Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi
College of Nursing and Health Sciences
NURS 3150.E01 Professional Nursing Issues I
Syllabus
Fall 2015

FACULTY: Adele Bemis, RN, MSN

OFFICE HOURS: Call for an appointment or can use WebEx for conference if needed

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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 in health care delivery. (AACN Essential(3,4,9) V(1,4,6,12), V(1,6 and BIII)
2. Analyzes multidimensional influences on health and health care (AACN Essential V(1,4,5,6,12), VI(1,6) and VIII
3. Accepts responsibility for own learning and professional growth. (AACN essential VIII)
4. Completes assignments in assigned time frame (AACN Essential I(1,2,3,4,9)
5. Utilizes group dynamics and communication skills in collaboration with individuals and groups. (AACN Essentials VI (1.6)

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

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REQUIRED TEXT:

Thinking as a Nurse (2009), Bruce Austin Scott, iUniverse, ISBN 978-1-4401-6333-3
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:

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

Grading Criteria

Weekly class discussions, assignment 70%
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 assignment will be submitted in class.

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
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 the 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 your 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)
When you do not reference your work it is plagiarism.

**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**
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](http://www.tamucc.edu/~students)
- University catalog related to academic integrity and honesty: [http://catalog.tamucc.edu/](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/)
- University Rules and Procedures: [University Procedure 13.02.99.C3.01 Academic Misconduct Cases](http://www.tamucc.edu/~students)

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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.