COURSE: NUR 103  PRACTICAL NURSING III

HOURS: Lecture: 6  Lab/Shop: 0  Work Exp/Clinical: 12  Credits: 10

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on use of nursing/related concepts by practical nurses as providers of care/members of discipline in collaboration with health team members. Emphasis is placed on the nursing process, wellness/illness patterns, entry-level issues, accountability, advocacy, professional development, evolving technology, and changing health care delivery systems. Upon completion, students should be able to use the nursing process to promote/restore optimum health for diverse client(s) throughout the life span.

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

PREREQUISITE(S):  NUR 101, NUR 102

COREQUISITE(S):  NONE

TEXTBOOK(S) & OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:


Assessment Technologies Institute, Leadership and Management, Content Mastery Series, PN Edition, access right to proctored and non-proctored Assessment Tests.
ISBN 1-933107-34-0
Assessment Technologies Institute, Mental Health Nursing, Content Mastery Series, PN Edition, access right to proctored and non-proctored Assessment Tests.
ISBN 1-933107-18-9

OTHER SUGGESTED TEXTS:

Drug Text: Choose one:

ISBN 0132149265

OR

ISBN 0803623097

OR

ISBN 032069185

Medical Dictionary: Choose One

ISBN 080362476X

OR

ISBN 0323049370

Other Resources
NCLEX-PN—Student choice

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

1. Show accountability and knowledge of the scope of practice for the Practical Nurse in North Carolina.
2. Practice as an accountable, responsible member within the legal/ethical/professional framework for the Practical Nurse
3. Participate in the use of the nursing process as a method to meet the basic human needs of diverse clients throughout the life span to maintain, promote, or restore optimum health.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in performance of basic nursing skills including correct medication administration procedures.
5. Demonstrate proficiency in 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. Specify prioritization skills needed 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. Demonstrate and apply teaching/learning principles to reinforce instruction of pre-developed teaching plans to clients and significant support person(s).

8. Assume responsibility for the application of principles within the scope of practice, maintain accountability for care and professional development, and function as a collaborative member of the health care team.

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.

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. The grading system is published in the Richmond Community College Catalog and Student Handbook.

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 COMPETENCY:

NUR 103 students will be given a medication competency test at the beginning of the semester. A minimum score of 85 is required to be able to administer medication at the clinical sites. Failure to pass the competency test with three attempts will result in an unsatisfactory on the clinical evaluation.

NCLEX-PN QUESTIONS:

Students must complete a total of 1,500 NCLEX-PN style questions prior to the end of the semester. Documentation of completion must be turned in to the Lead Instructor prior to the end of the semester. The final date to submit NCLEX-PN style questions is TBA. The 1,500
questions may include ATI practice tests and questions from NCLEX-PN style discs. Questions from sources other than those listed above must be approved by the Lead Instructor.

Failure to complete the required NCLEX-PN style questions and submit summaries of test scores will result in an incomplete in NUR 103 and the student will not be allowed to graduate.

SECURITY AND SAFETY PROCEDURES:

RCC’s upgraded security procedures require all doors to be locked at class start-time. 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:

The College has determined that excessive absences are detrimental to academic success, as indicated in the Class Attendance Policy.

Student-Initiated Withdrawal

Before the 10% Point of the Term
In order to withdraw from a course(s), a student must complete, sign, and submit a “Change in Registration Status” form to the Registrar. The course(s) will not be included on the transcript.

Between the 10% and 75% Point of the Term
A student wishing to withdraw from a course(s) must:
• Complete a “Change in Registration Status” form.
• Have the form signed by the instructor(s), who indicates the last day the student attended the course(s).
• Submit the form to the Registrar by the date listed in the academic calendar.

A student who voluntarily withdraws from a course(s) will receive a “W” grade. A course for
which a “W” grade is given will not be counted as an attempted course.

After the 75% Point of the Term

A student wishing to withdraw from a course(s) must:
• Complete a “Change in Registration Status” form.
• Have the form signed by the instructor(s), who indicates the last day the student attended the course(s).
• Submit the form to the Registrar.

A student who officially withdraws from a course(s) will receive a “WF” grade. A course for which a “WF” grade is given will count as an attempted course and will be counted as an “F” in computing grade point averages.

Exceptions to the Course Withdrawal Policy requiring withdrawal from one or more courses after the 75% point of the term (e.g. serious illness, job transfer, etc.) will be considered on an individual basis by the Vice President for Student Services with appropriate documentation.

Instructor-Initiated Withdrawal

Before the 75% Point of the Term

If a student violates the attendance policy, the instructor will:
• Complete a “Change in Registration Status” form.
• Indicate the last day the student attended the course(s).
• Sign the form and submit to the Registrar

A student withdrawn from a course(s) in this manner will receive a “W” grade. A course for which a “W” grade is given will not count as an attempted course.

After the 75% Point of the Term

If a student violates the attendance policy, the instructor will:
• Complete a “Change in Registration Status” form.
• Indicate the last day the student attended the course(s).
• Indicate whether a “WP” or a “WF” grade is to be given.
• Sign the form and submit to the Registrar.

The instructor will assign a “WP” or a “WF” grade according to the quality of a student’s performance at the time a student is withdrawn. A “WP” grade is given to a student who is passing the course. A course for which a “WP” grade is given will not be counted as an attempted course. A “WF” grade is given to a student who is not passing the course. A course for which a “WF” grade is given will count as an attempted course and will be counted as an “F” in computing grade point averages.

A faculty member reserves the right to drop a student from a course due to non-compliance with college, departmental or clinical agency policies.

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.

WITHDRAWAL AND FINANCIAL AID:

The Federal Return of Title IV Funds policy became effective August 1, 2000. This policy affects any student receiving Federal financial aid (Pell; FSEOG; ACG) who withdraws from all classes. Under this policy, every student who withdraws or is withdrawn by the instructor completely on or before the 60 percent point of the semester 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.**