

**CAPITAL AREA SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL NURSING
NURSING FUNDAMENTALS
SYLLABUS**

Class #101

First Quarter: Fall, 2008

Time: 8:15 a.m. – 11:50 am

Instructor: Gloria Eppley, RNC, MSN, APN

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Office Hours: 7:30- 8: 00 and 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. class days or by appointment

CLASSROOM HOURS: 87.5

LAB AND COMPUTER ASSISTED INSTRUCTION:38.5

TOTAL HOURS: 126

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a beginning course for the practical nursing student. Students are aided in the development of efficient methods of study including goal setting. The content proceeds from simple to complex and provides the foundation for progression within the program. The role of the practical nurse as a productive member of the health care team in the health care delivery system is stressed. Factors which contribute to effective communication, meaningful relationships and personal growth are introduced. Students are guided toward gaining personal insight and understanding of the uniqueness of individuals including ethical and cultural considerations. The holistic approach is utilized to assist individuals to reach and/or maintain high level wellness on the health-illness continuum. Medical Terminology utilizing computer-assisted instruction, is taught with Fundamental Nursing.

Theory, laboratory practice, computer-assisted instruction and supervised clinical experience are correlated to assist students to obtain practical experience and confidence in using the nursing process to meet the needs of selected patients.

TEXTBOOKS:

1. deWitt, Susan C.; FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS AND SKILLS FOR NURSING Saunders/Elsevier: 2nd edition; 2005.
2. deWitt, Susan C; STUDY GUIDE FOR FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS & SKILLS FOR NURSING, Philadelphia, Elsevier/Saunders; 2nd edition, 2005.
4. Clabner, Davi-Ellen; Medical Terminology – A Short Course, Elsevier/Saunders, 4th edition, 2005.
3. Anderson, K/Anderson, L./ Glantz; MOSBY’S MEDICAL, NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH DICTIONARY, Mosby: 7th edition, 2006.
4. ATI- Fundamentals for Nursing
5. Current Nursing Journals

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this course the student will:

1. Identify concepts of health, illness and health promotion.
2. Discuss legal and ethical aspects of nursing.
3. Utilize the nursing process and critical thinking.
4. Utilize effective communication and documentation skills.
5. Identify appropriate developmental, psychosocial and cultural considerations.
6. Demonstrate basic nursing skills.
7. Identify basic physiologic needs of adult patients.
8. Discuss common physical and psychosocial care problems of the elderly.
9. Demonstrate a working knowledge of medical terminology.

METHODS OF TEACHING:

1. Lecture, discussion, role playing emphasizing critical thinking
2. Videos
3. PowerPoint handouts
4. Computer-assisted instruction
5. Demonstration
6. Laboratory Practice
7. Individual and Group Conference
8. Written Tests
9. Clinical Practice
10. Evaluations
11. Presentation on study techniques/testing strategies.
12. Self –study ATI

CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE and STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A. Classroom behavioral expectations with emphasis of respect and an atmosphere conducive to learning.
- B. Avoid conversations with classmates during lecture. It is very distracting to other students.
- C. Actively participate in group class activities; role-playing, etc.
- D. Ask permission from instructor if using audio-recorder.
- E. Utilize breaks appropriately and return on time.
- F. Refer and follow the policies as outlined and discussed in the CASPN Student Handbook

METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Students are required to achieve a final grade of at least a “C” in each theory course or will be dismissed from the program
- B. Subjects must be taken in sequence as shown in the curriculum in the CASPN STUDENT

HANDBOOK

C. The following letter grade system is used in classroom theory:

A - Academic Excellence	93 - 100%
B - Above Average	86 - 92%
C - Average	77 - 85%
D - Below Average - Failure	70 - 76%
F - Failure	0 - 69%
P - Passing	
W/P – Withdraw Passing	
W/F – Withdraw Failure	

D. Written and computer assignments are considered part of the requirements for all courses. Any written assignment which is not handed in by the due date will have 5 percent deducted from the score for each day late.

E. Evaluation Tools:

- 1) Oral and written exams/assignments
- 2) Laboratory practice followed by return demonstrations
- 3) Special assignments: Classroom activities
- 4) Computer-based instruction

F. Students will receive forms to evaluate classroom instruction and instructor. Evaluation forms are given to provide feedback to each nursing instructor.

G. **Make-up Test:** A student who misses a test or who is absent the day of a test must be prepared to take the test before school starts or after school with an appointment being made prior to the make-up test. Appointments may be made by either calling or in person to the Front desk or the Administrative Assistant. Talk to your instructor regarding the test being taken early, if you will have a planned absence on test day. **Tests not taken upon return to class will have a five (5) percent penalty for each class/clinical day until the test is made up.**

H. Students must be passing the Fundamental Nursing course one week prior to first clinical rotation. If a student is **not** passing at this point, the student will be recommended for dismissal for academic failure by the CASPN Coordinator. Students must have successfully completed all first quarter skills prior to the first clinical rotation

****This course is taught concurrently with Anatomy and Physiology, Normal Nutrition, and PN Clinical I.***

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

UNIT I.	Introduction to Nursing and the Healthcare System
	A. Handbook
	B. Syllabus
	C. Nursing and the Health Care System
	D. Concepts of Health & Illness

E. Legal and Ethical Aspects of Nursing

UNIT II. The Nursing Process

- A. Overviews of the Nursing Process
- B. Assessment, Nursing Diagnosis and Planning
- C. Implementation and Evaluation

UNIT III. Communication in Nursing

- A. Documentation of Nursing Care
- B. Communication and the Nurse-Patient Relationship
- C. Patient Teaching

UNIT IV. Developmental, Psychosocial and Cultural Considerations

- A. Adulthood and the Family
- B. Promoting Healthy Adaptation to Aging
- C. Cultural and Spiritual Aspects of Patient Care
- D. Loss, Grief, and the Dying Patient

UNIT V. Basic Nursing Skills

- A. Infection, Protective Mechanisms and Asepsis
- B. Infection Control in the Hospital and Home
- C. Lifting, Moving, and Positioning Patients
- D. Assisting with Hygiene, Personal Care, Skin Care, and the Prevention of Pressure Ulcers
- E. Patient Environment and Safety
- F. Measuring Vital Signs
- G. Assessing Health Status
- H. Admitting, Transferring and Discharging Patients
- I. Diagnostic Tests and Specimen Collection

UNIT VI. Meeting Basic Physiologic Needs

- A. Diet Therapy and Assisted Feedings
- B. Assisting with Respiration and Oxygen Delivery
- C. Promoting Urinary Elimination
- D. Promoting Bowel Elimination
- E. Promoting Sleep and Comfort
- F. Complementary and Alternative Therapies

UNIT VII. Care of the Immobile Patient

- A. Promoting Musculoskeletal Function

UNIT VIII. Caring for the Elderly

- A. Common Physical Care Problems of the Elderly

B. Common Psychosocial Care Problems of the Elderly

UNIT IX. **Medical Terminology**

- A. Basic Word Structure (Computer-assisted instruction)
- B. Organization of the Body (Computer-assisted instruction)
- C. Suffixes (Computer-assisted instruction)
- D. Prefixes (Computer-assisted instruction)
- E. Abbreviations, Acronyms and Symbols (Fundamentals text)

Student Responsibilities:

- Alert and prepared for class and lab
- Utilize the computer lab appropriately (clinical preparedness/ medical terminology/fundamental ATI) while other students are testing out on skills.
- All policies are to be followed as documented in the CASPN Student Handbook.

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