Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  

NURS 4628: Care of the Adult II  
Summer 2015  

Faculty:  Course Coordinator  
Julie Fomenko MSN, RN  
IH - 330  825-3323  julie.fomenko@tamucc.edu  

Clinical Faculty: 
To be announced  

Additional study and skill practice resources:  
Eloisa Beltran, RN, BSN: ST316 (Manager NLRC) (825-2353) eloisa.beltran@tamucc.edu  
Nancy Goodman, RN, MSN:  IH-343 (825-2607) nancy.goodman@tamucc.edu  

Office Hours: posted to Blackboard and select faculty office doors.  Student/faculty conferences may be made by appointment. Individual instructors will give their clinical group(s) specific contact information.  

Credit Hours: 6 semester hours (equal to 3 hours of class and 18 hours of lab/clinical per week)  

Prerequisites:  NURS 3614, 3435, 3628, and all junior level courses  

Course Description: NURS 4628 presents to the senior nursing student the use of nursing process in the care of adults with acute or complex illness and/or injury. The effects of acute illness are examined in relation to the individual’s developmental stage, culture, and gender. Building on junior level content, a systems approach is used to analyze and intervene in alterations to the health of the individual and family. The course includes the clinical setting to allow the student the opportunity to apply theoretical concepts to clinical practice in diverse populations.  

Course Objectives: At the end of this course the student will be able to:  

1. Give examples of relevant and recent research findings, particularly as they relate to nursing care of patients with disorders of physiological systems.  
2. Discuss topics that could improve the care of clients and their families.  
3. Seek opportunities to acquire and apply new knowledge to practice.  
4. Describe ethical and legal principles impacting health care across the age/health continua, including informed consent, diminished autonomy, individual freedom of choice, and confidentiality.  
5. Analyze the use of the nursing process with individuals experiencing acute 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.  
6. Describe patient teaching plans for selected physiological disorders.  
7. Identify concepts related to the disruption of growth and development patterns across the lifespan.  
8. Examine applicable nursing and non-nursing theories related to growth and development and transcultural nursing  
9. Demonstrate responsibility for own learning at levels consistent with course and professional expectations.  
10. Demonstrate professional role behavior.  
11. Demonstrate accountability for own behavior in implementation of nursing care.  
12. Demonstrate collaborative skills with members of the interdisciplinary health care team in planning, coordinating, providing and evaluating patient care.
13. Describe caring behaviors to be utilized while providing nursing care to clients from diverse populations.

**Clinical Objectives:** At the end of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical behaviors of nursing psychomotor skills in a safe manner.
2. Apply therapeutic communication skills in the clinical area.
3. Utilize organizational skills and time management concepts in setting priorities for clinical performance.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking decision making skills based on standards of practice, theory, and research.
5. Apply theoretical content to the nursing care of the client in a clinical setting.
6. Implement plans that reflect an understanding of the legal and ethical responsibilities of the nurse.
7. Perform nursing interventions that reflect caring behaviors in response to physical, emotional, and cultural, and humanistic care needs.
8. Utilize the nursing process in the care of all clients.
9. Demonstrate responsibility for own behavior and growth as an adult learner and a professional.
10. Provide safe care with delivery of appropriate dependent, interdependent, and independent nursing interventions within the health team framework.

**Required Textbooks and Resources:**

**Suggested References (should already have):**

**CLASSROOM POLICIES**

1. This is a web-assisted course. Course and lecture/learning materials, messages, updates, and important information will be posted to Blackboard. **It is the responsibility of all students to stay up to date on this information with at least daily logging on to Blackboard.**

2. Class attendance is mandated by current College of Nursing policy. Classes missed cannot be made up and the student is responsible for material covered in class. Three absences may result in the lowering of the student's grade for the course by one letter grade. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain handouts, lecture notes, and information from announcements in the event of a class absence. Punctuality is deemed to be as important as attendance. **Tardiness is unacceptable for nursing practice.** Because tardiness is a disruptive behavior for both the professor and classmates it is expected that the student will wait outside the class until the designated break. Students coming to class late are responsible for checking with the instructor to make sure they were not marked absent. Continued tardiness can result in dismissal from class or clinical.
3. No children are allowed in class at any time.

