American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School: Public Service and Health-Nursing Program
Course Number: NURS 300
Course Name: Professional Transitions in Nursing
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 weeks
Prerequisite: None

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Instructor Information

Instructor:
Email:

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Course Description (Catalog)

Students complete a professional self-assessment using the indicators for the professional nursing role outlined in the Nurse Practice Act in the jurisdiction in which they are licensed. Self-assessments of competency and comfort with technology, oral, and written communication in nursing are also completed. Action plans are formulated to facilitate development in these areas. The practitioner, scientist and leadership roles of the professional nurse provide a framework for exploring reflective practice, evidence-based practice, and patient safety. The histories of nursing, medicine, allied health, public health, and global health provide a lens and context for exploring the scope of the professional nursing role. (3 credit hours)

Course Scope

This is the introductory course for the RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program. Students in this course will examine the role of the baccalaureate-prepared registered nurse as a preparation for their course of study. The roles of nurse as a leader, scientist and practitioner of the profession will be examined and discussed. Students will have an opportunity to evaluate themselves on issues that will impact their study as well as their practice, and will formulate action plans which will be reviewed and utilized throughout the course of study toward their degree.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, each student will be able to:
- Explain the roles of the baccalaureate-prepared registered nurse in clinical practice in all areas of healthcare
- Summarize the growth of nursing research over time and the impact of this history on current practice
- Analyze personal beliefs and values and their relationship to professional nursing practice and the ANA Code of Ethics
- Interpret their personal learning and communication styles and potential barriers these may create when communicating with others who have different styles
- Evaluate ethical standards associated with technology use in the professional practice setting
- Analyze components of an organizational culture of safety and its effect on patient outcomes
- Evaluate the role of CIS systems in providing and documenting acute, chronic and preventive patient care
- Evaluate evidence based nursing interventions appropriate to their work settings (5)
- Utilize effective communication techniques when communicating with patients, families and members of the healthcare team
- Examine strategies that nurses can employ to better meet professional and ethical standards of practice
- Articulate the value of lifelong learning and engagement in professional networks

Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups

through a threaded forum), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

Course Materials

Required Course Textbooks

Burkhardt, M., & A. Nathaniel, *Ethical Issues in Contemporary Nursing,* 3rd Ed, Cengage Learning

American Nurses Association, *Foundations of Nursing Package*
        Standards of Practice
        Code of Ethics
        Social Policy

Required Readings

American Association of Colleges of Nursing, *The Impact of Education on Nursing Practice,* 2010

American Sentinel University, *Powerlessness is Bad Practice: Any Nurse can be a facilitator of change,* White Paper, 2010

Institute of Medicine, *Beyond the HIPAA Privacy Rule: Enhancing Privacy, Improving Health Through Research*, 2009

Institute of Medicine, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health,* Report Brief, 2010

Nanji, F. *Security Challenges of Electronic Medical Records,* 2009

Online Journal of Issues in Nursing, *Revisiting the American Nurses Association's First Position on Education For Nurses: A Comparative Analysis of the First and Second Position Statements on the Education of Nurses*, 2008

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, *Transforming Care at the Bedside (TCAB) toolkit,* 2008

Turisco, F, & J. Rhoads, *Equipped for Efficiency: improving nursing care through Technology,* 2008

Web Sites

Institute for Healthcare Improvement
http://www.ihi.org/offerings/Pages/default.aspx?TabId=0

OCC online, *Communication Styles Inventory*

Stress Management from Mind Tools
http://www.mindtools.com/smpage.html

Study Guides and Stategies Comparative Learning Series, *How do you manage stress?*
http://www.studygs.net/stress.htm

The Joint Commission, *2011 National Patient Safety Goals*

http://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/npsgs.aspx

University of Southern Mississippi Libraries, *Plagiarism Tutorial*

Vark Learning Styles Inventory
http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=questionnaire

US Department of Health & Human Services, *Summary of the HIPAA privacy rule,* 2003

Evaluation Procedures

Reading Assignments:

This course requires a time management plan and the self-discipline to follow it. You are responsible for managing your time, completing assignments on time, completing the readings, and making inquiries as needed to complete the course effectively. This is an eight-week course, which means the material must be learned in a short period of time. This requires dedication and diligence on the part of each student.

Reading assignments will be graded through evaluation of Forum responses and exams.

Forum Assignments:
Introductory Forum

Your introductory Forum is considered by the university to be your official entry into the classroom. You must participate in this Forum by midnight, Eastern Time on Sunday of the first week of class. Your initial response must be a minimum of 250 words. Read below for more information about other Forum assignments in this course.

