

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on empowerment. Utilizing concepts from Profession Growth I, II, and III, learners will explore ways of empowering self, clients, families, and communities.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

In this course the effects of social, political and economic structures on health and life potential will be examined. Relationships of dominance and unequal participation in society will be explored within the context of feminist and critical social theory. Presentations will be used to analyze health within the broader framework of society. Informed by critique, conscientized students may engage in dialogue with one another and reflect critically with respect to their own oppressive environments and that of their clients. Strategies of social action that influence change from oppression to empowerment will be examined.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Ends-in-View

Exploring the concepts of empowerment, power, and powerlessness.

Exploring feminist theory: critique and process.

Exploring critical social theory.

Exploring personal meanings concerning empowerment in both personal and professional life.

Exploring selected current health issues for women, minorities, and marginalized groups.

Exploring selected strategies for advocacy, social action, and change

Process

The intent of this course is to examine health issues within a holistic framework, which considers the individual, the community and society. Two theoretical frameworks will provide the knowledge used for critical analysis of specific health issues. Skills to be developed will be critical analysis and the articulation, both written and verbal, of the impact of social, economic, and political ideologies and structures on health. The student will be able to apply knowledge gained in other nursing courses to specific health issues and to demonstrate a comprehensive and integrated understanding of the concept of empowerment.

III. TOPICS:

1. Empowerment; oppression; marginalization
2. Power inequalities which predominate in our society
3. Feminist theory
4. Critical social theory
5. Health care inequalities
6. Nurses as an oppressed group
7. Social and political activism: strategies that promote change and social action
- 8-12. Student presentations in relation to an oppressed and/or marginalized group

*Topics may change depending on the needs of the class

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS

Articles listed under “Required Reading” for each learning activity can be accessed using online databases.

Learners are expected to utilize the literature extensively in relation to assignments.

Required Text

Chinn, P. (2008). *Peace and power: Creative leadership for building community* (7th ed.). Toronto, ON: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.

Recommended Texts

McIntyre, M., Thomlinson, E., & McDonald, C. (2006). *Realities of Canadian nursing: Professional, practice, and power issues* (2nd ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Publishers.

V. ATTENDANCE:

Punctual and regular attendance at the various academic activities is required of all students. 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.

VI. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

1. Paper: Personal Meaning And The Conceptual Analysis Of Empowerment (30%)
2. Midterm test (20%)
2. Group Assignment (50%). See course syllabus for details about this assignment. In the event that there are issues within a group concerning unequal contribution in fulfilling one or more facets of the group assignment, the course professor reserves the right to make a final determination of marks based on input from the entire group.

The school policy on written assignments applies to all assignments unless otherwise stated. APA (5th ed.) format is required. Students may lose up to 10% of the total possible mark for poor form and writing style. It is expected that students who have experienced difficulties with writing competency in past courses will seek assistance before submission of papers.

If, for personal reasons, you are not able to meet the deadlines, it is your responsibility to contact the course professor prior to the due date. If an extension is granted, you are required to document your situation and request in writing, and submit this request to the course professor within two days of the original request. *Extensions will not be granted on the day that the assignment is due.*

**Note: there will be a 10% daily deduction associated with all extensions granted unless a medical certificate is submitted with the request.*

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	3.00
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and 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.

NOTE: Mid Term grades are provided in theory classes and clinical/field placement experiences. Students are notified that the midterm grade is an interim grade and is subject to change.

VII. SPECIAL NOTES:

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.

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.

Prior Learning Assessment:

Students who wish to apply for advance credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain an Application for Advance Credit from the program coordinator (or the course coordinator regarding a general education transfer request) or academic assistant. Students will be required to provide an unofficial transcript and course outline related to the course in question. Please refer to the Student Academic Calendar of Events for the deadline date by which application must be made for advance standing.

Credit for prior learning will also be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

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

Disability Services:

If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your professor and/or the Disability Services office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Communication:

The College considers **WebCT/LMS** as the primary channel of communication for each course. Regularly checking this software platform is critical as it will keep you directly connected with faculty and current course information. Success in this course may be directly related to your willingness to take advantage of the **Learning Management System** communication tool.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Code of Conduct*. A professor/instructor may assign a sanction as defined below, or make recommendations to the Academic Chair for disposition of the matter. The professor/instructor may:

- (i) issue a verbal reprimand,
- (ii) make an assignment of a lower grade with explanation,
- (iii) require additional academic assignments and issue a lower grade upon completion to the maximum grade “C”,
- (iv) make an automatic assignment of a failing grade,
- (v) recommend to the Chair dismissal from the course with the assignment of a failing grade.

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.

Student Portal:

The Sault College portal allows you to view all your student information in one place. **mysaultcollege** gives you personalized access to online resources seven days a week from your home or school computer. Single log-in access allows you to see your personal and financial information, timetable, grades, records of achievement, unofficial transcript, and outstanding obligations. Announcements, news, the academic calendar of events, class cancellations, your learning management system (LMS), and much more are also accessible through the student portal. Go to <https://my.saultcollege.ca>.

Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Students who wish to use electronic devices in the classroom will seek permission of the faculty member before proceeding to record instruction. With the exception of issues related to accommodations of disability, the decision to approve or refuse the request is the responsibility of the faculty member. Recorded classroom instruction will be used only for personal use and will not be used for any other purpose. Recorded classroom instruction will be destroyed at the end of the course. To ensure this, the student is required to return all copies of recorded material to the faculty member by the last day of class in the semester. Where the use of an electronic device has been approved, the student agrees that materials recorded are for his/her use only, are not for distribution, and are the sole property of the College.

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

This course's Blackboard site, its features, and its contents are for the exclusive use of nursing students registered in this section of this course. The information contained herein is privileged and confidential. Any unauthorized use, dissemination, or copying is strictly prohibited.