Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

NURS 3150.001: Professional Nursing Issues I

Syllabus

Spring 2016

FACULTY: Nancy T. Goodman RNC, MSN

OFFICE: Island Hall, Room 343

OFFICE HOURS:

TELEPHONE: (361) 825-2484

E-MAIL: Nancy.Goodman@tamucc.edu

FAX: (361) 825-3491

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. 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.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

*Scott, Bruce Austin (2009). Thinking as a Nurse.* Bloomington, Indiana: iUniverse  

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. You will have discussion assignments for posting each week.
2. All weekly discussion must be referenced as to the source of the information.
3. Any dishonest behavior will result in a zero for that discussion.
4. 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.
5. 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 – 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75 – 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>67 – 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Criteria**

- Weekly class discussions, assignment: 60%
- Assigned Class discussion: 10%
- Papers – Thinking as a Nurse: 15%
- Disciplinary Action: 15%
Weekly Class discussions

Complete the readings in Units prior to doing your own research for the weekly discussion. The student must demonstrate scholarly thought in discussion and two papers. The student will be assigned one class to participate in the discussion. Student are expected and encouraged to add to the discussion in all classes..

Grading Rubric for individual discussion – each assignment is 10 points

Contains evidence that the student understands the content 3
Demonstrates student’s unique ideas about the content 5
Includes references to construct contributions 2

Grading Criteria for the Thinking as a Nurse Paper – 15 points

APA format 4
Synthesis of the material 7
Well organized and clear 4

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 Assignment
Go to the Texas BON website – [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us)
Go under disciplinary action – then Recent Disciplinary Action – select an RN
From the most recent list – It must be and RN not an LVN
Discuss the specific issue for the discipline of the nurse
What happen, the type of agency, the nurses educational background if available and the years as a professional nurse they findings of the BON and the disciplinary action taken by the BON. What is your opinion about the BON decision?


APA format 4
Specific Issue 5
Board action  2
Your opinion  4

**Posting you Disciplinary action case in discussion**

Post summary of your case in BB discussion – making sure you give enough information so others understand the reason for discipline and the BON actions. Then comment on at least two other classmates’ case.

**Academic honesty**

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)


**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

CONHS handbook:
http://conhs.tamucc.edu/nursingstuhandbook/index.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.
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.

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 download the information and when you have access to the course again you can post your assignment.

POLICIES:

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 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. No names are available to faculty. In order to garner some reliability and validity, the College must have representative data from the student population. That representation, based on the literature, has been set at 70%. The College is anticipating that students will thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process which will assist the faculty with the growth of the 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.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

N.Goodman
NURS 3150.001 Syllabus: Fall 2015
It is expected that University students will demonstrate a high level of maturity, self-direction, and ability to manage their own affairs. Students are viewed as individuals who possess the qualities of worth, dignity, and the capacity for self-direction in personal behavior. 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 intentionally, knowingly, or carelessly presenting the work of another as one’s own). Please see the following sites for additional information:

University Student Handbook and Code of Conduct: http://www.tamucc.edu/~students
University catalog related to academic integrity and honesty: http://catalog.tamucc.edu/

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 CCH 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disabilities Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Title IX
As part of the Texas A & M Corpus Christi University policy, pregnant students are urged to contact the Title IX office for facilitation of academic issues impacted by pregnancy, delivery and subsequent complications. Contact information: Mr. Samuel Ramirez, Title IX Coordinator or Ms. Rosie Ruiz, Deputy Title IX Coordinator (825-5826).

Active Military Duty
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.

Grade Appeals Process
The College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CONHS) adheres to the University’s student grade appeal procedures described in Section 13.02.99.C2.01 (revised May, 2013) and follows those guidelines. See http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/ for the University procedure and see http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb/ for the CONHS process identified in the Student Handbook.

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.

**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 download the information and when you have access to the course again you can post your assignment.