

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ON

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH SCIENCES

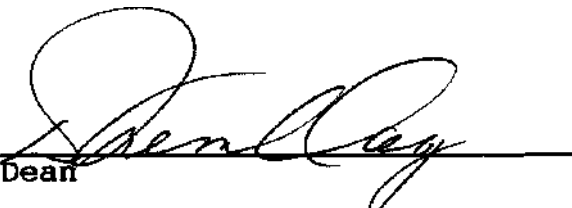
CODE NO-: NUR 108 SEMESTER TWO


PROGRAMME GENERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE  
HEALTH SCIENCES CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM

AUTHORS LINDA TOZER-JOHNSTON

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New; Revision:

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**INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH SCIENCES**

**NUR 108**

**COURSE NAME**

**CODE NO.**

**Total Credit Hours: 15**

**Prerequisites: None**

**I, PHILOSOPHY/GOALS: (COURSE DESCRIPTION)**

This course is designed to explore career opportunities in the health sciences field with a primary focus on careers in nursing. The varied roles and settings in which health care practitioners function will be studied, with emphasis on the roles of the health care aide, registered nursing assistant, and registered nurse.

Academic, social and personal experiences commonly encountered by students preparing for nursing careers will be discussed. This course will advance students towards a career in nursing.

**II. STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss health science programs and career opportunities in various health care agencies in our community.
2. Investigate career paths associated with the role of health care aide, registered nursing assistant, and registered nurse.
3. Differentiate between fact and stereotype about careers in nursing.
4. Report academic, social and personal requirements of careers in the nursing field.
5. Examine own feelings about pursuing a career in the health science field as they relate to facts, stereotypes, and requirements.
6. Propose a plan which will promote success in the health science field.

**III, TOPICS TO BE COVERED:**

1. Health Science Career Opportunities.
2. Career Paths Associated with Health Care Aide (H.C.A.), Registered Nursing Assistant (R.N.A.), and Registered Nurse (R.N.).
3. Stereotypes Affecting Nursing.
4. Academic, Social and Personal Requirements for Nursing Careers.
5. Personal Goals.
6. Effective Planning for a Health Science Career.

IV

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**REQUIRED RESOURCES**

**UNIT 1,0: HEALTH SCIENCE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student will be able to:

**TEXT:** Mosby's Tour Guide to Nursing School

1.1 Use the United Way-Services Community Services Directory to locate Algoma's health care agencies.

**STUDY** pp. V - XIV

**VISIT:** Learning Resource Centre and locate most recent Directory.

1.2 List a sample of health science careers in this community.

**COMPLETE:** Written assignment.

1.3 Discuss the nature of selected careers with practitioners in this community.

**CLASS DISCUSSION:**  
- Select sample  
- Prepare list of questions for panel

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**UNIT 2.0: CAREER PATHS ASSOCIATED WITH H.C.A., R.N.A. AND R.N.**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student will be able to:

**TEXT:** Mosby's Tour Guide to Nursing School

2.1 Define and state functions of:

**STUDY:** CH. 1, 2, 19, 20

- a) Health Care Aide
- b) Registered Nursing Assistant
- c) Registered Nurse

**STUDY:** Sault College Calendar descriptions of H.C.A., R.N.A., and R.N. programs.

2.2 Give examples of specialities/work settings associated with these careers.

**STUDY:** College of Nurses description of R.N. and R.N.A. on Reserve in Learning Resource Centre.

2.3 Explain the concept of "career laddering" as it applies to H.C.A., R.N.A., and R.N.

**STUDENT GROUP PRESENTATION**

**VISIT AND DISCUSSION WITH REPS:**

- R.N. PRACTITIONERS
- R.N.A PRACTITIONERS
- H.C.A. PRACTITIONERS

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**REQUIRED RESOURCES**

**UNIT 3.0: STEREOTYPES AFFECTING NURSING**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student will be able to:

**TEXT:** Mosby's Tour Guide to Nursing School

3.1 Define stereotypes.

**STUDY:** CH. 3, 4, 24 and 25

3.2 Describe the image of nursing portrayed in the "media".

**STUDENT SCRAPBOOK/JOURNAL**  
of samples from newspaper, magazines, T.V. listings, etc.

3.3 Describe the image of nursing represented in nursing professional journals.

**WRITTEN REVIEW**  
of one (1) nursing article from a professional nursing journal.

3.4 Participate in a group discussion on the effects of stereotypes on prospective students.

**LECTURE AND GROUP DISCUSSION**

**VIDEO:** "Nurses Are the Difference" (40 min H.S. Dept.)

**UNIT 4.0: ACADEMIC SOCIAL AND PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSING CAREERS**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student will be able to:

