Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi
College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Professional Nursing Issues I
NURS 3150 _001_ Spring 2013

Class Time:  Monday 1100 – 1150 - IH 160
Faculty:  Nancy T. Goodman RNC, MSN - IH 343
Office hours:  Monday 1330 – 1500, Wednesday 1330 - 1500,
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday by appointment
Internet:  nancy.goodman@.tamucc.edu
Telephone:  (361) 825-2607

Credits:  One-semester hours (1.0)

Course description:  Concentrates on legal, ethical, economic and
political issues affecting the nurse as an individual, a professional, and health care delivery
to clients, groups and aggregates. Consideration is given to self-discovery, personal
assertiveness, role conflict, negotiation and collective bargaining. Students are encouraged
to apply critical thinking strategies, during the course discussions and presentation.

Prerequisites:  NURS 3202, 3318, 3435, 3342, 3548, 3628

Course Objectives:

1. Analyzes the impact of selected historical, political, ethical, legal and professional issues
   on the health care delivery.
2. Analyzes multidimensional influences on health and health care
3. Accepts responsibility for own learning and professional growth.
4. Completes assignments is assigned time frame
5. Utilizes group dynamics and communication skills in collaboration with individuals and
groups.

Teaching Methods

This is a seminar course which requires the student to actively participate in discussions in
class. There will be individual assignments, independent reading and study for the student to
demonstrate learning. These methods will be utilized to develop an understanding of the
current issues in nursing today. The faculty member will be available to assist the student in
researching the issues being discussed

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You will need to use the web and the library to research the topics that will be discussed on a weekly basis.

The Texas NPA, copy of the Standards of Practice, and Unprofessional Standards from the NPA – www.bon.state.tx.us

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. The course is to be a discussion course. Due to the size of the class the student will submit the required assignment relating to the topic of the day in class. The student needs to plan ahead and make sure that the assignment can be printed. The assignment must be submitted in class. I will not accept any assignment via e-mail.
2. All weekly assignments with be typed with the name attached.
3. All weekly assignments must be referenced as to the source of the information.
4. Any dishonest behavior will result in a zero for that assignment.
5. All weekly assignments must be submitted by the due date unless the faculty member posts a change in the due date or a different date is negotiated prior to the due date. There will be no exceptions.
6. When there is not an assignment for the week attendance will be taken and the student will get credit for being in class. This will be part of the discussion and assignment grade.
7. The student is responsible for making sure to sign in.
8. The two papers must be submitted using APA format. The student must look this up and follow the guidelines. Follow the guidelines as outlined below.
9. There will be no food permitted in class. You should eat lunch either before class or after class.
10. This course will be dealing with relevant information to help the student in developing their professional role as a nurse.

GRADING POLICY

The grading scale for the course is:

A = 90 -100
B = 83 - 89
C = 75 – 82
D = 67 – 74
F = below 67
Grading Criteria

Weekly class discussions, assignment and presence in class 55%
Papers – Thinking as a Nurse 20%
  Disciplinary Action 15%
  Discussion in BB 10%

Weekly Class attendance and assignment

Complete the assignment of the week and be prepared to discuss in class. The written assignment must be typed with references. You do not have to have a cover page for the weekly assignment. The student should research the topic. The student must demonstrate scholarly thought in the assignment. The assignment will be submitted in class. If the name is not on the assignment then the student will lose the points for that week. You need to plan ahead and make sure that you can print the assignment prior to class. Assignments will only be accepted in class. Some assignments may be activities in class.

Grading Rubric for individual Assignments – each assignment is 10 points

Written work contains evidence that the student understands the content 3
Written work demonstrates student’s unique ideas about the content 5
Written work includes references to construct contributions 2
No more than 2 pages with references to be turned in the day of discussion
Details for the assignments will be posted under Units

Grading Criteria for the Thinking as a Nurse Paper – 20 points

  APA format 7
  Synthesis of the material 10
  Well organized and clear 3

Thinking as a Nurse Paper – submit in assignments in Blackboard

Write a 4 – 5 page paper using the information in the text – Thinking as a Nurse. Include at least one other reference besides the Text.
Cover the following areas
Why is it important for you as a student to be able to think as a nurse?
How will you incorporate this into your current practice as a student and then as a new professional?
Which of the areas are the most important to you?
Any other areas you think important
Disciplinary Action – submit in Assignments in Blackboard – 15 points
Go to the Texas BON website – www.bon.state.tx.us
Go under Disciplinary Action – then Recent disciplinary Action – select a RN – from the most recent areas. It must be a RN not a LVN.
Discuss the specific issue with the nurse –
When did it happen, the type of agency where the issue took place, educational preparation if available? The findings of the BON and the disciplinary action taken by the BON. What is your opinion about the BON decision?

Specific Issue 5
Board action 4
Your opinion 4
Reference 2

Post Two responses to other students disciplinary action - 10 points
Comment on at least two other classmates’ case. You need to respond to those in your assigned group. You can feel free to read the cases in the other groups but keep your responses to you assigned group.

The highest standards of academic honesty are expected from the student. Faculty adheres to the University policy regarding academic honesty as published in the University Catalog.

Plagiarism means to steal and pass off the work of another as one’s own work. It usually results from bad paraphrasing or improper referencing. The substitution of a few changes from those of the original author and forgetting to use quotation marks, and reference citation are technically considered plagiarism. The only safe way to paraphrase is to read the original over several times and then write your conception of what you have read without looking at the original. In other words, when paraphrasing, keep the source book closed! Wilson, p. 523
When you do not reference your work it is plagiarism.

CODE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Ethical behavior is essential in nursing since nurses have enormous responsibility. All students are expected to adhere to the rules of this educational institution. Details regarding the code of conduct and sanctions for violations of the code of conduct can be found in the University's student handbook as well as the CONHS student handbook. For this course, a student found guilty of academic misconduct including, but not limited to, cheating and plagiarism will be given a zero on the exam or/assignment for the first offense and a failing grade for the course for a second offense.
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Student Affairs:
http://studentaffairs.tamucc.edu/JAffairs/ja_hndbk_rules_n_regulations.htm
Students with Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at 361.825.5816 or visit the office in Driftwood 101.

Academic Advising: The College of Nursing and Health Sciences require that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Faculty Center rooms 163 & 165, and advisors are Johanna DuBose 825-3748 and Angelica Santillan 825-2461.

Grade Appeal Process
As stated in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CONHS) Handbook under section VII Policies and Procedures, a student that believes they have an academic grade appeal is encouraged to go through the CONHS academic review process prior to pursuing University Grade Appeal. See the handbook for the process.

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Continuity of the course in case of an emergency such as a hurricane. The procedure will be posted in the BB course shell when we are alerted that the coastal bend is in the path of a storm. Three weeks of assignments will be posted. You can down load the information and when you have access to the course again you can post your assignment.