



## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to the profession of nursing. The philosophy and constructs of the nursing program will be examined. The role of nursing and its evolution in society will also be explored, as will the relationship between theory, practice, and research. Participants will be introduced to the process of critical reflection, reflective learning and opportunities will be provided for participants to examine professional practice (nurses' work) in a variety of settings.

## II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

### ENDS-IN-VIEW

The learner will:

- gain experience in and develop an ability to be a reflective learner,
- have opportunities to develop an awareness of the profession of nursing and nursing roles,
- describe the concept of nursing as an evolving profession,
- demonstrate awareness of professional standards to gain insight into their relationship to nursing practice,
- develop a plan to promote and enhance self-directed learning by exploring various learning styles and ways of knowing.
- develop a beginning understanding of group process to enhance collaboration with colleagues
- develop a beginning understanding of nursing research in order to become an informed consumer of research.

Participants will be provided with opportunity to develop awareness of the philosophy, beliefs and values on which the program is built. The practice component of the course will provide opportunity to observe nurses in a number of work settings.

### PROCESS

The learning activities in this course are designed to assist learners to experience many of the predominant values in nursing with a view to understanding the basic concepts of the course. Development of your own values will be a necessary consequence. Selected learning experiences will provide opportunities for examination and development of such values. Observation, critical reflection and a variety of seminars and in-class activities will be the format. Active participation and engagement by learners, and self-reflection in dialogue with classmates, all guided by faculty, will allow exploration and formation of all concepts in each learner's unique way.

### III. TOPICS:

1. Program philosophy
2. Collaboration and collegueship
3. Reflective learning / learning styles
4. Nursing as a profession
5. Professionalism
6. Context and culture
7. Nurses' work
8. Social construction -- historical perspective, socialization, society's views and expectations
9. Group process
10. Critical thinking
11. Nursing research

### IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Blais, K.K., Hayes, J.S., Kozier, B. & Erb, G. (2002). *Professional nursing practice: Concepts and perspectives (4th ed.)*. Upper Saddle River N.J.: Prentice-Hall.

College of Nurses of Ontario. (2000). *Compendium of standards*. (Available from CNO website [www.cno.org](http://www.cno.org))

Potter, P. & Perry, G., (2001). *Canadian fundamentals of nursing*. Ross-Kerr, J.C. & Wood, M.J. (Ed.) St. Louis: Mosby.

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (5<sup>th</sup> ed.)*. Lancaster Press: Pennsylvania.

#### **Selected Readings and Articles:**

Additional articles will be listed in each learning activities throughout the course.

### V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

#### Summary

Images of Nursing Poster	10%
Annotated Bibliography	30%
Nurses' Work Presentation	5%
Mid-Term Exam	15%
Final Exam	<u>40%</u>
Total	100%

**Assignment****1. Images of Nursing Poster****10%**

The purpose of this assignment is to practice working in groups while completing a creative exercise that will explore the image of nursing.

This assignment involves the production of a poster or video depicting various images of nursing. The assignment is to be done in groups of four, therefore you must choose some colleagues with whom to work. The poster or video will be a graphic representation images in nursing from a media source (excluding the Internet), and one from an interview. Use creativity in designing your images of nursing.

- a. Choose a resource depicting nurses or nursing from the suggestions below or choose one of your own. After reading or viewing this medium, decide the image of nursing that is depicted and make a representation of that image on your poster or video.

movie	magazine article	greeting card
TV show	poster	cartoon
bumper sticker	novel	advertisement
children's book	button	

- b. Interview a family member or a friend who has been cared for by a nurse. Ask this person to remember this experience and to choose as many one-word adjectives as possible, for example, caring, intelligent, compassionate, cold or disorganized to describe his/her image of nursing and nurses. Make a graphic representation on the poster/video of the image that is being suggested and include a list of the descriptive words. The posters/videos will be shared in class on the due date. The specific process for presenting and evaluating the assignment will be discussed in class. A written one-page description of the poster/video is to be submitted for evaluation on the day of the presentation. This report must address the following criteria:

**Marks**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Images represented and meaning explained  | 3 |
| 2. Descriptive words from interview included | 3 |
| 3. Reflects creativity and originality       | 3 |
| 4. Images origins/sources identified         | 1 |

**Assignment****2. Annotated Bibliography****30%**

The purpose of this assignment is to introduce the learner to nursing research and the review and critical analysis of professional journal articles.

The learner will choose any one of the course topics/concepts listed in the syllabus and find three recent scholarly journal articles pertaining to it (popular magazines are not appropriate). Be careful that Internet references are from legitimate sources. One of these articles must be a research article.

In your written submission, introduce the purpose of the annotated bibliography. Cite each reference according to APA format and give a brief summary of the article answering the following questions:

1. What is the fundamental purpose of the article? What type of article? (e.g. research, editorial, theoretical, informational etc.)
2. List the credentials of the author and indicate what makes him/her an expert on the topic? What sort of supplementary detail (e.g. illustrations, references) does the article offer?
3. Does the article provide sufficient background information? Does it require technical expertise?
4. To what extent does the author explore the topic?
5. Who in the profession would benefit from reading this article?

Conclude the annotated bibliography by summarizing what you have learned from this assignment.

**Annotated Bibliography Marking Scheme**

Criteria	Journal 1	Journal 2	Journal 3
No. 1 /5 marks			
No. 2 /5 marks			
No. 3 /5 marks			
No. 4 /5 marks			
No. 5 /5 marks			

Summary: 15 marks

Total Mark 90 marks

## Assignment

### 3. Nurses' Work Presentation

5%

Read the following in preparation for this assignment:

Blais, Hayes, Kozier and Erb, Chapter 7 and Chapter 9

Chitty, K.K. (2002). *Professional nursing: Concepts and challenges.*(3rd ed.)  
Toronto: Saunders. Chapter 5

Potter and Perry, pp. 387-400

Form groups of three learners. The course professor will assign clinical areas of practice to each team of learners.

Each team will interview a Registered Nurse who works in the area that they have been assigned. Your professor will assist you if you have difficulty finding a nurse to interview.

Each team of learners will make a presentation to the class, addressing the following elements:

- Introduction of the nurse, including work history.
- List what most comes to mind as the main characteristic of the work this nurse does.
- What does this nurse do for and with his/her clients?
- In what ways does the nurse promote health (as you understand it from the program philosophy)?
- How does this nurse feel about nursing? What is satisfying?
- What is frustrating?
- What impression did you get about how this nurse views nursing?
- Describe knowledge and decision-making within the role of this nurse.
- What else did you learn? What more do you want to investigate?

Students will be required to submit the name of the nurse interviewed and the nurse's work area.

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4.	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>15%</b>
5.	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>40%</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**NOTE:** All assignments must be typed, free of spelling and grammatical errors, and carefully referenced and cross-referenced to aid the reader in the task of evaluation. APA (5<sup>th</sup> edition) style is required.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 - 100%	4.00
A	80 - 89%	3.75
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
F (Fail)	59% or below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

## VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

### Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit the Special Needs office so that support services can be arranged for you.

### Retention of course outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course outline amendments:

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

Attendance Policy

Punctual and regular attendance at the various academic exercises is required of all students. After a lecture has begun, students may not be admitted to a classroom without the instructor's permission. If there are extenuating circumstances bearing upon a student's absence, the instructor should be notified. Absences in excess of 20% may jeopardize receipt of credit for the course.

**VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:**

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

**VIII. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:**

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.