

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: NUR 208

Credits: 6

Course Title: Acute Medical-Surgical Nursing

Course Description: Focuses on the use of nursing process to provide care to individuals and families with acute medical or surgical problems or to prevent such problems. Includes math computational skills and basic computer instruction related to the delivery of nursing care. Provides supervised learning experiences in cooperating agencies. Prerequisites: NUR 111/115, SDV 100, BIO 141, BIO 142, ENG 111, MTH 126, PSY 230, NUR 108, NUR 226, NUR 245, SOC 200, ITE 115, NUR 247, and NUR 109. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: humanities/fine arts elective. Co-requisites: NUR 246; NUR 254 or 298*. Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 9 hours. Total 12 hours per week.

Expanded Course Description: This course is designed to assist the student to synthesize concepts learned in previous courses, and apply them to the healthcare management of patients and families who are encountering life-threatening healthcare situations. Concepts emphasized in the course will include mechanisms regulating homeostasis, fluid and electrolyte and acid-base balance, oxygenation, and perfusion. Students will participate in case studies, simulation experiences, and clinical experiences to integrate critical-thinking skills in providing quality patient care. Students will utilize concept maps in their clinical experience. Knowledge of course concepts will focus on the use of tests, case studies, and simulation experiences. Care of patients and families in the clinical setting will assist the student to correlate concepts involving fluid, electrolyte, and acid base balance, oxygenation, perfusion, and the mechanism regulating homeostatic metabolism. Drawing on mental health concepts and therapeutic communication skills, the student will work to engage patients or their designee in active partnerships that promote health and well-being, safety, and self-care management. Clinical experiences will focus on the student's application of leadership and management principles to coordinate the care of patients and families in collaboration with the interdisciplinary healthcare team.

General Course Purpose: This course is designed to provide learning opportunities that will enable the student to integrate and synthesize knowledge and skills learned in previous courses, to promote critical thinking, and to provide opportunities to care for clients in the acute care environment. It introduces new concepts of acute medical-surgical nursing.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisites: NUR 111/115, SDV 100, BIO 141, BIO 142, ENG 111, MTH 126, PSY 230, NUR 108, NUR 226, NUR 245, SOC 200, ITE 115, NUR 247, and NUR 109

Prerequisite or Co-requisite: humanities/fine arts elective

Co-requisites: NUR 246; NUR 254 or 298*

**NUR 298 must be taken concurrently with last clinical nursing course.*

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Practice within the legal, ethical, and regulatory boundaries of professional nursing while providing care for adults and their families who are encountering life-threatening situations;
- b. Demonstrate commitment to excellence by maintaining professional competency and integrity through self-reflection, self-assessment, self-care, and lifelong learning in preparation of becoming a professional nurse;

- c. Deliver holistic, client-centered nursing care based on principles of a therapeutic relationship, informed choice, and client and family empowerment for clients who are experiencing life-threatening situations;
- d. Manage nursing care in a safe environment to minimize the risk of harm to clients and others who are encountering life-threatening situations through individual performance, inquiry, and system effectiveness, including application and analysis of interventions associated with medication administration, including prioritization of education in the achievement of positive outcomes;
- e. Apply the nursing process to provide client-centered care to meet the complex healthcare needs of adults and their families who are encountering life-threatening situations;
- f. Integrate critical thinking and evidence-based practice to achieve positive outcomes for adults and their families who are encountering life-threatening situations;
- g. Formulate client and family education that incorporates effective teaching and learning principles, empowers clients and families, and improves quality of life for clients with life-threatening situations to promote positive outcomes;
- h. Collaborate with the interdisciplinary team to provide continuity of care and improve outcomes for clients and their families who are experiencing life-threatening situations;
- i. Apply leadership and management principles to provide cost-effective care and promote quality improvement for clients and their families who are confronting experiencing life-threatening situations; and
- j. Synthesize the use of information and technology to provide quality, centered client care for clients and their families who are encountering life-threatening situations.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Concepts of emergency nursing care in disasters, inclusive of bioterrorism
- b. Nursing care during alterations affecting perfusion
- c. Nursing care during alterations affecting oxygenation
- d. Nursing care during shock and multi-organ dysfunction events
- e. Nursing care during alterations affecting fluid and electrolyte imbalance
- f. Nursing care during alterations affecting central nervous system dysfunction

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: July 17, 2015