COURSE SYLLABUS

Serving Richmond and Scotland Counties

COURSE: NUR 101  PRACTICAL NURSING I

HOURS: Lecture: 7  Lab/Shop: 6  Work Exp/Clinical: 6  Credits: 11

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces concepts as related to the practical nurse’s caregiver and discipline-specific roles. Emphasis is placed on the nursing process, legal/ethical/professional issues, wellness/illness patterns, and basic nursing skills. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate beginning understanding of the nursing process to promote/maintain/restore optimum health for diverse clients throughout the lifespan.

This course is a core course in the following program(s): Practical Nursing Curriculum. A student must obtain a grade of C or better in core curriculum courses in order to progress in the program and/or to graduate.

PREREQUISITE(S): Admission to the Practical Nursing Program

COREQUISITE(S): NONE

TEXTBOOK(S) & OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:


- Clayton, Bruce and Willihnganz, Michelle. Basic Pharmacology for Nurses 16th ed, St. Louis, MO; Mosby, 2012. ISBN 9780323086547


Assessment Technologies Institute, Nursing Care of Children, Content Mastery Series, PN Edition, access right for proctored and non-proctored Assessment Tests. ISBN 1-933107-46-4


Lab/Diagnostic Textbook of choice

Other Suggested Text:

Drug Text: Choose one:


OR


OR


Medical Dictionary: Choose One


OR


Other Resources

NCLEX-PN—Student choice
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss accountability and scope of practice for the Practical Nurse in North Carolina.
2. Describe the ethical/legal/professional implications for the Practical Nurse as a member of the health care team.
3. Discuss the components of the nursing process as a method to meet the basic human needs of diverse clients throughout the life span to promote/maintain/restore optimum health.
4. Demonstrate performance of basic nursing skills including correct medication administration procedures in the laboratory and clinical areas. Students are required to make a minimum score of 85 on a competency test in medication administration prior to administering medication in the clinical experience.
5. Recognize basic skills in informatics for recording and reporting client data and the Practical Nurse’s role in providing and maintaining confidentiality and security of client information in all of its various forms.
6. Recognize basic prioritization skills in implementing caring interventions for assigned clients, and their significant support person(s) to assist in the delivery of safe, accurate, effective and culturally competent care across the life span.
7. Recognize basic teaching/learning principles to assist in reinforcement of pre-developed teaching plans to clients and significant support person(s).
8. Provide therapeutic or supportive nursing measures to assist individuals of different cultures in meeting basic physiologic needs.

EXPLANATION OF SYLLABUS:

The Student Learning Outcomes listed in this syllabus are those required actions that a student who successfully completes the course must be able to perform or exhibit. The educational experience, however, is a two-way, interactive process involving both the student and his/her instructor. The student must play an active role in the learning process in order to be successful. Each Instructor will provide an Instructor’s Course Requirements document at the first class meeting explaining how he/she measures each of the Student Learning Outcomes listed in the syllabus. A student who is unable to accomplish the outcomes will not receive a passing grade in the course.

The information in this RCC Syllabus may not be accurate beyond the current semester. Textbooks and other course materials are subject to change. Students should verify the textbooks at the first class meeting with their instructor prior to purchasing.

RCC NURSING DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Regular attendance is considered essential for students to meet student learning outcomes in a course and progress in the Nursing Program. Students are expected to be prepared to start the course at the first class session and attend all scheduled meetings of classes for which they register. Rules on tardiness and leaving class early are addressed in each course syllabus. Instructors are required to record and report student absences.
At the beginning of each semester, faculty will complete the 10% reporting requirements as required by the North Carolina Community College System for traditional and distance learning courses. Students who do not meet the 10% reporting requirements will be reported as non-attending by the faculty using the appropriate report, and will be dropped from the course by the Registrar.

In addition to the 10% reporting period, faculty will state their attendance policy including its impact on the student's grade as a component of the course syllabus. Individual instructors should determine their own attendance policy in keeping with student learning outcomes. No matter the basis for absences, students are held accountable for academic activities.

The Nursing Department’s requirement related to attendance exceeds the college policy. Nursing students are required to attend 90% of classes, labs, and clinicals. At the discretion of the instructor, a written assignment or makeup clinical may be given for hours missed determined to be unavoidable.

If a student knows in advance that he/she will be absent from class, lab, or clinical, the Director or appropriate instructor must be notified. Students who are unable to attend clinical MUST notify the assigned clinical area and the nursing instructor prior to the time the clinical experience is to begin or face disciplinary action. Students will be given the home telephone number of each clinical instructor. Communications should be by phone; text messaging is not acceptable.

Tardy students are disruptive to the learning experience of others. Three (3) documented tardies equals one (1) absence.

Classroom doors will be locked at the beginning of class (per RCC Security Policy). Students who are late may enter the classroom at the first break.

Nursing students are expected to meet all scheduled classes, labs, and clinical learning experiences. Excessive absences may result in being dropped from the course.

**Student Withdrawals**

The instructor will inform the student when they are failing the course due to attendance and advise them to withdraw from the course. At a minimum, the instructor will e-mail the student of their status and copy their Lead Instructor and the Vice President for Student Services on the e-mail as documentation of their notification of the student. The student will then complete the required paperwork to withdraw from the course. If the student withdraws before the 75 percent tuition refund date, as recorded on the academic calendar, the student will receive a grade of "W" for the class and will not receive credit for the course. The "W" grade will not be used to compute hours earned or to compute the student's grade point average. However, if the student withdraws after the 75 percent tuition refund date, as recorded on the academic calendar, the student will receive a grade of "WU." The "WU" grade is calculated as an "F" in computing the student's GPA. A student who does not withdraw from the course will receive an "F" grade.
Criminal background checks and/or drug testing may be required by clinical agencies prior to a student’s participation in the clinical component of a NUR course. Failure to meet clinical agency requirements will result in the student not having the opportunity to meet clinical objectives; therefore, the student will not be allowed to progress in the Nursing curriculum.

