end-of-life issues.
7. Demonstrate accountability and responsibility for own professional behavior and development.

**ASSESSMENT METHODS:** Student progress will be assessed using written examinations, video assignments, quizzes, worksheets, online activities, case studies, computer program activities, and class participation.

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:** Lecture over IVN, class discussion, audiovisual material, reading assignments, online materials, case studies,

independent assignments, supplemental readings, guest speakers.

**GRADE BREAKDOWN:** Exams: 95%

Quizzes and Written Assignments: 5%

100%

**GRADING POLICY:**

The following grading scale is used:

92.0 - 100.00 = A

84.0 - 91.99 = B

76.0 - 83.99 = C

68.0 - 75.99 = D

Below 68 = F

**There will be no rounding up of grades for any reason.**

**There is no extra credit offered.**

**GRADING:**

Students have access to and should review the eCollege grading calculation method. Students are responsible to know what their grades are during the course. Please review the gradebook frequently. If an eCollege assignment or exam in the student's gradebook says the assignment or exam has not been submitted or has not been entered, it is then treated as a fact that the student did not do the assignment or exam unless the student has written proof that they did in fact complete and submit such assignment/exam as outlined in the directions. Make sure your assignments are submitted well before the due date so you can make sure they are in. All gradebook questions must be addressed by the student to the lead instructor at midterm and then again during the week before finals. There will be no changes accepted to the gradebook regarding absent or late/missed assignments or late/missed exams during finals week. It is the student's responsibility to know what their grades are and contact the instructors or their nursing coordinator for a plan to improve.

1. **Grades:** Grades are given for both theory classes and clinical performance of clinical nursing courses. Students must earn a minimum grade of "C" with a maintained 2.5 GPA or better in all required courses of the program. Students who fail a theory or clinical course will be dismissed from the nursing program. A final grade of D or F is considered to be an unsatisfactory grade.
2. **Assignments/Quizzes/Clinical Paperwork:** All assignments must be completed and submitted on time in the manner specified by the faculty. Students may fail the course if all assignments are not completed. Late/makeup work will not be accepted (student will receive a 0%) unless previously arranged with the instructor. Students who submit late/makeup work may receive an admonition notice and if work continues to be submitted late, they will progress through the disciplinary process.
3. **Exams:** Students will notify the **coordinator/site manager AND the lead course instructor** 1 hour prior to missing the scheduled exam for the day. Failure to notify these individuals or missing more than 1 exam day may result in an admonition notice. Any exams that are not made up in one week will receive a 0% for a grade on that exam. Students must make up the exam before or on the next date they are scheduled to be on campus. In the cases of extenuating circumstances the lead instructor and site coordinator may extend the deadline for exams. It is the student's responsibility to contact the nursing coordinator to arrange a makeup exam. "Notification" means that the student sends an email with the appropriate

information to the lead nursing instructor and coordinator prior to one hour before the exam is scheduled..

4. **Records of Grades:** The faculty strongly endorses the idea that each student is responsible for knowing his/her own academic status based on grades from learning activities. Grades are recorded in the eCollege gradebook. Please carefully review the student tutorial for an explanation of how grades are calculated in the program. Any time a student has unsatisfactory averages, he/she should contact the instructor for guidance.

## **Attendance Policy**

The Dakota Nursing Program supports the college policy on attendance as stated in your college catalog. In addition, the nursing program implements strict attendance policies for classroom, lab and clinical experiences.

Regular, punctual attendance demonstrates professional behavior and responsibility. In recognition of the fact that the primary learning takes place in the teacher-student relationship, the principle governing class attendance is that the student is expected to attend all regularly scheduled classes (classroom, laboratory, and clinical) and is responsible for meeting course objectives. Absences may make it impossible for a student to meet course objective and result in failure of the course. A student may be excused from class or clinical with the approval of the instructor. See course syllabi for course specific attendance policies. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to fulfill missed assignments with the appropriate faculty member. All makeup work may have a deduction in theory, lab, or clinical applications. Please note that all missed hours in lab or clinical need to be made up with an hour for each hour missed.

After three days of theory absences, or two clinical/lab absences a student will be required to meet with the nursing coordinator or site manager and give a written explanation for the absences and provide a written plan for improvement. A student will receive an admonition notice for the 3rd theory absence, a critical behavior for the 4th theory absence, a critical behavior for the 5th theory absence and will then be dismissed from the program for excessive absences upon the 5th<sup>th</sup> theory absence. The student will be given an admonition notice for the 2nd clinical/lab absence, a critical behavior for the 3<sup>rd</sup> clinical/lab absence, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> critical behavior and dismissal from the program upon the 4<sup>th</sup> clinical/lab absence. The nursing leadership team has the authority to adjust the guidelines above in a case of extenuating circumstances.

Students will notify the **coordinator/site manager AND the lead course instructor (or clinical/lab instructor** if a lab/clinical is scheduled) 1 hour prior to a theory test, lab or clinical if unable to attend. Clinical absences will result in makeup clinical hours. The nursing coordinator will seek advice from the faculty on input related to this matter. "Notification" means that the student sends an email with the appropriate information or speaks directly to the nursing instructor or coordinator per telephone or in person. In the case of a clinical/lab day, the student must speak to the clinical instructor directly or if it is impossible to reach the instructor directly, the student must leave a phone message with the clinical instructor clearly stating their name and number.

