



Course Description

NUR1025 | Fundamentals of Nursing | 3.00 credits

This course introduces students to the profession of Nursing. The student will learn the roles basic to the practice of nursing, the nursing process, and how nurses are involved in health promoting activities to meet client needs.

Prerequisite: Program Admission; Co-Requisites: NUR1025C, NUR1025L, NUR1060C and NUR1141

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will identify the development of contemporary nursing practice by:

1. Identifying the concepts of health, health care delivery, and the settings and resources available in the community
2. Discussing the roles of the registered professional nurse
3. Identifying roles of the health care team members, including physician, social worker, case manager, dietitian, physical therapist, respiratory therapist, licensed practical nurse, and unlicensed assistive personnel
4. Discussing interactions between the registered professional nurse and other health team members

Competency 2: The student will value the nursing process as the framework for meeting the health needs of individuals by:

1. Identifying the phases of the nursing process
2. Discussing the importance of a comprehensive and accurate database on which a diagnosis, plan, and interventions are based
3. Discussing the importance of establishing priorities before planning interventions
4. Using the nursing process in discussing a patient care scenario
5. Personalizing the nursing care plan to meet individual client needs

Competency 3: The student will identify the diverse roles of the nurse required in the management of client care by:

1. Discussing the role of the nurse as educator, advocate, collaborator, and manager of client care
2. Explaining the independent, dependent, and collaborative functions of nurses
3. Recognizing the nurse's role in identifying and reporting medical errors
4. Discussing major categories of sentinel events
5. Differentiating between active and latent errors

Competency 4: The student will discuss values clarification from the perspective of nursing practice in a multicultural, pluralistic society by:

1. Defining the concept of holistic being
2. Identifying the client's interrelated physiological, psychological, sociocultural, spiritual, and environmental dimensions
3. Discussing the concept of delivering culturally competent care
4. Identifying the impact of cultural diversity on health care delivery

Competency 5: The student will describe the critical thinking process in nursing practice by:

1. Identifying the components of the critical thinking model
2. Comparing the relationship between critical thinking and the nursing process

Competency 6: The student will apply principles of therapeutic communication and the teaching-learning process by:

1. Explaining the elements of the communication process
2. Distinguishing therapeutic, non-therapeutic, and social communication

3. Discussing teaching and learning concerning the communication process
4. Integrating teaching and learning principles with the nursing process phases

Competency 7: The student will apply the concept of basic human needs in planning nursing care by:

1. Identifying methods that increase a client's safety
2. Identifying methods that prevent deterioration in skin integrity
3. Describing correct body mechanics in delivering patient care
4. Explaining factors that affect oxygenation in delivering client care
5. Discussing factors that influence bladder and bowel elimination
6. Explaining the aspects of a nutritional assessment and its impact on nursing care
7. Using knowledge of digestion, absorption, and elimination processes
8. Identifying the hazards of immobility and their relationship to client care
9. Identifying factors that influence comfort and pain
10. Comparing the safety needs of special populations of patients

Competency 8: The student will identify principles of growth and development by:

1. Identifying client needs throughout the life cycle
2. Identifying special needs of the aging population
3. Discussing the nurse's role in the stages of death and dying
4. Discussing the legal and ethical implications of end-of-life care

Competency 9: The student will discuss concepts of perioperative nursing by:

1. Discussing the cognitive, psychological, and physical aspects of preparing a client for surgery
2. Describing the nurse's role in caring for the client during the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative phases
3. Defining the concept of "surgical asepsis"
4. Discussing methods of minimizing postoperative complications

Competency 10: The student will identify principles of stress and adaptation by:

1. Describing the physiological and psychological responses to stress
2. Giving examples of stress reduction techniques

Competency 11: The student will identify the nurse's role in preserving visual and auditory health by:

1. Describing the physiological processes involved in standard visual and hearing
2. Identifying common abnormalities of the visual and auditory systems
3. Identifying nursing responsibilities in managing clients with selected visual and auditory pathologies

Competency 12: The student will apply the mechanisms of fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base balance by:

1. Describing the role of fluid and electrolytes in body function
2. Comparing signs and symptoms of specific fluid and electrolyte imbalances
3. Identifying nursing management of specific fluid and electrolyte imbalances
4. Comparing and contrasting types of intravenous solutions and indications for use
5. Describing pH and the mechanisms that regulate acid-base balance
6. Analyzing arterial blood gas results
7. Identifying normal and abnormal respiratory and metabolic acidosis manifestations and alkalosis

Competency 13: The student will identify the nurse's role in the preparation and administration of medications by:

1. Identifying the factors that influence the actions of drugs
2. Comparing and contrasting the different routes of medication administration
3. Explaining the importance of the "five rights" of medication administration
4. Stating the legal and ethical implications of medication administration
5. Outlining error-prone situations and methods for improving patient outcomes
6. Discussing root-cause analysis of sentinelevents

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures including global and historical perspectives
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society