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Credits: 6 credit hours

Prerequisites: All first semester Junior level courses

Course Description: Introduces the student to the use of the nursing process in the care of adults with chronic or non-complex illness. Uses a systems approach to discuss the effects of illness on individual and family and to examine the disruption of growth and development patterns across the lifespan from young adult to senior years. The course includes clinical laboratory to allow the student the opportunity to apply theoretical concepts to clinical practice in diverse adult populations. Prerequisites: All first semester junior level courses.

Course Objectives With Examples of Outcome Criteria:
At the completion of Nursing Care of Adults I, the student will be able to:

1. Examine applicable nursing and non-nursing theories related to growth and development and transcultural nursing.
2. Give examples of relevant and recent research findings, particularly as they relate to nursing care of patients with disorders of physiological systems.
   a. Discuss research topics that could improve the care of clients and their families.
   b. Seek opportunities to acquire and apply new knowledge to practice.
3. Describe ethical and legal principles impacting health care across the age/health continua, including informed consent, diminished autonomy, individual freedom of choice, and confidentiality.
4. Analyze the use of the nursing process with individuals experiencing illness.
   a. Utilize critical thinking skills to assess adults and families responses to specific illnesses.
   b. Utilize the data collection process based upon Gordon’s functional health patterns to derive nursing diagnoses appropriate to the client and family.
   c. Describe appropriate nursing and medical interventions for health challenges common to adults.
   d. Demonstrate appropriate therapeutic nursing interventions to assist clients and their families to attain, maintain, or regain optimal health.
   e. Demonstrate safe, technically competent care of adults with common medical/surgical health challenges.
5. Discuss patient teaching plans for selected physiological disorders.
6. Identify concepts related to the disruption of growth and development patterns across the lifespan.
7. Demonstrate responsibility for own learning at levels consistent with course and professional expectations.
   a. Demonstrate professional role behavior.
   b. Demonstrate accountability for own behavior in implementation of nursing care.
   c. Demonstrate collaborative skills with members of the interdisciplinary health care team in planning, coordinating, providing and evaluating patient care.
8. Describe caring behaviors to be utilized while providing nursing care to clients from diverse populations.

**Required Textbooks:**

These books are in the bookstore.


**On-line Purchase of 2 HESI exams**: cost should be approximately $60 total. (Additional information to be provided in class.)

Evolve Online Case Studies Access Codes (will be provided to students)

**RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS:**


**Learning Experiences and Teaching Methods:**

Course objectives may be met through individual study using suggested resources, active involvement in classroom activities, formal and/or informal exchange of information/ideas with classmates and colleagues regarding specific topics to include utilization of critical thinking skills. Teaching methods include lecture, seminar, discussion, small group work, independent study, computer-assisted instruction, audio-visual aids and the assignments listed below. While the professor will provide guidance and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-direction, seeking consultation and demonstration of course objectives.

Students are expected to act in a professional manner and are accountable for their
behaviors and learning.

**Student Class Responsibilities**

1. This is a web-assisted course and lecture/learning materials may be found on the course website.
2. Students are expected to respect the learning rights of all others in the classroom. Individual conversations, chatting online, text messaging, arriving to class late, sleeping during class, working on online assignments, playing computer games, surfing the internet and studying for another class during classroom time are unacceptable behaviors. Students who demonstrate these behaviors may be asked to leave class.
3. Cell phones and pagers are to be turned off or put on vibrate for the duration of the class; they must be off for examinations.
4. No children are allowed in class at any time.
5. Students are expected to complete all required reading prior to each class. As a 6-credit course, it is expected that students will spend 8-12 hours of independent study and preparation each week in addition to class time. Preparation for class includes assigned reading, review of appropriate anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology, and review of assessment of appropriate body systems. **Students are held accountable for content from previous and concurrent courses. Questions related to content from previous or concurrent coursework may appear on quizzes or examinations.**
6. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain handouts, lecture notes, and information from announcements in the event a class is missed.
7. Taping of lectures is permitted in this course. Clinical examples cannot be recorded due to patient confidentiality and HIPAA regulations.
**Class Policies**

**Grading Policy**

Completion of NURS 3628 requires the successful completion of both the clinical and theoretical components of the course.