 The interaction that takes place within the Forum is an essential component of this course. Each week, you will be required to interact in asynchronous mode with your fellow students. Each week's Forum contains a question that is relevant to the content for the week. The questions posed in the Forum will encourage you to think more deeply about the weekly lesson content. Your initial posting each week should be between 100-250 words. Your responses to your classmates should be meaningful and contribute to the overall growth of knowledge about the topic under discussion. The rubric by which each Forum posting will be graded is in the "Getting Started" Lesson within the classroom.

For your Forum assignment each week you will be responsible for the following:
1) Research and respond to the question that is posted. Your post should be substantive and relevant to the question that is posed.

2) Respond to at least two of your classmates. If the class size is small, this required number may be changed at the discretion of your instructor. Your responses to your classmates(s) constitute a significant portion of your Forum grade, so be sure that they are meaningful responses that contribute to the overall quality of the weekly discussion and encourage "out of the box" thinking.. Just saying "I agree…." is not acceptable.

3) If you cite any resources in the course of preparing your response, you need to reference them at the end of your post, just as you would in a paper.

4) Since the discussion is asynchronous, you are not required to be online at a specific time with either the professor or your classmates. However, as you can see, it will be difficult for your classmates to respond in a timely manner above if you do not post your initial response early. Therefore, with the exception of Week 1, the initial posting in each week's Forum is due by Wednesday of that week. The Forum rubric includes point deductions for late submission of both your initial post and your responses. If you have questions or need additional guidance, you should email me at the college email address and I will get back to you with an answer.

Remember that all times in this classroom are Eastern Time (Daylight or Standard, as applicable)

Reflection Forum

The Reflection Forum will serve as the reflective journaling component of this course. In this Forum, I will post a question, or possibly a presentation, during the weeks that are indicated in your syllabus. As with the other Weekly Forums, you should try to post your initial response to the question by Wednesday and make comments on each other's' posts.

In the Reflection Forum, you will be graded for your attendance and participation, not on the content of your discussion. There is no grade associated with responses in the Reflection Forum, although they are encouraged and appreciated. This is different than in the classroom Forum, which does have a rubric for content quality. Because the chat room is intended for reflection and thoughtful sharing, I want all of you to feel free to share openly without concern about getting a grade for what you write.

Homework Assignments:

Your homework assignments for this course will be two surveys, short written papers (see below), your reading materials, and two interviews. Information about the grading of these assignments is available in the classroom.

Exams/Quizzes

You will have two multiple-choice quizzes for this course.

Papers and Essays:

The work of this course will require you to submit several brief papers and assessments to me as your instructor. These assignments will be due at various times throughout the course (see

weekly assignments below). Detailed instructions for each of these writing assignments are available in the classroom.

You will need to submit your papers through Turnitin.com, which is an anti-plagiarism website. Instructions for accessing this website are given at the end of the syllabus.

Grading of papers will be graded using the APUS undergraduate assessment rubric, available in the classroom.

Grading Scale

Grade Instruments	Points
Introductory Forum	2%
Forum submissions	25%
Completion of online assessments	10%
Reflection Forum participation	12%
Assignments	20%
Papers	20%
Quizzes	10%
End of course survey	1%
Total	**100%**

8 – Week Course Outline

Please see the Student Handbook to reference the University's grading scale.

Week	Topic	Learning Objectives	Readings	Assignment
1 Oct. 1-7, 2012	Know yourself; self-care plan	1. Identify sources of stress in my life 2. Determine methods that can be used to minimize stressors that may interfere with personal or	Plagiarism tutorial Managing stress online readings found in Week 1 Lesson	Introductory Forum Week 1 Forum Week 1 Reflection Forum

		educational goals		
2 Oct. 8-14, 2012	Learning & communication styles	1. Recognize personal learning and communication styles 2. Evaluate the effect of these styles on your professional practice	Vark inventory Communication styles inventory	Week 2 Forum
3 Oct. 15-21, 2012	Baccalaureate professional practice	1. Describe the role of the baccalaureate nurse in clinical practice 2. Recognize ways in which baccalaureate-prepared nurses can impact patient outcomes 3. Evaluate the role that nurse leaders play in managing rapid change in healthcare.	**ANA Standards of Practice** **ANA Social Policy Statement** Carnegie Report on Nursing Education Impact of education on nursing practice IOM Future of Nursing Report Brief "All Nurses can be leaders"	Interview colleague who obtained degree through RN to BSN program Week 3 Forum Week 3 Reflection Forum Complete self-assessment of professionalism in nursing and submit as assignment **Quiz #1**
4 Oct. 22-28, 2012	Assessing clinical and technology skills	1. Recognize the role of CIS systems in providing and documenting patient care 2. Evaluate personal clinical and technological expertise 3. Formulate short and long term professional goals based on evaluations	Benner's stages of professional development "Equipped for Efficiency"	Week 4 Forum Complete assessment of technological skills and submit as assignment Write Professional Development plan and submit as an assignment

