# Nursing 24 – Issues in Nursing

## Course Syllabus: 2012

Professor Coleen Kumar, RN, MSN  
Associate Professor  

Professor Denise Giachetta-Ryan, RN, MSN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit – Hours:</th>
<th>1 cr., 1 hr.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre or Co-requisites</td>
<td>NUR 19, NUR 23, SOC 31, ENG 24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Course Description

This course is a survey of issues/transitions faced by the beginning Associate Degree Nurse practitioner as an individual and as a member of the nursing profession. The course focuses on the role and responsibilities of a beginning Associate Degree nurse both as an individual as well as a member of the nursing profession. Topics include ethical and legal issues, issues and current trends and preparation for the workplace. Class room instruction/Blackboard: 1 hour. This course requires access to Microsoft Office programs Word and PowerPoint. These programs can be accessed at home or on campus in the library and/or MAC computer labs.

## Attendance

Nursing 24 is an online course. **Students are expected to log onto Blackboard weekly.** These logons will be used to determine class attendance. A student is deemed excessively absent in any course when he/she has been absent 15% or more of the contact hours a class meets during a semester. More than one week not logged on to Blackboard constitutes excessive absence for NUR 24.

## Students with Disabilities

It is college policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability who may need accommodations in this class is requested to speak directly to Access-Ability Services, D-205, (718) 368-5175, as early in the semester as possible. All discussions will remain confidential.

## Evaluation

Final letter grades will be calculated according to college and departmental policy as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97 – 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 – 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 – 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>78 – 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75 - 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 - 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>66 – 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>60 or below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Withdrawn without penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WU</td>
<td>Unofficial withdrawal (counts as a failure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INC</td>
<td>Term’s work is incomplete. Counts as an F grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nursing 24 – final numeric grades will be calculated as follows:

- Resume: 20%
- Cover Letter: 20%
- Legal assignment, Delegation assignment, and Care Delivery assignment (3): 25%
- Evidenced-based research report: 35%

Written assignments must comply with college standards and must be submitted for course completion. Five (5) points per day will be penalized for late submissions.
Retention Criteria
Criteria for retention in the Nursing Program mandates that students:
1. Receive no grades below a “C” in any of the co-requisite courses.
2. Earn a minimum a “C” grade in every required Nursing course with a clinical component.
3. Students who fail a clinical nursing course achieving a grade of not less than “C-” may apply to repeat the course one time only in the semester immediately following the failure. Repeating the course is subject to space availability. The minimum grade for Clinical courses that are repeated is a “B.”
4. Students must submit an “Intent to Return to Nursing Courses Form” outlining what they thought caused them to be unsuccessful and include a plan for success that demonstrates significant changes in how they will approach the course when repeated.

Pre-NCLEX RN Examination (DRT-RN)
Students must take the NLN DRT-RN (Diagnostic Readiness Exam) while enrolled in the last semester of clinical nursing. Failure to take the exam on the scheduled date will result in a grade of incomplete for the course.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes
The student will
1. Employ knowledge of patient centered care
2. Apply principles of evidence based practice
3. Relate principles of teamwork and collaboration
4. Recognize quality improvement process
5. Understand principles of safety
6. Apply informatics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
<th>SLOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Identify the purpose and steps in delivery of care including quality improvement, cultural diversity and the workplace</td>
<td>1, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Examine selected issues in delivery of health care as they relate to nursing including leadership and delegation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Create a resume and cover letter for preferred nursing position</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Differentiate between the role of the nursing student and the beginning Associate Degree Nurse</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Complete a literature search and critique of a nursing journal article</td>
<td>2, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Know the process to register for the NLCEX examination</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching Strategies
• Lecture/Discussion/Blackboard
• Problem solving
• Group Work
• Case Studies
• Multimedia
Required Textbook

Topical Outline
Unit 1 – Issues in Delivering Care

Unit 2 – Leading and Managing

Unit 3 – Making Professional Goals a Reality

Unit 4 – Making the Transition to Professional

Unit 5 – Research and Evidence Based Practice

Unit 6 – NCLEX: What you need to know

### Unit 1 – Issues in Delivering Care

#### Content/Lecture Discussion
- Quality Improvement: A Brief Overview
- Nursing Organizations
- Cultural Diversity
- Workplace Safety and Health for Nurses

#### Required Reading
- Quality Improvement PowerPoint
- *Ellis and Hartely*: Ch. 2, pp. 79-92; Ch. 16, pp. 601-608
- Nursing Organizations and their Importance
- Guide to Nursing Organizations
- Introduction to Cultural Awareness and Competence
- Cultural aspects of Nursing
- Ethnopharmacology
- Disaster preparedness powerpoint and article
- Standard Precautions outline
- CDC Standard Precautions (blackboard documents)

#### Unit Assignments
- Discussion Board: Respond to the scenario
- Disaster Preparedness reaction paper
- File for graduation
**Unit 2 – Leading and Managing**

**Content/Lecture Discussion**
- Principles of Leadership, Management and Delegation

**Required Reading**
- *Ellis and Hartely*: Ch. 12; Ch. 13, pp. 522-530

**Unit Assignments**
- Leadership and Delegation Activity

**Unit 3 – Making the Transition to Professional**

**Content/Lecture Discussion**
- Nursing Law and Liability
- Nurse Practice Act
- Ethics in Nursing (Code of Ethics)
- Standards of Care
- Advance Directives

**Required Reading**
- *Ellis and Hartely*: Chs. 8 and 9
- Blackboard documents
  - Glossary of Legal terms
  - Nursing Law and Liability
  - Ethics article

**Unit Assignments**
- Legal Activity
- Self Test (NCLEX review)

**Unit 4 – Making Professional Goals a Reality**

**Content/Lecture Discussion**
- Making Professional Goals a Reality
- Employment Opportunities

**Required Reading**
- *Ellis and Hartely*: Chs. 15 and 16
- Resume templates and Cover letter samples (download from Blackboard)

**Unit Assignments**
- Cover letter
- Professional Resume
### Unit 5 – Research and Evidence Based Practice

**Content/Lecture Discussion**
- Nursing Theories and Research
- Evidence-Based Practice

**Required Reading**
- *Ellis and Hartley*: Ch. 6
- Access tutorial on the following link: [http://www.biomed.lib.umn.edu/learn/ebp/mod01/index.html](http://www.biomed.lib.umn.edu/learn/ebp/mod01/index.html)

**Unit Assignments**
- Attend a one hour library session
- Critique a Nursing Journal article

### Unit 6 – NCLEX

**Content/Lecture Discussion**
- NCLEX: What You Need to Know

**Required Reading**
- *Ellis and Hartley*: Ch. 7

**Unit Assignments**
- Office of the Professions Word doc.