

NURS 324 Trends and Issues of Health Care

Credit Hours: 3 HRS

Scheduled hours per week:

Lecture: 3 HRS

Lab:

Other:

Catalog Course Description: Opportunity for an exploration of selected current issues or concepts affecting nurses, nursing and/or health care.

Prerequisites: NURS 311, NURS 320

Co-requisites: None

Course Learning Outcomes:

Human Flourishing: Incorporate the knowledge and skills learned to help patients, families, and communities continually progress toward fulfillment of human capacities.

1. Analyze societal change and resulting challenges for healthcare delivery. (Critical Thinking)

Nursing Judgment: Make judgments in practice, substantiated with evidence, which synthesizes nursing science and knowledge, from other disciplines in the provision of safe, quality care and the promotion of the health of clients and the community.

2. Evaluate the historical evolution of the current focus and approach toward patient safety in the delivery of health care. (Nursing Intervention)
3. Examine the significance of collegiality and collaboration in today's health care environment. (Communication)

Professional Identity: Express one's identity as a nurse through actions that reflect integrity, a commitment to evidence-based practice, caring, advocacy, and safe quality care for diverse clients and their communities, and willingness to provide leadership in improving care.

4. Discuss key challenges facing healthcare providers in the delivery of care. (Caring)

Spirit of Inquiry: Act as a scholar who contributes to the development of the science of nursing practice by identifying questions in need of study, analyzing published research, and using available evidence as a foundation to propose creative, innovative, or evidence-based solutions to clinical practice problems.

5. Articulate the relationship between one's personal values, beliefs and assumptions and one's professional nursing practice. (Professional Role)

Topics to be studied:

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| Unit I | Paying for Health Care in America and Performance Outcomes in Healthcare |
| Unit II | Legal Issues in Nursing and Health Care |
| Unit III | Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Nursing and Health Care |
| Unit IV | Social Issues in Nursing and Health Care |

- Unit V Complementary and Alternative Healing
- Unit VI Workforce Advocacy and the Nursing Shortage & Collective Bargaining and Unions in Today’s Workplace
- Unit VII Information Technology in the Clinical Setting
- Unit VIII Emergency Preparedness and Response for Today’s World

RELATIONSHIP OF COURSE TO PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

The goals of nursing education for the RN-to-BSN program can be summarized in four broad program outcomes. Nurses must use their skills and knowledge to enhance **human flourishing** for their patients, their communities, and themselves. They should show sound **nursing judgment**, and should continually develop their **professional identity**. Finally, nurses must approach all issues and problems in a **spirit of inquiry**. All essential program-specific core nursing practice competencies and course outcomes are assumed within these four general aims (NLN, p. 9).

Relationship of Course to General Education Learning Outcomes:	
Composition and Rhetoric Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.	X
Science & Technology Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.	
Mathematics & Quantitative Skills Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	X
Society, Diversity, & Connections Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	X
Human Inquiry & the Past Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	X
The Arts & Creativity Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.	
5/3/2016	

Special projects or requirements of the course:

- Weekly Discussion Board Posting
- Various written assignments
- Group assignments/projects
- Quizzes and final exams
- Criminal Background Checks
- Current Healthcare Provider CPR Certification
- Immunizations as required

Student successful performance on written and discussion boards assessed with published grading rubrics with a grade of 78% or better will assess achievement of course outcomes.

Additional information:

This is an asynchronous course conducted entirely online. Students will be required to access the Learning Studio from their respective off-campus locations. Students are expected to participate in all course activities as assigned by the instructor.

NURS 324 Trends and Issues of Health Care is a nursing course. Failure to pass a second nursing course will result in dismissal from the RN-to-BSN Program at West Virginia University at Parkersburg. (See Student Handbook)

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