5 **Oct. 29-** **Nov. 4,** **2012**	Ethical standards HIPAA	1. Identify personal beliefs and values and their relationship to professional nursing practice 2. Evaluate the impact of electronic medical records on patient privacy	**Burkhardt & Nathaniel, Chapter 3** **ANA Code of Ethics** Understanding HIPAA Challenges of Electronic Medical Records IOM Report review of HIPAA	Week 5 Forum Week 5 Reflection Forum **Ethics paper** **Quiz #2**
6 **Nov. 5-11,** **2012**	Nursing in historical and present context	1. Demonstrate an appreciation of the history of and contemporary issues in nursing and their impact on current nursing practice 2. Identify changes in nursing education over time and their impact on nursing practice	Nursing Education through Time Transforming Care at the Bedside	Week 6 Forum Colleague interview
7 **Nov. 12-** **18, 2012**	Culture of Safety	1. Identify components of an organizational culture of safety 2. Review your organization for its culture of safety 3. Begin development of a plan to bring about change in your organization related to patient safety	Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goals IHI 5 Million Lives Saved Campaign Culture of Safety online assessment	Week 7 Forum Culture of Safety report Culture of Safety assignment

	Scope of Practice	1.Compare/contrast the roles of the nursing profession with others on the healthcare team 2. Review the nursing scope of practice in your state	Review Nurse Practice Act Review practice acts of other healthcare team members	Week 8 Forum Week 8 reflection Forum End of course survey
8 Nov. 19-25, 2012				

Policies

Please see the Student Handbook to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

Drop/Withdrawal Policy
Plagiarism Policy
Extension Process and Policy
Disability Accommodations

Writing Expectations
All written submissions, including papers and Forum submissions, should be clearly written and correctly referenced as described below.

Citation and Reference Style
Students will follow the APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Style Manual. Information about APA citation style can be found in the APUS library.

Late Assignments
Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time.

Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and <u>especially</u> satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to **librarian@apus.edu**.

- *Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:* The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.

- *Electronic Books:* You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- *Electronic Journals:* The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- *Tutor.com*: AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course (http://apus.libguides.com/index.php)
The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

Turnitin.com

All papers for this course must be submitted through Turnitin.com. This site will analyze your paper and report instances of potential plagiarism. You will have the opportunity to edit your paper if you wish after you submit it to Turnitin.com. However, the deadlines for submission still apply, so if you think that you may want to re-submit a paper, do not wait until the due date to submit it for the first time!
Without faculty intervention, students can only submit to Turnitin.com one time. If, after reviewing your originality report, you want to edit your paper and re-submit, you will need to notify me so that I can delete your initial submission. This process will then allow you to re-submit your edited paper.

Read below for instructions on how to set up a Turnitin.com account if you do not have one, and how to access this course.

Turnitin Student Instructions
There are two (2) parts to the Student Instructions. Please be sure to complete both parts.

PART 1 - Set up your user profile

Step 1   Go to www.turnitin.com
Click "create user profile" located up at the top right corner
Select "Student" as your user type and click "next"

Step 2   Enter in the following account information provided by your instructor
class ID: 5520653
class enrollment password: **checkup**
click "next"

Step 3   Enter in your student email address

Step 4   Enter in a password - Your password is case sensitive (for example, paSS123 would be different than pass123), must be 6-12 characters long, and contain at least one letter and one number (for added security).

Step 5   Enter in Your First Name, Your Last name, Country of Residence, and State of Residence. Click "Next"

Step 6   Click "I agree - create profile"

Your user profile is now complete. You will not have to go through this process again.

PART 2 - Upload an assignment to your class
Now view your class and submit assignments

Step 1   Click "return to login page"

Step 2   Enter your email address and password for your personal profile. Click "Login"

You are now viewing your homepage. This lists all of your classes (each having a unique ID)

Step 3   Click the desired class to view the assignments

Step 4   Click the Submit icon to upload your assignment

Step 5   Make sure the "file upload" option is selected. DO NOT CUT AND PASTE YOUR PAPER

Step 6   Your first and last name should be entered for you. Enter the title of the paper or assignment as directed by the instructor.

Step 7   Browse and select the document you wish to submit. Click "Submit"

Step 8   Click "yes, submit" to confirm submission

Step 9   You will receive a digital receipt with a paper ID number for your records

Step 10   Click the "class portfolio" button on the top menu bar. You will see your paper listed along with the submission date.

Selected Bibliography