In order to pass Nursing 3628, the student must achieve the following:

1. Exam 1 15%
   Exam 2 20%
   Exam 3 20%
   Comprehensive Final Exam 20%
   Evolve Case Studies (5) 5%
   Course Modules (2 + math quiz) 5%
   In-Class Medication Quizzes (5) 10%   Top 4 quiz marks will be utilized
   Participation Grade 5%

   Total: 100%

2. A combined average of 75% on the 4 course exams is required in order for the other 25% of the course grade to be considered. **Students who do not achieve a 74.5% exam average will receive a D or F for the course based on their exam average.** In calculating the final course grade only the final overall course grade will be rounded.

3. A grade of “pass” in the “Critical Elements” of the Clinical Evaluation Tool used for the clinical component of the course.

4. Completion of all required clinical paperwork, including concept mapping and additional assignments required by clinical faculty.

**Grading scale for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, College of Nursing & Health Sciences is:**

- A 89.5-100
- B 82.5-89.4
- C 74.5-82.4
- D 67-74.4
- F Below 67

**Attendance Policy:**

The class roll list will be circulated in each class. Students are expected to sign in if they are present. Absences from more than 3 classes may result in a reduction in class grade of one level, for example, from an A to a B. Each class period is worth 3 hours of lecture, persons leaving or asked to leave prior to the end of class, or at any time during class, will be counted absent for that hour of class. Although there are no excused class absences except for official university business, persons who are ill should be courteous to classmates and not attend class.
Late Work & Make-up Examinations:
No make-up examinations will be administered. If a student misses either Exam 1, 2, or 3 the percentage weight of the missed exam will be equally distributed in accordance with the percentage weight of the exams remaining. Late assignments will not be graded unless there are extenuating circumstances. If your faculty is not notified prior to or on the date the assignment is due the grade will be 0 regardless of circumstances.

Examination Guidelines:
1. Students must achieve a combined average of 75% on all exams to pass the course.
2. The final exam is comprehensive.
3. Students are held accountable for content from previous and concurrent courses. Questions related to content from previous or concurrent coursework may appear on quizzes or examinations.
4. All exam dates and times are printed on the course schedule.
5. Exam dates, times and locations are subject to change.
6. Students who are late for exams will not be given extra time.
7. No examination or test material is to leave the classroom.
8. Any student determined by faculty to have cheated on the exam will receive a score of zero for that exam and may be subject to failure from the course and dismissal from the nursing program.
9. Exams will be given only on the date and time scheduled. For each exam:
   o Cell phones, PDAs and beepers are not allowed during exams and must be turned off.
   o All books, bags, notebooks, and purses will be left at the front of or outside the room.
   o A brief examination blueprint will be provided on Blackboard.
   o Medication math problems will be included on each exam. Calculators may be used and will be provided on the computer exam interface.
   o Exam dates, times, and locations are subject to change.
10. Course faculty will review the exam and the grades will be posted on Blackboard. Those students scoring below 75 on any exam are encouraged to make an appointment with the faculty/course coordinator to review their exam and address their concerns.
11. All students will send an e-mail via Blackboard to the Course Coordinator indicating they have read and will adhere to the Test Taking Policies and Procedures for NURS 3628. Failure to follow these policies may result in failure of the exam and/or failure of NURS 3628.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism
Nurses bear enormous responsibilities and ethical behavior is essential. Unethical behavior may result in patient harm or death. University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to a penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work.) Below are websites that detail the code of conduct and expected ethical behaviors of students:
In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a student receiving a score of zero for that component of the course and the student may be subject to failure from the course and dismissal from the nursing program.

**Dropping a Class**

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with Professor Greathouse before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Faculty cannot drop you from a course. Please refer to the official University calendar for the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term and other important deadlines.

**Grade Appeals***

Information regarding Student Grade Appeals can be found in the CONHS Student Handbook. 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 assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

**Disabilities Accommodations***

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 call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Driftwood 101.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these, in advance if possible, to the course coordinator.

**Class Cancellation:**
In the event that a class is canceled, class falls on a holiday or the campus is closed, the student is expected to do the readings and complete the objectives for that day. The content will still be included on course examinations.