4. Laptops, I-Pads & Electronic devices in the classroom. Cell phones and electronic devices are to be off or on vibrate for the duration of the class. Laptops used for note taking must be used for classwork projects only. They must be off for all exams.

The following research focused on the use of laptops in a 15-week management information systems class. With student consent, researchers used a spyware program that tracked the windows and page names for each software application ran during class time. Students were encouraged to run "productive windows"—those that related to course content. Spyware also tracked the number of "distractive windows" students ran, including games, pictures, email, instant messaging and web surfing. Students had these distractive windows open 42% of the class time. Students who tried to listen to the lecture while using these distractive windows had significantly lower scores on homework, projects, quizzes, final exams and final course averages than students who looked at mostly productive windows. Researchers also found that this population under reported the extent of their multitasking.


**Students who are distracting or disrupting the class due to the use of cell phones, computers, or other electronic devices will be asked to leave the classroom immediately.**

5. Exams will be given only on the day and time scheduled. If one scheduled exam is missed due to unforeseen illness or death within the student's immediate family, the score earned on the final exam will be given for the missed exam. For the missed exam, the student will have a zero recorded until they successfully complete the final exam. An unexcused absence for ANY exam will result in a zero for that exam. Exam average must be a 75 or higher to pass this course.

**ALL students will be required to purchase 2 of the 4 exams administered during the course of the semester. The cost should be approximately $60 total for both exams. The College of Nursing & Health Sciences will purchase the remaining 2 exams. (Additional information to be provided in class regarding purchase date & times).**

6. Students are responsible for assigned readings in textbooks and completing case studies and other assignments prior to class. Participation in discussions over the assigned material is expected. As a 6-hr 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, 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 exams.**

7. Students are expected to respect the learning rights of all others in the classroom. Individual conversations, online chatting, text messaging, arrive late, sleeping, working on other assignments, playing computer games, surfing the internet, and studying for another class are unacceptable behaviors. Students demonstrating these behaviors may be asked to leave the classroom.

8. **Active duty military personnel, military spouses, and veterans with special circumstances (eg: deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these, in advance if possible, to the course and clinical instructor.**

9. If you are pregnant or become pregnant during the semester, please notify the instructor for possible necessary accommodations.

**CLINICAL ROTATION POLICIES**

1. To be able to attend clinical at the assigned clinical location, the student MUST complete:
   a. 100% competency must be earned on a dosage calculation exam
   b. CPR certification is for Health Care Providers and current throughout the semester regardless of clinical site placement and rotation AND uploaded to Certified Background
   c. immunization records must be completed, up to date per admission criteria AND uploaded to Certified Background
d. ALL required student information **MUST** be uploaded to Certified Background **prior** to beginning of clinical
e. all certifications and immunizations must remain current while taking clinical courses offered in the College of Nursing regardless of the clinical site placement and rotation
f. failure to update Certified Background will result in a clinical warning and may result in removal from Clinical placement until completed. This can result in clinical failure and failure of the course.

2. 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](http://conhs.tamucc.edu/nursingstuhandbook/index.htm) under Nursing Undergraduate Curriculum for clinical objectives.

a. Clinical is graded Pass/Fail. If the student fails the clinical component, the **entire course** must be repeated.

b. **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. A “No Call No Show” is defined as failure to notify the clinical instructor prior to an absence. This behavior will result in a clinical failure for that day due to unprofessional behavior. If you are sent home for any reason, it is counted as an absence.

c. 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
   - Incomplete health immunization records with Certified Background upload
   - Expired CPR certification with Certified Background upload
   - Failure to turn in written assignments on time
   - Incomplete hospital orientation via Blackboard
   - Lack of preparation for clinical performance

d. Accumulation of three (3) clinical warnings in this clinical course may lead to failure of the clinical rotation and therefore, failure of the entire course.