Absences related to school sponsored activities, such as an athlete attending a basketball game in which he/she is participating are exempt from this policy. Coordinators must be notified and work made up in advance of the scheduled absence when possible.

If a student has an unexcused **tardy**, or is unprepared for a clinical assignment the student will be sent home by the clinical instructor, and the day will be counted as an absence. The student will

also receive an admonition notice for being unprepared for the clinical experience, along with a makeup day for that clinical.

If the student is tardy or leaves the classroom and/or lab early a total of three times it will be counted as one absence, at that point the student will be required to meet with the nursing coordinator and give a written explanation for the tardiness and provide a written plan for improvement. A student may at the coordinators discretion receive an admonition or critical behavior notice. Leaving the classroom or arriving late to a classroom with more than a 30 minute absence will be counted as an absence.

#### **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:**

It is expected that students will show sensitivity to their peers as well as instructors by avoiding any activity that may cause distraction during class. Incivility will not be tolerated and is grounds for disciplinary action. Cell phone use (texting or talking), cameras, side conversations, and children are not allowed in the classroom. Cell phones must be turned off during class. Students may use computers for taking notes during class. Students may not email, access the internet for any non-class related material, or personal use.

Nursing is a profession and thus requires professional behavior. It is expected that students will act in a professional manner displaying commitment to learning in the classroom, lab, all clinical areas, all college areas, and at all times in the public (including social networking sites including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter and Google+) when representing the college or the profession of nursing. **Unprofessional behaviors will merit receipt of admonition/critical behavior notices.**

#### **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Any student who has emergency medical information to share with me or has a disability that may prevent you from fully demonstrating your abilities should contact the instructor by appointment to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunities necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate his/her educational opportunities.

#### **DROP AND WITHDRAW DATES CAN BE FOUND ON YOUR CAMPUS WEBSITE**

##### **AT:**

BSC – <http://www.bismarckstate.edu/current/records/calendarsdeadlines/>

DCB – [http://www.dakotacollege.edu/academics\\_16weekcalendar.php](http://www.dakotacollege.edu/academics_16weekcalendar.php)

FBCC – [http://www.fortbertholdcc.edu/pdf/Academic\\_Calendar.pdf](http://www.fortbertholdcc.edu/pdf/Academic_Calendar.pdf)

LRSC – <http://www.lrsc.edu/programs/default.asp?ID=460>

WSC – <http://www.willistonstate.edu/Current-Students/Important-Dates-and-Information.html>

**If you have any questions about dropping or withdrawing from a class please contact your campus coordinator or registrar.**

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

It is expected that you will read the assigned textbook chapters PRIOR to coming to class.

All written work must be completed and turned in to the instructor prior to taking any scheduled exam. **Any assignments which are not complete and turned in will result in the student failing the course with a grade of F.**

Students are required to read the Dakota Nursing Program student handbook upon admission to the program and submit the signature form found in the handbook showing that the student will agree to follow the information and policies found in the handbook.

Nursing is a profession which demands high standards and a strict code of ethics. There is no place in nursing for dishonesty. Anyone caught in any dishonest activity (cheating,

plagiarism, copying other's work, theft, etc.) will receive an F in the course. A minimum grade of C in each course is required to progress in the nursing program.

Material for this course will be posted onto the eCollege site at

<http://www.bismarckstate.edu/online/> It is your responsibility to check this site for

assignments and notes. It is also your responsibility to know what your grade is in the course by reviewing the eCollege gradebook.

### **WEB STREAMING:**

Through the internet, the IVN courses in the Dakota Nursing Program have the ability to be viewed via web streaming. Some computers are unable to handle the webstreaming if they do not operate with enough speed. To view a streamed even, please go to <http://alt.ndus.edu/> once at this web site; look on the left hand side of the page. Scroll down to "Video Streaming." Select "Services" and then "Viewing Instructions" Follow the directions to view your class or event. Classes will be available for viewing for the duration of the semester. Watching class via webstreaming does not count as attendance for class but is highly encouraged if you are unable to attend class or wish to review concepts covered in class. Please refer to attendance policy if there are any questions.

### **FACULTY/STUDENT COMMUNICATION:**

Faculty/students are responsible for checking bulletin boards and/or mailboxes as appropriate at each campus for messages each class day. Email is used extensively within the eCollege Learning Management System, students are responsible to have a **working college email account** and check it daily during the semester. Students must also check eCollege announcements in each course at least once per week. The purpose is to assure rapid communication between students and instructors. *Students must notify the nursing coordinator if their email address changes.*

Faculty and students must identify themselves **professionally** with each contact (mail, email, or telephone). This includes first and last name as well as identification of location within the consortium.

Communication between students and faculty should remain on a professional level with no questionable jokes, cartoons, etc. transmitted. Students using the institution's computer labs are reminded that they cannot download information onto the computer hard drives. Any information must be stored on CDs, DVDs, or an alternate drive.