It is important to note that the clinical site, not the College, determines whether the result of the criminal background check/drug screening disqualifies the student from clinical activities. The hospital or other clinical agency, in its sole discretion, may request the removal of any student who, based on the results of the criminal background check/drug screening, the agency deems as inappropriate to provide care, treatment, or services.

**Requests for Exceptions: Nursing Students**
Students who attend 89% or less of the course must be given a failing grade by the instructor, unless an exception to remain in the class or be withdrawn by the instructor is granted by the faculty's Department Chair. The instructor must submit the request for exception in writing within a week of the date in which the student began failing the course due to attendance or sooner, if possible. If granted, documentation of the exception with its rationale must be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Instruction/Chief Academic Officer. Exceptions for students who attend 60% or less of the course must be approved by the Vice President for Instruction/Chief Academic Officer. If granted, documentation of the exception with its rationale must also be maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Instruction/Chief Academic Officer. In either case, the faculty must give the student additional assignments to make up for the absences.

**Student Appeal Process**
After speaking with the instructor, students who desire to appeal their withdrawal must submit a written (not e-mail) request of appeal to the appropriate lead instructor. This request must be submitted within a week of the date in which the student began to fail the course due to attendance. The student must be prepared to support his/her appeal with extenuating circumstances (i.e. documented illness whereby the student has kept up with work in class). If the lead instructor does not decide to readmit the student, the student may request that the department chair review the appeal. If the department chair does not decide to readmit the student, the student may request that the Vice President for Instruction/Chief Academic Officer review the appeal. The Vice President for Instruction/Chief Academic Officer will make a decision regarding the appeal based on the evidence.

If the appeal is not upheld, the student may request a meeting before the Student Appeals Committee. This must be within three business days of the decision rendered by the Vice President for Instruction/Chief Academic Officer. The student must bring evidence to the Student Appeals Committee on the date and time assigned by the Vice President for Student Services.

**RCC GRADING SYSTEM:**
Richmond Community College employs a system of letter grades and corresponding quality points per grade to evaluate a student's performance in meeting the stated goals and objectives for each course. **
Nursing exams will be formatted to the NCLEX-PN Test Plan. In addition to multiple choice questions, alternate formats may be given. This may include fill-in-the-blanks, identifying hot spots, short answers, and multiple responses. Charts, graphics, sound, and video may be included. The theory grade in NUR courses will be based on unit tests and the final exam. If the unit test and final exam average is at least 78, other grades will be averaged and calculated in as a unit test. Unit tests will account for 75% of the grade and the final exam 25%. If the average is 78, the average of other required work will be calculated in as part of the 75% unit test grade.

NUR classes with clinical and/or lab components require that the student have a satisfactory in the clinical/lab component in order to pass the course. The numerical and letter grade are derived from the theory component, but satisfactory clinical performance is required to pass the course. A student who is not functioning at a satisfactory level will receive a letter grade of “F” for the course.

Medication Administration Competency: NUR students must demonstrate competency in medication administration with a minimum score of 85% on the Medication Administration Competency Test in order to pass medications in the clinical site. Failure to pass this test within three (3) attempts will result in the student not being able to meet clinical objectives, therefore not being able to progress to the next nursing course. Unsatisfactory score on the 2nd attempt will require that the student complete mandatory remediation prior to the 3rd attempt.

SECURITY AND SAFETY PROCEDURES:

RCC’s upgraded security procedures require all doors to be locked at class start-time. After the doors are locked, students may enter the class when break is given. Students are not to disrupt class by knocking on the door.

All students, faculty, staff, and visitors must wear visible identification (ID) badges. Identification badges should be worn on the front of clothing. RCC employees can stop, restrict, and remove from any school-related activity or function anyone who does not display an ID badge.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Richmond Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which require that no qualified student with a disability be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of any services, programs or activities on the basis of his or her disability. If accommodations in the classroom and/or in extracurricular activities are required, the student is encouraged to contact the Disability Services Counselor in Student Services prior to the start of the semester; however, a student may request accommodations at any time. Reasonable accommodations may take up to three (3) weeks to implement. Richmond Community College is committed to providing support and services to students with disabilities to help them obtain a quality education and to reach their goals. Assistance is provided, as necessary, and is intended to help students participate in and benefit from the programs and activities enjoyed by all students.

WITHDRAWAL AND FINANCIAL AID:

The Return of Title IV Funds policy affects any student who receives Federal Financial Aid
(for example, Pell Grants) and who withdraws from all classes. Under this policy, any student who withdraws or is withdrawn by the instructor completely from classes on or before the 60 percent point of the term will be required to repay all or a portion of his/her Federal Financial Aid.

**Please refer to the online version of RCC’s Catalog & Student Handbook for current academic and general policies.

**Other required work to be calculated in after student achieves a 78% average on unit tests and the final exam include:

1. Interview Paper
2. Med Comp Exam 1(1st attempt) grade
3. Careplan

The average of the other required work will be calculated in as part of the 75% unit test grade ONLY after the student achieves the 78% exam average achieved as described in the RCC grading system of this syllabus for NUR courses.

**Please note the BR located in the nursing lab is for demonstration purposes only.