e. Other offenses, which depending on severity, will result in a clinical failure and may lead to **immediate failure** of the course, including but are not limited to:
   - A PATTERN OF the lack of accountability for class, clinical and lab skills preparation
   - Unsafe or unprofessional practices or behaviors
   - Unethical, immoral, or illegal activities
   - Violation of the TAMUCC Student Code of Conduct or BON Code of Ethics
   - Inappropriate use of electronic devices in the clinical setting
   - HIPPA violations
   - Inability to pass required clinical assignments
   - Falsification of records
   - Inability to achieve 100% on one of the three dosage calculation exams provided

f. 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.

g. Students are required to achieve a minimum score of 80 on the two required care plans, which includes the nursing database, medications, patho tree, and weekly self-evaluation. Additional care plans/concept maps and other assignments may be assigned at the discretion of the clinical instructor and must also be completed. Even if 2 passing care plans have been completed, incomplete or poor performance on subsequent clinical paperwork may result in a clinical warning and/or failure.

3. Students are expected to demonstrate maintenance of knowledge from previous courses and growth in clinical practice through application of knowledge and skills from previous and concurrent courses. Students must
meet clinical expectations outlined in the clinical evaluation tool.
4. Students are expected to prepare for clinical practice in order to provide safe, competent care.
5. Students are not allowed in clinical agencies during non-clinical hours when the instructor is not present.
6. Clinical assignments must be handed in on time to the clinical instructor. Assignments submitted late without prior arrangement with the clinical instructor will receive a ten-point deduction. If the assignment is not submitted within 3 days of the due date, it will not be graded and a zero will be earned for that assignment.

**GRADING CRITERIA**

Completion of NURS 4628 requires successful completion of both the theoretical and clinical components of the course. In order to pass NURS 4628, the student must complete the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Mid-Curricular MS Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments:</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance:</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Final Course Grades:**

- A: 89.5 - 100
- B: 82.5 – 89.4
- C: 74.5 – 82.4
- D: 66.5 – 74.4
- F: below 66.5

2. A combined average of 75% on the 4 exams. **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. All required clinical paperwork, including 2 care plans with ≥ 80%, and any additional assignments required by clinical faculty.

4. Pass the dosage calculation exam with a 100%.

5. A grade of “pass” in the critical elements based on outcome objectives noted in the Evaluation Tool.

**If any one of these components is not attained, the student will not receive a passing grade for the course.**

**EXAMINATION & TESTING GUIDELINES**

- Students must achieve a combined average of ≥ 75% on all exams to pass the course.
- The final exam is a comprehensive medical surgical examination.
- Students must pass a dosage calculation exam with a 100% to successfully pass course.
- Students are held accountable for content from previous and concurrent courses. Questions related to content from previous or concurrent coursework may appear on examinations.
- Exam dates, times and locations are subject to change.
- Students who are late for exams will not be given extra time.
- No examination or quiz material is to leave the classroom.
- Any student determined by faculty to have cheated on exams, quizzes, or assignments will receive a score of zero for that exam, quiz, or assignment, may be subject to failure of the course, referral to the Office of Student Affairs for Academic Misconduct, and possible dismissal from the nursing program.
- **Cell phones, PDAs, laptops are not allowed during exams and must be turned off.**
• All books, bags, notebooks, hats and purses will be left at the front or back of the exam room.
• A brief examination blueprint will be provided on Blackboard.
• Dosage calculation problems will be included on each exam. Calculators may be used and will be provided on the computer exam interface.
• Course Manager will review the exam and grades will be posted on Blackboard. Those students scoring below 80 or score less than 900 on any exam are encouraged to make an appointment with the faculty/course coordinator to review their exam and address their concerns.

