

**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

**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. (Holism, Excellence)

**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 patients and the community.

2. Evaluate the historical evolution of the current focus and approach toward patient safety in the delivery of health care. (Patient-Centeredness)
3. Examine the significance of collegiality and collaboration in today's health care environment. (Integrity, Diversity)

**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 patients 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. (Ethics)

**Topics to be studied:**

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Unit I   | Contemporary image of professional nursing and trends in nursing education |
| Unit II  | Paying for healthcare in America and performance outcomes in healthcare    |
| Unit III | Quality improvement  |
| Unit IV  | Cultural competency and 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 Health policies and politics
- 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).

<b>Program Learning Outcomes:</b>	<b>Course SLO</b>
<b>Human Flourishing:</b> Incorporate the knowledge and skills learned to help patients, families, and communities continually progress toward fulfillment of human capacities.	SLO 1
<b>Nursing Judgment:</b> 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.	SLO 2 and 3
<b>Professional Identity:</b> 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.	SLO 4
<b>Spirit of Inquiry:</b> 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.	SLO 5

**Course SLOs Assessment Methods:**

- Discussion board postings
- Various written assignments
- Group assignments/projects
- Quizzes and comprehensive final exam
- Continuing education activities
- Continuation of work on e-portfolio

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.

**Special requirements of the course:**

- Academic Coaching
- Criminal background check
- Required immunizations

- Current Healthcare Provider CPR Certification

**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)

**Prepared by:** Rose Beebe, EdD, MS, RN

**Date:** December 6, 2021