**TEXT:** Mosby's Tour Guide to Nursing School

4.1 Discuss the requirements suggested by Melodie Chenevert's "Tour Guide to Nursing School".

**STUDY:** CHAPTERS 5-10 inclusive  
**VISIT AND DISCUSSION** with student representatives from nursing programs.

4.2 Discuss academic, social and personal requirements with student representatives from nursing programs.

**VIDEO:** "Overcoming Hospital Anxiety" (30 min. - H.S. Dept.)

4.3 Compare the requirements suggested by Chenevert's with student representatives from nursing programs.

**TOUR HOSPITAL**

**CLASS DISCUSSION**  
of Text, Visits, and Video

4.4 Examine the impact of working with the ill and/or dying on personal and professional life.

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES

## REQUIRED RESOURCES

### UNIT 5.0: PERSONAL GOALS

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student will be able to:

**TEXT:** Mosby's Tour Guide to Nursing School.

5.1 Identify own strengths and weaknesses.

**STUDY:** CHAPTERS 11, 12, 19, 21 AND 22

5.2 Identify careers most appropriate for self.

**COMPLETE:** "Do You Have ... "  
Chapter 2, pp. 6 & 7

5.3 Decide on pros and cons of own career pursuit.

**STUDY:** Chapter 10

5.4 Describe what you would like to be doing in one year, and in five years.

5.5 Prepare a personal plan to convert one of your short term wishes into a goal.

**CLASS ASSIGNMENT** - Use Format and Questions from Chapter 10, pp. 48-50

### UNIT 6.0: EFFECTIVE PLANNING IN A HEALTH SCIENCE CAREER

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student will be able to:

**TEXT:** Mosby's Tour Guide to Nursing Care.

6.1 List potential problems/difficulties in the successful pursuit of a Health Science Career.

**STUDY:** Chapters 13-17 incl

**CLASS BRAINSTORM**

6.2 Choose small study/working group to use problem solving techniques on identified problems.

**CLASS DISCUSSION**

6.3 Select the most important problem to your group.

**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION**

6.4 Identify short term goals which are realistic and attainable to manage the selected problem.

**COMPLETE ASSIGNMENT**

6.5 Select and describe strategies to meet the goals identified.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**REQUIRED RESOURCES**

6.6 Decide on criteria by which to measure the effectiveness of your plan.

6.7 Communicate the plan to the class in oral and written form.

**CLASS GROUP PRESENTATION**

**REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES (Including text books and work books).**

Chenovert, Melodie. Mosby's Tour Guide to Nursing School. First Edition. Toronto. C.V. Mosby Company, 1987

**VI, ADDITIONAL RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

(Available in College Learning Resource Centre and Health Science Department).

\* Kerr, Janet and MacPhail, Jannetta, Canadian Nursing Issues and Perspectives, Toronto. McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd. 1988

\* Nursing Professional Journal (R.T.)

\* United Way Services "Community Services Directory"

\* College of Nurses "The Standards of Nursing Practice for Registered Nurses and Registered Nursing Assistants". January 1987.

A/V: Videos - 1) "Nurses Are The Difference"  
2) "Overcoming Hospital Anxiety"

**VII. METHOD(S) OF EVALUATION:**

**UNIT I WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT 10%**  
(Includes title, purpose, address and contact person of one Health Science Agency from Community Services Directory.)

**UNIT II GROUP PRESENTATION 20%**  
(Includes definition and function of H.C.A., R.N.A., or R.N. and examples of work settings, specialities and career opportunities.)

UNIT III	<b>STUDENT SCRAPBOOK/JOURNAL</b> (includes four week sample from various media re: image of nursing.)	10%
UNIT III	<b>WRITTEN JOURNAL REVIEW</b> (Includes summary of article and article's effect on image of nursing.)	20%
UNIT VI	<b>GROUP ORAL AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT</b> 'Plan to Promote Success in Health Science Career Pursuit'	40%
		100%

The grading system used will be as follows

A+	=	90 - 100
A	=	80 - 89
B	=	70 - 79
C	=	60 - 69
R	=	Repeat

#### VIII. SPECIAL NOTES:

Attendance to all classes is required.

Students will be required to complete assignments and readings as assigned.

Assignments received after agreed upon due dates will receive incomplete (I).

Extensions of due dates MUST be negotiated before assignments are due.

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE NEAT AND LEGIBLE OR WILL BE RETURNED UNGRADED,**