**Website Information:**
This is a web-supported course. All course and class materials will be on the web and accessed through Blackboard. The URL for Blackboard is http://islandonline.tamucc.edu
You will be oriented to the website during the first day of class. Class slides and notes may be obtained from the site. A discussion list, announcements, e-mail access as well as class information will be contained on this site. Grades will be posted to this site. It is recommended that students check the site at least daily. Students are responsible for the information on the website.
STUDENT COURSE EVALUATIONS

The faculty of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences places great value on evaluative input from students. Evaluation of courses, instructors and clinical facilities provides the College with important data, which is used to strengthen the program. Data is analyzed as to trends and themes and is important to curriculum and sequencing decisions. All evaluations for courses are posted online. The online mechanism allows us the opportunity to tabulate and store information in order to analyze trends within the curriculum. Please be assured that this information is secured and not released until after grades are submitted. In order to garner reliability and validity, the College must have representative data from the student population. That representation based on the literature has been set at 70%.

All nursing courses require a 70% return of evaluations from the entire class before final grades are released. The College is anticipating that students will thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process, which will assist the faculty with the growth of the specific tracks within the CONHS. A link to evaluations will be available on Blackboard toward the end of the semester.

ASSIGNMENTS

Learning module assignments and Evolve Apply case studies may not be submitted late. Students will receive a score of zero for learning module assignments and case studies not completed by 11:55 p.m. the date they are due. Additional homework may be assigned at the discretion of the faculty.

Case Study Analysis

Five Medical-Surgical case studies from the Evolve Apply website (https://evolve.elsevier.com/staticPages/s_index.html) have been selected by the faculty for student analysis. Case study grades will be registered on the Evolve Apply website, but it is strongly recommended you print your score sheet. Case study grades will be registered on the Evolve HESI website, but it is strongly recommended you print your score sheet. The most recent highest score for the case study, within the due date and time, will be the grade recorded; you may repeat the case study for a higher grade as desired. Scores/assignments submitted after 11:55 p.m. on the date due will not be accepted. Case study grades count toward the assignment average. Case Study Due Dates are listed in the course schedule.

You may refer to the Evolve Comprehensive review manual, your textbooks, and class notes to complete the case studies. Case studies are individual assignments. It is expected that you will complete the assignment on your own. Please review the academic integrity section above.

Please ensure that you are enrolled in the correct cohort for the “Evolve Apply: Complete RN Online Case Studies section or your score cannot be accepted (Should be the cohort Semester on admission). You will need to utilize the access code you were provided in class and then go to the website: http://evolve.elsevier.com/staticPages/s_enroll.html and enter the course code that
you will be provided in class: and follow the directions to register. All case studies are located under Course Documents—Evolve Apply—Medical-Surgical.

**Learning Module Assignments**

Scores/assignments submitted after 11:55 pm on the date due will not be accepted. All learning module assignments count toward the assignment grade. *Learning Module Due Dates are listed in the course schedule.*

**Math Review and Drug Calculation Module:** Available on Blackboard. There is a math tutorial for your review. An in class dosage calculation quiz will be completed in lab the first week of class. The grade on the **first** dosage calculation quiz will be counted as an assignment and averaged into the 25% of the mark making up the assignment portion of the grade. **Students will NOT be able to pass medications in the clinical setting until they achieve 90% or higher on a medication calculation exam.** Students will have a maximum of 3 opportunities within the first 3 weeks of the clinical portion of the course to pass a medication calculation exam with a grade of 90% or higher. **Failure to achieve a grade of 90% or better will result in a student failing NURS 3628 as students will be unable to successfully meet clinical objectives related to medication administration.**

**Blood Administration Module:** Available on Blackboard. There are reading assignments and an online quiz. There is no time limit for taking the quiz, but you can only access the quiz one time and questions will be presented one at a time and cannot be revisited. Be sure each answer is saved before moving on; skipped questions cannot be counted toward the quiz grade. This is to be completed as an individual assignment.