**EVALUATION**

Evaluation is an ongoing process that provides students with information about their progress in meeting course objectives. Conferences with faculty allow opportunities to discuss progress. A final clinical performance evaluation will be provided for each student by his/her clinical instructor. Students with unsatisfactory performance at mid-term or during any time of clinical performance will be notified to schedule a conference with their clinical instructor and/or the course coordinator. Students will participate in performance evaluation during mid-term evaluation and final evaluation, and the evaluation will become part of the student record. Students will provide weekly journals with self-evaluations to assist clinical faculty in identifying areas of need or strengths. Students may make appointments with faculty to discuss their progress at any time during the semester. Care plans will be returned with written feedback.

**EVALUATION INPUT FROM STUDENTS**

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 posted are on line. 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. 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 Undergraduate Program. A link to evaluations will be available on Blackboard toward the end of the semester. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the evaluation process.

**Late Work & Make-up Examinations:**

No make-up examinations will be administered. If a student misses either Exam 1, 2, or 3, the score earned on the final exam will be given for the missed exam. For the missed exam, the student will have a zero recorded until they successfully complete the final exam. 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.

**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 Fomenko 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.

**ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

The University and the College of Nursing and Health Sciences rely on electronic communication as the major avenue to distribute and receive information needed for academic work and life on campus. Only by using university e-mail addresses will communication be consistent and complete. This course will ONLY use university e-mail addresses to communicate with students electronically. It is each individual student’s responsibility to activate his/her university e-mail account. Students are also expected to request a Novell account through the University to be able to access Blackboard via the TAMUCC campus computers. This MUST be done prior to the first unit exam. This course is a web assisted course using Blackboard.
ACADEMIC HONESTY

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 any and all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, collusion, or plagiarism.

http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~students/JAffairs/ja_code_of_conduct_article3.htm

Nurses bear enormous responsibilities and ethical behavior is essential. Unethical or unprofessional behavior may result in patient harm or death. Ethical Behavior, including honesty and confidentiality, is an expected professional behavior in the classroom or clinical setting. Refer to the College of Nursing policy for definitions of these expected behaviors (see the College of Nursing Student Handbook, Policies and Regulations, Academic Honesty and Professional Integrity Policy).

At the university level of the student’s education, honesty and integrity are expected in all approaches to learning. In order to maintain academic honesty and integrity two primary areas must be addressed.

Plagiarism (exemplified by but not restricted to):
• The offering of any work done by another as your own work.
• Using quotations or the paraphrase of a quote within your work without citing the source.
• Using a paper for one course that was prepared for another course without both instructors’ knowledge and permission.
• Collaborating with others on an assignment/quiz/exam without the instructor’s permission.

Academic Honesty (exemplified by but not restricted to):
• Providing your fair share of input and effort for all group work that is required in a course.
• Refraining from changing answers on in-class quizzes prior to turning in for grading.
• Preparing for every class that you attend. This includes careful reading of assignments, being prepared to participate in discussions and completing any mini-assignments.
• Preparing the answers for take home exams using the appropriate materials but without the assistance of any other person or persons (this means NO GROUP TESTING for individual assignments)
• Refraining from giving, receiving, or downloading exam or quiz information unless authorized by the instructor.
• Refraining from using any materials during exams or quizzes that have not been approved by the instructor.
• Refraining from consulting with others (including but not limited to instant messages, texts, or emails) during exams or classroom activities unless explicitly authorized to do so by the instructor.

All acts of Plagiarism and/or violations of Academic Honesty are considered serious offences and will result in failure of the assignment, possible failure of the course, referral to the Office of Student Affairs for further College and/or University sanctions, and possible dismissal from the College of Nursing and Health Science program.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Students are encouraged to seek faculty assistance in accessing University Services, including tutoring, health services, personal counseling, degree counseling, financial aid, learning resources, job/work placement, career guidance, and computer/technical support/instruction. If a student is interested in other support services provided by the University, the student is encouraged by the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the University to seek these services.

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 Island Hall and advisors are for Rachel Taylor 825-3748 (M-Z) and Angelica Santillan 825-2461 (A-L).
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 Corpus Christi Hall, room 116.

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 Rule 13.02.99.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.