**Fluid and Electrolyte/CVAD/TPN Module:** Available on Blackboard. There are several reading assignments and an online quiz. The majority of the questions are about fluids and electrolytes. There is no time limit for taking the quiz, but you can only access the quiz one time and questions will be presented one at a time and cannot be revisited. Be sure each answer is saved before moving on; skipped questions cannot be counted toward the quiz grade. This is to be completed as an individual assignment.

**In-Class Medication Quizzes:** During the course of the semester 5 medication quizzes will be given in class covering knowledge and application-level medication questions relevant to the topics being studied. **The comprehensive quiz grade may be used to drop the lowest quiz grade.** These quizzes will be worth 10% of the overall course grade. Students not present or arriving late will not be allowed in the classroom once the quiz has been handed out and will receive a quiz grade of “zero.”

- Quiz #1 Perioperative Care and Diabetes
- Quiz #2 Pulmonary Disorders/Musculoskeletal Health Challenges
- Quiz #3 Immune Disorders/Infections/STDs, Renal and Hematological
- Quiz #4 Cardiovascular Health Challenges and Neurological/Sensory
- Quiz #5 Comprehensive Drug Quiz
INFORMATION RELATED TO CLINICAL ACTIVITIES

Students in a professional nursing program must function within the legal, moral, and ethical standards of the profession. These standards guide practice. The following is a guide for your clinical preparation and performance. It alerts you to the major areas for which you will be held accountable. Please see the clinical evaluation tool, located on the College of Nursing & Health Sciences website (http://conhs.tamucc.edu/nursingstuhandbook/index.htm) under Nursing Undergraduate Curriculum for clinical objectives. While the professor will provide guidance, supervision and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-direction, seeking consultation and demonstration of course and clinical objectives.

It is the responsibility of the student to be sure that all health records, immunizations, CPR certification and Hospital Orientation are current and on file. These are required by the University, the college, and the clinical facilities to insure the health of students and patients. Students who do not have Hospital Orientation, current immunizations, CPR certification, liability insurance, background checks, and urine drug screening on file will not be permitted to attend clinical until their file is up to date. The student will receive a clinical warning for every day clinical is missed related to the above, thus putting themselves at risk for failing clinical related to absences.

Overall

1. Clinical is graded Pass/Fail. If the student fails the clinical component, the entire course must be repeated.
2. Clinical attendance is mandatory. Loss of time in the clinical setting for whatever reason could place a student in jeopardy of not meeting the course objectives. If an absence from the clinical site is absolutely necessary, the student must notify his/her clinical instructor at least one hour before the clinical day begins. In the majority of cases, an absence will be counted as a clinical warning, but each situation will be evaluated with your clinical instructor having the final say. If you are sent home for any reason, it is counted as an absence.
3. There are several infractions that might lead to a student being given a clinical warning for the day, including but not limited to:
   - Absences
   - Tardiness
   - Illness
   - Violation of dress code (either in hospital or during data collection)
   - Incomplete health immunization records
   - Expired CPR certification
   - Failure to turn in care plan when due
   - Incomplete hospital orientation on Blackboard
   - Lack of preparation
4. Accumulating three (3) warnings in a 135 hour clinical course will lead to failure of the clinical rotation and therefore, failure of the entire course.

5. Other offenses, which depending on severity, may lead to immediate failure of the course, including but are not limited to:
   - No call, no show for clinical day
   - Unsafe or unprofessional practices or behaviors
   - HIPAA violations
   - Inability to pass required clinical assignments
   - Falsification of records

6. Based on student learning needs, pattern of unprofessional behavior, and nature of precipitating event(s), the faculty will determine the appropriate amount of time and clinical assignments needed to assess student growth. Faculty may require additional assignments and clinical work to ensure students have met clinical objectives. Students are expected to comply with any additional assignments or clinical hours assigned.

7. Students are required to achieve a minimum score of 75 on two completed sets of paperwork, which includes the clinical preparation tool, nursing database, laboratory values worksheet, medications, pathophysiology tree, data clustering and diagnoses formation, concept map, and self-evaluation. Additional care plans/concept maps and other assignments may be assigned at the discretion of the clinical instructor and also must be satisfactorily completed.

8. Students are also required to satisfactorily complete the Clinical OR Questions (to be turned in to the clinical instructor the week of the student’s observation day in the OR). Students earn the privilege of attending clinical in specialty areas; faculty may opt not to send students to specialty areas based on individual student learning needs.

General Considerations

1. Prior to clinical, and as necessary during clinical practice, refer to the guidelines governing prevention of transmission of infectious disease. Review the CDC’s Infection Control in Healthcare Settings: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/index.html

2. Application of material presented in pre-requisite, co-requisite, and NURS 3628 to the clinical setting is a minimal expectation. Any time you do not understand or cannot correlate something, ask for help. It is far better to ask for assistance than to confess ignorance when asked by your instructor.

3. Patient confidentiality is to be maintained at all times as a critical element of clinical behavior; failure to do so may result in failure of the course. Examples of violating confidentiality includes talking about patient matters in social non-professional situations, removing confidential materials from agency premises, misplacing clinical paperwork, revealing client/patient names to non-professional or professional non related persons, and including patient names and identifying information on clinical paperwork.

4. Students are responsible for the care of the patient during clinical hours. If you leave the unit for any reason, you must assure coverage for your patients. You must report off to the clinical instructor and staff nurse responsible when leaving the floor and when leaving for the day.
5. Cell phones are not to be utilized for personal use in the clinical area.
6. All students will be required to complete a simulation experience during their rotation. The simulation may or may not be on a scheduled clinical day.

**Preparation**

Specific preparation for clinical rotations may vary according to the clinical site and/or faculty. However, the following are general expectations from the course faculty:

1. Students should be able to describe client history, including assessment data, as obtained from the chart for the client(s) assigned to them. Students should also be able to discuss the pathophysiology of the client’s underlying health problem in addition to the plan of care, which will include (a) expected findings, (b) medical management, (c) possible complications, (d) medications, and (e) nursing management. This will be accomplished as the student completes the “Nursing Data Base: Clinical Preparation Tool”, the “Clinical Medication Sheet”, the “Clinical Lab Values” sheet, and the Pathophysiology Flow sheet (see syllabus for example). All of the above must be completed prior to the clinical day to be considered safe practice. Lack of preparation by the student is considered unsafe practice and will result in a clinical warning and dismissal from the clinical area for the day.
2. The “Nursing Data Base: Physical Assessment” will be completed at the beginning of the clinical day. Students may NOT provide any kind of care or assessment prior to the clinical day. These preparations will continue until the student has completed the clinical rotation; completion of the required number of care plans/concept maps DOES NOT release the student from the responsibility of preparation.
3. Students should present a professional image. When going to the nursing unit for pre-clinical assessment, the student must wear a lab coat with name badge in clear view. Jeans, sweat suits, and shorts are not acceptable attire at any time in the clinical setting.

**Clinical Paperwork**

1. Students are required to complete the Clinical Preparation Tool, Laboratory Value Worksheet, Medication Worksheet, and Pathophysiology Tree every week prior to the clinical day.
2. The Nursing Data Base: Physical Examination must be done every week while in clinical.
3. A problem list & Diagnoses Formation Tool must be done every week until the student receives two passing grades of 75. The grading evaluation tool and weekly self-evaluation must be submitted with each care plan. The clinical instructor reserves the right to require additional material to ascertain student accomplishment of learning objectives.
4. The Weekly Self Evaluation Log is done every week and should include an evaluation of your progress in meeting your learning goals. Identify “how you would do things differently” based on your experience. Include what the week was like for you. Identify what you were the most proud of accomplishing. Share any needs or concerns with your instructor.
5. Students have the possibility to rotate through the operating room and possibly day surgery during Nursing Care of Adults I. There is an OR experience assignment that is to be completed and submitted to your clinical instructor following the experience. The assignment is located on Blackboard. Faculty reserve the right to delay or cancel rotations.
to specialty areas.

6. Due dates for submission of clinical paperwork will be decided and announced by the clinical faculty. Late clinical paperwork may not be accepted and may result in clinical failure for the entire week (two days).

Clinical Uniform
Information about the required clinical uniform is located on the CONHS website in the Student handbook.  http://conhs.tamucc.edu/assets/Student_Handbook_Uniform_Policy_2012.pdf